



2022 New York Joint Legislative Budget Hearing on Taxes regarding the Child Tax Credit
February 16, 2022

Dear State Senators and Assemblymembers,

In 2021, the Child Tax Credit was estimated to reduce child poverty by over 40%, and even more for Black, Latino, and Indigenous children. LIFT joins the many groups and advocates across the country that are fighting for permanence right now. If made permanent, the CTC will reduce child poverty to below 10% in New York state.

In 2021, about 3.5 million children received payments in New York State. Today, LIFT-New York urges the New York Senate and Assembly to make the Child Tax Credit permanent under the Build Back Better Act so that families will continue to receive the transformational expanded monthly Child Tax Credit payments. If the Build Back Better Act is not passed it could potentially cause millions of children across the state who have been lifted out of poverty this year to be plunged back into financial hardship while simultaneously widening immoral racial and economic inequities. LIFT joins with child poverty-fighting organizations to demand that our elected leaders take bold action by making the Child Tax Credit permanent, fully refundable and fully inclusive with a simple message: Now that you have lifted our families up, do not let them down.

About LIFT

LIFT's mission is to break the cycle of poverty by investing in parents. Since our founding in 1998, LIFT has worked with over 100,000 low-income community members nationally to remove barriers to economic security, achieve self-prescribed goals, build financial skillsets, and secure stability for their families. LIFT-New York opened its doors in 1998 and currently partners with Black and Latinx parents and caregivers of young children in the South Bronx, primarily those who reside in Mott Haven, Melrose, and Port Morris. Our members are determined to break the cycle of poverty despite systemic challenges that disproportionately impact their communities. As such, 100% of our parents are people of color, 92% are women, 79% have at most a high school level education, and 61% identify a non-English language as their primary language. Our work is focused on parents and caregivers of young children because we know the early years are the most critical in determining lifelong health, happiness, and success. LIFT members have big dreams for themselves and their children, and LIFT is no less ambitious in our vision for how we can contribute to ending poverty.

For information about LIFT, please visit www.whywelift.org.

Thank you for your attention on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Xiomara Romain".

Xiomara Romain
VP, Organizational Impact & LIFT-New York Executive Director, LIFT
xromain@whywelift.org

LIFT-CHICAGO
4601 S. COTTAGE GROVE
PO BOX 53611
CHICAGO, IL 60653
(312) 316-1899

LIFT NATIONAL & LIFT-DC
999 N CAPITOL ST, NE SUITE 310
WASHINGTON, DC 20002
(202) 289-1151

LIFT-LOS ANGELES
1910 MAGNOLIA AVE.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90007
(213) 744-9468

LIFT-NEWYORK
349 EAST 149TH ST, SUITE 500
BRONX, NY 10451
(347) 584-4010