

FFTA



Foster Family-based Treatment Association

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February 20, 2014

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Senate Majority Leader  
S-221 Capitol Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Boehner  
Speaker  
US House of Representatives  
H-232 Capitol Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Chairman, Senate Finance  
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20010

The Honorable Fred Upton  
Chairman, Energy & Commerce  
2183 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leader Reid, Speaker Boehner, Chairman Wyden, and Chairman Upton:

The undersigned national and state organizations write today in strong support of S.1992 and H.R.4016, bipartisan, bicameral bills, also known as the Quality Foster Care Services Act of 2014. This legislation will help ensure that vital Medicaid services and access to quality providers are available for a highly vulnerable population of the children and youth involved in our nation's child welfare and foster care systems: individuals with disabilities, medically fragile conditions and/or mental illness.

Before they walk through the service delivery door, many of these children have been exposed to multiple traumas, including domestic violence, physical and emotional abuse, neglect, community violence, and exposure to other risk factors such as parental mental health problems, substance abuse, and poverty.

This legislation clarifies an existing service, Therapeutic or Treatment Foster Care (TFC), currently offered in all 50 states under various monikers. S.1992 and H.R.4016 provide a uniform definition describing the unique population of youth served in therapeutic foster care and baseline quality standards for providers. TFC is the evidence-informed, trauma-informed, and highly effective placement for children and youth with serious medical, psychological, emotional and social needs. TFC provides services to approximately 40,000 foster children with severe mental and behavioral health conditions within a family-and community-based environment. Recommended in the 1999 U.S. Surgeon General Report on Mental Health as an effective, evidence-based intervention, TFC results in positive outcomes relating to the child's behavior and to maintaining safety, permanency and well being.

The undersigned organizations thank you for your continued commitment to protecting vulnerable children and youth in foster care. We look forward to working with you to see this legislation move forward in the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Sincerely,

***National Organizations:***

Advantage Behavioral Health

Alliance for Children and Families

America's Promise Alliance

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry  
American Association of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry  
American Association of Children's Residential Centers (AACRC)  
American Association on Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities  
American Group Psychotherapy Association  
American Mental Health Counselors Association  
Anxiety Disorders Association of America  
Arrow Child and Family Ministries  
Association FOR Ambulatory Behavioral Healthcare  
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law  
Benchmark Family Services  
Black Administrators in Child Welfare, Inc.  
Boys Town USA  
Centerstone of America  
Centerstone Research Institute (TN)  
Child Welfare League of America  
Children's Defense Fund  
Children's Leadership Council  
ChildFocus, Inc.  
Clinical Social Work Association  
Coalition on Human Needs  
Council on Accreditation  
Crittenton Services for Children and Families  
David & Margaret Youth and Family Services  
Devereux  
Donaldson Adoption Institute  
Easter Seals  
Eckerd Community Services  
Every Child Matters Education Fund  
Family Preservation Community Services (FPCS)  
First Focus  
Foster Family-based Treatment Association  
Foster Parent Professionals  
FosterClub  
KidsPeace National Centers  
Kinship Center  
LEA net (A national coalition of local education agencies)  
Lutheran Services in America  
Mental Health America  
Mission Focused Solutions  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Association of County Behavioral Health & Developmental Disability Directors  
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health  
National Association of County Human Services Administrators  
National Association of School Psychologists  
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators

National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare  
National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health  
National Foster Care Coalition  
National Health Law Program  
National Indian Child Welfare Association  
National Respite Coalition  
National Youth Advocate Program, Inc.  
Necco Family of Services  
North American Council on Adoptable Children  
Olive Crest  
Omni Visions  
PATH Alliance  
Phoenix Homes  
Pressley Ridge  
Progressive Life Center, Inc.  
Providence Service Corp.  
ResCare  
RISE Family Services & Intercept: RISE Behavioral & Mental Health Services  
SAFY of America, Inc.  
St. Francis Community Services  
Teaching-Family Association  
The Arc of the United States  
The Bair Foundation  
The MENTOR Network  
The National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc.  
The Rebecca Project  
Therapeutic Communities of America  
UCAN BE THE CHANGE  
United Cerebral Palsy  
United Methodist Family Services  
Voice for Adoption  
Youth Law Center (CA)  
Youth Villages

