



COALITION OF RESIDENTIAL EXCELLENCE

Executive Director's Report August 2024



August 2024 saw little activity on Capitol Hill. Most legislators took the advantage of working from offices in their congressional districts where they were more easily assessable to interact with constituents.

As the month of August blended into the month of September, legislative agenda's yet to be fulfilled through passage of previously filed legislation left legislators with important decisions to consider. Was it possible that the

legislation could be moved forward before closure of the 118th legislative session? The session ends on January 3, 2025.

If not, what strategies need to be implemented to make similar legislation more amenable in the 119th Session? As you are aware, H.R. 3852 – Creating Accountable Respectful Environments (CARE) for Children Act falls into the category of legislation that has not yet come out of committee. In addition, companion legislation has yet to be filed in the Senate.

In addition, there are expressed concerns related to provisions of H.R. 2955 and S. 1531 – Stop Institutional Child Abuse Act (SICCA) unless modifications are made.

To complicate matters, Congress will not be in session during the month of October.

Plans are made with the Gregg Harper, CORE lobbyist through Watkins & Eager, PLLC, for congressional visits to be made on Capitol Hill on September 17 & 18th. In addition, CORE agency heads have received written communication identifying suggested steps that need to be taken to ensure that no stone is left unturned in accomplishing our legislative goals.

Legislative Updates

H.R. 3852 - Creating Accountable Respectful Environments (CARE) for Children Act - The Act is still in committee with 17 Cosponsors. There has been no activity since our last report.

This legislation is supported by CORE. The Act is intended to increase capacity and ensure resources to keep sibling groups together. The methodology is through use of

the cottage family home model that offers a family-like living environment in a single family style residence.

The Act includes safeguards prohibiting the use of seclusion as well as prohibiting the use of chemical or mechanical restraints.

H.R. 2955 Stop Institutional Child Abuse Act

Two new cosponsors were added in August 24. here are currently 113 Cosponsors.

S. 1353 Stop Institutional Child Abuse Act

There are currently 23 cosponsors. No new cosponsors have been added since February 2024.

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

There are currently 8 cosponsors. There has been no activity since May 2024.

S. 102 Foster Care Stabilization Act of 2023

There is only one cosponsor for the legislation. There has been no activity since January 2023.

H.R. 756 Foster Care Stabilization Act of 2023

There are currently 9 cosponsors. There has been no activity since February 2023.

2024 National CORE Conference October 6 - 9, 2024 Kamehameha Schools Honolulu, HI



Time is Short for Registration for the 2024 CORE National Conference. Current registration reflects plans for 102 participants, but there is still room for more. Don't fail to make plans for attending this year's conference.

Registration is still open, but the clock is ticking, and the conference will be here before you know it. A detailed description of conference topics and presenters is scheduled to be released this week. In addition, arrangements are being made through Kamehameha Schools, the conference host, to provide participants options regarding touring historic places of interest. Provisions will be available through PayPal for participations to purchase tickets in advance. In addition, Kamehameha plans to provide transportation to those locations.

Be alert an watch for the notification.

REPORT ON STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

The CORE board met in Hershey, PA on August 12-13 to update our Mission, Vision and Values as an organization. In the process, the board crafted a new roadmap to enhance more participation and connection with our membership.

The collective strength represented in the Coalition of Residential Excellence lies within each of our member agencies and the commitment toward excellence that serves as a common denominator in our embrace of best practice.

Since the draft of the roadmap has not been reviewed by the board, I will await that process before sharing the details with you. It is my belief that you will like the outcome. The plan creates opportunities for members to be more actively involved with the organization through input and participation.