

- **Require any additional increases in the FMAP to also extend to Title IV-E** (The 2009 package included additional language to extend the FMAP to Title IV-E but the coronavirus #2 does increase the FMAP to Title IV-E). There is some advocacy to increase this funding more.
- **Designate new Title IV-B of \$250 million** in new funds that would be spent within this calendar year specifically for enhanced support for foster parents, kin providers and residential providers (not covered by Title IV-E) to enhance health measures and protections and to support enhanced capacity if foster family placements are lost due to the virus.
- **Expand to \$500 million each (from \$95 million and \$55 million respectively) CAPTA state grants and the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CB-CAP).** CB-CAP funding can assist with family support services through community resource centers and other services in addressing the potential increase in family stress due to a range of social changes (school closings, loss of work, loss of activities, increased isolation). Funding through CAPTA state grants could also assist in worker safety and workforce needs in terms of protections and health practices and the need for new or expanded encryption technologies for face time and other methods of home visits and investigation.
- **Social Services Block Grant funding increase of several billion dollars.** This has been used to assist states hit by catastrophic hurricanes including Katrina and Wilma. Funds were allocated according to FEMA claims and poverty. It served not just the states directly hit but also those states taking in people seeking refuge from the storms. You could instead use formula based on positive tests and surges in states. These funds can fill in some of the gaps not covered above and backfill a number of human services. *This also needs to include a set-aside for Tribes which does not exist in current Title XX statute.*
- **Emergency funding for TANF** which could be used for both cash assistance for unemployed and families hit hard by the economy. Funds would also be used for expanded or alternate kinship care arrangements. Some relative caregivers may have to move children to other family members if the current relative caregiver is elderly. With respect to school closures the CDC says that the potential impact, “Will increase risk to older adults or those with co-morbidities, as almost 40% of US grandparents provide childcare for grandchildren. School closures will likely increase this percentage.”
- **Boost Title IV-E Chafee funds above the \$143 million** and temporarily waive the 30% Chafee housing cap for the duration of the crisis. These additional funds could be used above and beyond what states have already locked into place for their ongoing independent living funds and services. Allow states flexibility in expanding Chafee funds for services and supports for youth including financial assistance, and employment assistance.

- **Extend foster care to age 21 in all states, even if temporary.** Allow the remaining 25 states to extend care to age 21 through a speedy notice to HHS. Regardless, HHS **should clarify and make explicit previous instructions:**
  - “According to ACF’s program instructions for implementing the Fostering Connections Act, state child welfare agencies have the discretion to develop a range of supervised independent living settings which can be reasonably interpreted as consistent with the law, including whether such settings need to be licensed and any safety protocols that may be needed. These instructions state that child welfare agencies may determine that—when paired with a supervising agency or supervising caseworker—host homes, college dormitories, shared housing, semi supervised apartments, or other housing arrangements meet the supervised setting requirement.”—GAO---  
Although these settings may not always be ideal in this emergency it would be preferable to homelessness. Additionally require guidance from HHS on use of these funds related to the increased need to address housing for students displaced by the coronavirus pandemic – particularly those not able to go home to elderly parents or those with compromised health.
  - ACF officials have said (according to GAO report) states can choose to close and re-open cases for youth in extended care, which would allow new eligibility determinations based on a youth’s income. –ACF should strengthen this past instruction so that states can access more Title IV-E for this population.
- **Family First flexibility.** Some guidance and support from HHS for those agencies implementing new services. Flexibility in the model fidelity and research requirements for the period (hopefully short) during the coronavirus pandemic.