***State Organizations:***

A Better Way, Inc. (CA)  
Adolescent & Family Growth Center, Inc (VA)  
Adoption and Foster Care Alliance of New Mexico  
Adriel Inc. (OH)  
Alaska Child & Family  
Alabama MENTOR  
Aldea Children and Family Services (CA)  
Alliance For Children, Inc. (WV)  
Alston Wilkes Society Therapeutic Foster Care (SC)  
Alternative Family Services (CA)  
Anew Adoption Agency (NM)

Anu Family Services (WI)  
Arizona's Children Association  
Aspiranet (CA)  
Attachment & Trauma Network, Inc. (MD)  
Aviva Family and Children's Services (CA)  
BenchMarks: Children and Family Services Association of North Carolina  
Bethany Christian Services, Georgia (GA)  
Bienvenidos (CA)  
Bill Wilson Center (CA)  
Boys' and Girls' Haven (KY)  
Boys Town North Florida  
Braley & Thompson, Inc. (WV and VA)  
Building Blocks for Community Enrichment (NE)  
California Alliance of Child and Family Services  
California Association of Counties  
California Child Welfare Directors  
Camelot Care Centers, Inc. of Illinois  
Camelot Community Care, Inc. (FL, OH, TX)  
Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans  
Catholic Charities Community Services of Central and Northern Arizona  
Cayuga Centers (NY)  
Centers for Youth and Families (AR)  
Centerstone of Illinois  
Centerstone of Indiana  
Centerstone of Tennessee  
Child Care Association of Illinois  
Childhaven, Inc. (NM)  
Children's Home Society of West Virginia  
Children's Action Alliance (AZ)  
Children's Alliance of Kentucky  
Children's Coalition of Indiana  
Children's Home Society of West Virginia (WV)  
Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Community Services  
Children's League of Massachusetts  
Children's Service Center of Wyoming Valley (NY)  
Christian Home Association-Children's Square U.S.A. (IA)  
Choices for Life (GA)  
Choices for Life (OK)  
Coalition for Hispanic Family Services (NY)  
Colorado Association of Family and Children's Agencies (CAFCA)  
Community Behavioral Health Association of Maryland  
Community Health & Counseling Services (ME)  
Community Link, Inc (NC)  
Community Services Group (PA)  
Community Support Service, LLC (NC)  
Cornerstones of Care (MO)

Counseling Services of Eastern Arkansas  
County Welfare Directors Association of California  
Creative Community Services, Inc. (GA)  
Crossroads Programs, Inc. (NJ)  
David & Margaret Youth and Family Services (CA)  
Denali Family Services (AK)  
Devereux Arizona  
Devereux New Jersey  
Dockside Services of Indiana and Michigan  
Easter Seals UCP of North Carolina  
Easter Seals UCP of Virginia  
EMQ FamiliesFirst (CA)  
Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services (CA)  
Families & Youth Inc. (NM)  
Families and Children Together (ME)  
Family Advocacy Services of Virginia, Inc. (VA)  
Family Care Network, Inc. (CA)  
Family Pride Foundation (NM)  
Family Service of Rhode Island (RI)  
Family Works, Inc. (WI)  
For Children's Sake of Virginia, Inc.  
Foster Family-based Treatment Association - VA Chapter  
Four County Counseling Center (IN)  
GA Family Services (NY)  
Gateway Family and Child Services (AL)  
Georgia Alliance for Treatment Services (GATS)  
Great Circle (MO)  
Growing Home Southeast, Inc. (SC)  
Hathaway-Sycamores Child and Family Services (CA)  
Helping Other Peoples Enrichment, Inc. (VA)  
Hillsides (CA)  
High Desert Family Services (NM)  
Human Services Consultants, LLC (AZ)  
IARCCA, An Association of Children & Family Services (IN)  
Inner Circle Foster Care and Adoption Services (CA)  
Jewish Child & Family Services (IL)  
Judson Center (MI)  
Kairos Northwest (OR)  
Kennedy Krieger Institute (MD)  
Kids At the Crossroads (TX)  
KVC West Virginia  
La Familia, Inc (NM)  
Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois  
Lutheran Child and Family Services of Missouri  
Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Inc.  
Lutheran Family Services of Virginia, Inc.

