



OUR CHILDREN WILL BE IMPACTED BY CONGRESSIONAL BILL H.R.3852

You can help children in foster care across the nation by encouraging your representative to support the CARE for Children Act - H.R. 3852

Thank you for your support of the children entrusted to our care. Because of your compassion and generosity, children who have endured heart wrenching circumstances have an opportunity to heal and find hope for a brighter future.

H.R.3852 is a congressional bill that would help children in foster care across the nation through the funding it makes possible for residential/cottage care programs like Black Mountain Home. However, in order to go before congress for a vote, it must first be released by the committee that has been assigned to study it. This bill will allow residential care programs like ours to be recognized as one of the services that qualify for funding through the previously passed Family First Prevention Services Act (which cut millions of dollars from our funding).

How you can help. Please consider joining others across the nation who are reaching out to their congressional representatives by email and letter to encourage them to support the CARE Act. The impact it will have on restoring lost funding to children's homes like ours is crucial. For your convenience, you can find suggested wording below.

Gratefully,

James O. Harmon, President



Executive Director's Report August 2023

The column on the left is part of an email communication that Jimmy Harmon, President of Black Mountain Home for Children, Youth and Families sent to 27,000 people on their mailing list. I have Jimmy's permission to share the communication with members of the Coalition of Residential Excellence.

Without having access to the information included in his message, how would donors that support Black Mountain Home know of the need for passage of H.R. 3852 - Create Accountable Respectful Environments (CARE) for Children Act?

I applaud Jimmy's approach. It stands to reason that individuals who care enough about a program to support it financially, would value the opportunity to reach out to their legislators on behalf of children and families from hard places.

Thoughtfully, Jimmy included a sample appeal:

Dear Representative/Senator (name),

I am writing to request your support for Create Accountable Respectful Environments (CARE) for Children Act.

This bill will help children in foster care across the nation by restoring "cottage family homes" as one of the programs through which they can be served. Currently, under provisions of Family First Prevention Services Act (Feb 2018), children who do not require treatment for severe behavioral and/or mental health issues can only be placed in foster homes. Due to a national foster family shortage, countless children are staying in DSS offices nightly. Allowing them to be cared for in high quality residential programs would help prevent this and is crucial to children's safety and well-being.

In addition to providing homes to children for as long as they are needed, including large sibling groups, residential/cottage care providers offer educational and extracurricular enrichment opportunities. Importantly, they also allow children freedoms similar to those enjoyed by their peers living with families.

It is critically important that H.R. 3852, adding “cottage family homes” to the programs for which Title IV-E funding can be used, makes it out of committee and is passed. The term “cottage family home” means a family-style home operated by a child care agency that is licensed and/or approved by the state wherein it is located.

As your constituent, I urge you to help protect vulnerable child by cosponsoring and supporting the CARE for Children Act H.R. 3852.

Thank you, in advance, for helping vulnerable children.

(Name and Address)

2023 CORE National Conference

September 18 - 20, 2023

**Arrowwood at Cedar Shore Resort & Conference Center
1500 Shoreline Drive - Oacoma, SD 57365**

Registration Packets may be picked up on Sunday Evening, September 17th, from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. in the front lobby of the conference center.

The opening meeting on Monday morning will take place in the Hale Room at 8:30 a.m. A complimentary continental breakfast may be enjoyed in that same location from 8: 00 a.m – 8:30 a.m.

47th Annual Pow Wow - Saturday

Location: St. Joseph’s Indian School - Signage will make location evident.

11:30 a.m. - Grass flattening/Pow Wow grounds blessing - Concessions are available

Grand Entry and Pow Wow begins at noon.

Mass at Our Lady of the Sioux Chapel at 5:00 p.m. and a complimentary meal at the picnic pavilion. Pow Wow prizes will be awarded following the meal.

Black Hills Excursion

For those who’ve registered for The Black Hills Excursion Tour on Sunday, the bus will leave from the conference center at 6:00 a.m. - Destinations include: Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse Memorial, Custer State Park & Badlands Loop.

Approximate arrival time back at the hotel is 9:15 p.m.

Save the Date - October 17-18th.

CORE MEMBERS ON CAPITOL HILL

9:00 a.m. October 17 - Meeting Logistic Instructions in Capitol Visiting Center
Group Picture to be taken on steps of the U.S. Capitol following the brief meeting

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

H.R. 3852 - Create Accountable Respectful Environments (CARE) for Children Act

Rep. Mike Ezell and Rep. Michael Guest, both from Mississippi, have been added as cosponsors since the last report. They join 12 other cosponsors from Florida

H.R. 2955 - Stop Institutional Child Abuse Act

Five additional cosponsor signed on in August, joining with 36 other cosponsors.

S. 1353 - Stop Institutional Child Abuse Act

The Act has 9 cosponsors. No new cosponsors were added in August.

H.R. - 755 Protecting Sibling Relationships in Foster Care Act

Rep. Pete Stauber from Minnesota signed on as a cosponsor in August. There are now a total of 7 cosponsors.

S. 102 - Foster Care Stabilization Act of 2023

No new cosponsors have been added since the Act was filed in January. There is only one cosponsor.

H.R. - 1316 Save Children's Coverage Act

The bill was filed in March by Rep. Joe Negus. There are no cosponsors.

H.R. 3435 - The Charitable Act

No new cosponsors were added in August. There are currently 21 cosponsors.

S. 566 Charitable Act

Sen. Sherrod Brown and Sen. Jerry Moran signed on as a cosponsors on Sept 6. 2023. There are currently 17 cosponsors,