



In last month's executive director's report, I referenced **H. R. 4371 - Protecting Siblings Relationships in Foster Care Act**. To date, there has been no action or additional co-sponsors added to the legislation. Since I included the text to that bill in the last report, I'll not elaborate on it further.

In researching the status of H.R. 4371, I became aware of another bill introduced by Congressman Bacon on July 1, 2021 as well. It is **H.R. 4299 - Foster Care Stabilization Act**. The bill was filed with three co-sponsors: Rep. Karen Bass (D-CA), Rep. James Langevin (D-RI) and Rep. Markwayne Mullin (R-OK).

117th CONGRESS  
1st Session

**H. R. 4299**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

July 1, 2021

Mr. Bacon (for himself, Ms. Bass, Mr. Langevin, and Mr. Mullin) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

**A BILL**

To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a demonstration grant program to provide emergency relief to foster youth and improve pre-placement services offered by foster care stabilization agencies, and for other purposes.

1.Short title

This Act may be cited as the "Foster Care Stabilization Act".

2.Grants to improve pre-placement services for foster youth

(a)Establishment

The Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Administration for Children and Families, shall award

demonstration grants of not more than \$1,000,000 to foster care stabilization agencies for the purpose of providing emergency relief to foster youth and improving pre-placement services for foster youth waiting for placement.

(b)Duration

A foster care stabilization agency that receives a grant under this Act shall have 3 years to spend funds awarded by the grant and return any unused grant funds to the Secretary.

(c)Application

A foster care stabilization agency that desires to receive a grant under this section shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, that shall include the following:

(1) A description of how grant funds will be used to provide emergency relief to foster youth by the foster care stabilization agency.

(2) A description of how grant funds will be used to improve pre-placement services offered by the foster care stabilization agency.

(d) Application dissemination

The Secretary shall ensure that the solicitation of applications for a grant under this Act is posted publically on the website of the Administration for Children and Families and shall make special dissemination efforts to rural areas and among Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations.

(e) Use of funds

A grant awarded under this section may be used to carry out any of the following activities:

(1) Hiring of personnel necessary to provide emergency relief to foster youth and ensure that services, resources, and assistance reach such youth.

(2) Provision of clothing and other personal necessities to a foster youth for a total not to exceed \$250 per foster youth, per year.

(3) Purchase of food and equipment needed to prepare food for foster youth.

(4) Provision of service and support to prevent and respond to occurrences of child abuse and neglect with respect to foster youth.

(5) Any other extraordinary or emergency assistance needed to promote the safety and self-sufficiency of foster youth.

(6) Any other purpose that the Secretary determines appropriate.

(f) Reservation

The Secretary shall reserve \$45,000 appropriated pursuant to the authorization under subsection (i) to be used for administration, oversight, and technical assistance activities related to this section.

(g) Report

The Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that—

(1) describes how grants awarded under this section have been used to provide emergency relief to foster youth;

(2) describe how grants awarded under this section have been used on pre-placement services;

(3) contains data on the extent of clothing and other necessities purchased with grant funds awarded under this section that have been provided to foster youth;

(4) provides an evaluation of case outcomes for foster youth who have benefitted from grant funds; and

(5) states the number of home transfers for each foster youth that has benefitted from grant funds.

(h) Definitions

In this Act:

(1) Foster care stabilization agency

The term “foster care stabilization agency” means a local public or private nonprofit, including community and faith-based organizations, with expertise and experience providing direct services to one or more of the following:

(A) Children who are under the care and placement responsibility of a State or Tribal agency that administers a plan under part B or E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 621 et seq. and 670 et seq.).

(B) Foster youth under the age of 18.

(C) Foster youth 18 years of age or over, but under 26 years of age.

(2) Foster youth

The term “foster youth” means an individual in foster care who has not attained 26 years of age.

(3) Home transfer

The term “home transfer” means the initial placement of a foster youth in to foster care, and any subsequent placement move of that foster youth while in foster care.

(4) Secretary

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

(i) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, \$3,045,000 for fiscal year 2022.

**H.R. 4348 Tribal Family Fairness Act Tribal Family Fairness Act** - Filed by Rep. Karen Bass - on July 2, 2021. There are nine co-sponsors to the bill.



US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

[Read Bill Text on Congress.gov](#)

To remove administrative barriers to participation of Indian tribes in Federal child welfare programs, and increase Federal funding for tribal child welfare programs, and for other purposes.

## 2021 CORE National Conference Program includes:

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021

Welcome – Together Accomplishing More – Greg Mc-Neece, President Oklahoma Baptist Homes for Children

**TOGETHER**

**2021 CORE National Conference**  
October 12-14, 2021

**Accomplishing More**

Hosting by  
Mooseheart Child City School

**CORE**  
COALITION OF RESIDENTIAL EXCELLENCE

and CORE Board President

**Leadership and Self Deception** – Dan Adams, President and CEO of Cal Farley’s Boys Ranch and Boys Ranch Foundation

**Finding the Silver Lining of COVID: Engaging Families During the Pandemic** – Jay Garvey, Manager of Family Relations, Milton Hershey School

**Mooseheart Model of Care** – Alice Daneels, Residential Living Director & Brianna Dowell, Manager of Quality Improvement, Mooseheart Child City & School

**Cottage Parent Recruitment, Training, and Retention** – Suzanne Wright, Director of Training and Intervention, Cal Farley’s Boys Ranch

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2021

**The Power of Share Language** – Trey Oakley, President, Methodist Children’s Home

**A Failing System: The Inadequacy of “Best Interests of the Child” in Modern Child Welfare** – Dr. Michael Smith, COO for Statewide Operations, Alabama Baptist Children’s Homes and Family Ministries

**Catherine Hershey Awards Luncheon**

**Keynote Speaker** – Gary Urwiler, Alumni and Executive Director, Mooseheart Child City & School

**Introduction to Legislative Change and Impacting Regulations** – Sean Milner, Alumni and Executive Director, Baptist Children’s Village

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2021

**Keeping Our Children Safe** – Kyle Rife, Director of Admissions and Recruiting, Brianna Dowell, Manager of Quality Improvement, and Alice Daneels, Director of Residential Living, Mooseheart Child, City and School

**Attachment Management** – Joshua Sprock, Trainer, Cal Farley’s Boys Ranch

**Legislation Update and Challenges** – Don Forrester, Executive Director of CORE

[Note: Methodist Children’s Home will be awarding CEUs for the Conference]

In Addition, a Continental Breakfast and noon meal will be served daily

## Conference Registration

Please use this link for conference registration:

<https://www.core-dc.org/registration/>

**The conference Hotel is MyPlace Hotel.** It is located at 1000 Kilbery Ln, North Aurora, IL 60542. Phone (630) 256-8485.

Here is the Hotel Reservation link: [MOOSE2021](#)

**TRANSPORTATION** - Mooseheart will provide a bus to pick conference attendees up at the hotel and return to the hotel daily.

Transportation from either of the airports is more of a problem. Uber from either airport is approximately \$75 one way. Train service is available in close proximity to each airport, but scheduling is a minimum on one hour between departures. (Note: Taking a train to Aurora and then picking up Uber was not recommended by the hotel because of the time it would take)

The most practical venue is rent a car at the airport. Several of you may want to reach out to peers traveling to the conference to coordinate and share car rental charges.