Lutheran Family Services of Rocky Mountains  
Lutheran Community Services Northwest (WA)  
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota  
Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin & Upper Michigan, Inc.  
Maple Star Services of Colorado  
Massachusetts Council of Human Service Providers  
McKinley Children's Center (CA)  
Meritan, Inc. (TN, GA, MS, AR)  
Minnesota Council of Child Caring Agencies  
Missouri Alliance for Children and Families  
Missouri Coalition of Children's Agencies  
Monroe Community Mental Health Authority (MI)  
Montana Children's Initiative  
Montana Community Services, Inc.,  
Morrison Child and Family Services (OR)  
NC Providers Council  
Nebraska Families Collaborative  
New Jersey Alliance for Children, Youth and Families  
New York Council of Family & Child Caring Agencies  
New York State Citizens' Coalition for Children  
NHS Human Services (PA)  
NorthEast Arkansas Community Mental Health Center  
Northern Virginia Family Service (VA)  
Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children Services (CA)  
Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies (OACCA)  
Ohio Council of Behavioral Health & Family Services Providers  
OhioGuidestone  
Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy  
Oklahoma Therapeutic Foster Care Assoc.  
Partners for Our Children (WA)  
PATH Idaho  
Pennsylvania Council of Children, Youth and Family Services  
Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children  
People Places (VA)  
Phoenix Institute (IN)  
Pressley Ridge (PA)  
Pressley Ridge (WV)  
Providence of Oklahoma  
Rapid Resource for Families (NC)  
Rebekah Children's Services (CA)  
Redwood Children's Services, Inc. (CA)  
Regional Youth Service, Inc. (IN)  
Remi Vista, Inc. (CA)  
Rhode Island Council of Resource Providers  
Saint Vincent Home for Children (MO)  
Safe Haven Children's Services (NC)

San Diego Center for Children  
SeaView Community Services (AK)  
Seraaj Family Homes, Inc. (AL)  
South Carolina Youth Advocate Program  
South Community-The Archway Network (OH)  
Southern Oregon Adolescent Study and Treatment Center (OR)  
Special Families Foster Care (CA)  
St. Jude's Ranch For Children (TX and NV)  
Stanford Youth Solutions (CA)  
Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations  
The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region (MD)  
The Bridge Program (GA)  
The Children's Community Programs of Connecticut, Inc.  
The Children's Guild (MD)  
The Children's Home Treatment Foster Care (MD)  
The Salvation Army-Koch Center (KS)  
The Up Center (VA)  
The Village Network (OH)  
The Villages of Indiana, Inc.  
Thompson Child & Family Focus (NC)  
Three Rivers Adoption Council (PA)  
Together Georgia (GAHSC)  
Touchstone Behavioral Health (AZ)  
Triad Family Services (CA)  
Triad Treatment Homes, Inc. (NC)  
Trinity Youth Services (CA)  
Turning Point Homes, Inc. (NC)  
United Methodist Family Services (VA)  
Valley Teen Ranch (CA)  
Walden Family Services, Inc. (CA)  
We Care Child & Family Services (KY)  
Western Montana Mental Health Center  
Wisconsin Association of Family & Children's Agencies  
Wings of Refuge, Parmdale (CA)  
Woodfords Family Services (MD)  
Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch (MT)  
Youth Focus, Inc. (NC)  
Youthville (KS)