



Dear friends,

As we wrap up **Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month**, we have some devastating news to share. As you may have seen in the news recently, the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) visited AmeriCorps. That visit led to the abrupt "demobilization" of AmeriCorps.

Despite our advocacy efforts, we received official notice that our three AmeriCorps programs - Birth & Beyond, Foster Youth Initiative, and Prevent Abuse Through Home Visitation are included in the grants being terminated by DOGE. This means all AmeriCorps service must be discontinued effective immediately and the families we serve through these programs will not have access to assistance and more of California's children will be at an increased risk of abuse and/or neglect.

These changes were not due to performance, in fact, **the programs were highly successful** thanks to your support. Through our Birth & Beyond Family Resource Centers, families who received **eight hours of home visitation services** were **three times less likely** to have a substantiated CPS referral. High school seniors mentored through our Foster Youth Initiative graduated at a rate **29% higher** than their foster care peers. Foster Youth Initiative program will be terminated, Prevent Abuse Through Home Visitation will cease to exist, and the Birth & Beyond services through Family resource Centers in Sacramento will be cut by 50%. Across California, AmeriCorps members have helped us reach the families we serve to improve parenting skills through parenting and health education, gain access to food, diapers and other concrete needs, and one-on-one, evidence-based in-home visitation and mentorship to foster youth transitioning to adulthood. It's a shame that these critical services are no longer available.

AmeriCorps has been a cost-effective public-private partnership: for every **\$1** of federal investment, AmeriCorps returns over **\$17** in community benefits. Programs like The CAP Center depend on AmeriCorps to extend their reach and impact. While the loss of this funding changes how we deliver some services, it does not stop our mission.

Your donation today will help us pivot how we serve families, much like we did at the onset of COVID-19. We're already brainstorming how we can close the funding gap to continue providing services to the communities we serve through outreach with our other existing programs.

Here's a note from a mom that has benefited through one of our other programs.

"Throughout my time here, working with the Black Infant Health Family Health Advocate has been a joy. She's been assisting me with resources and providing me with support which has really allowed me to stay focused on what's important. When my little one was born, I did the Sleep Safe Baby workshop and the information I learned has been amazing. I didn't know about crib safety and SIDS in detail but following the course I started implementing the safe sleep practice immediately. Overall, I'm super glad that I'm a part of this program and believe it really has enriched my life and empowered me to take on any situation that may come my way."

I will be traveling to Washington, D.C. this week to advocate alongside Voices for National Service for the reinstatement of AmeriCorps funding.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and commitment to the families and communities we serve. Your donation will immediately help us to continue to keep kids safe and protected. Please visit us at www.thecapcenter.org and donate today. Any amount will advance our mission to prevent child abuse and neglect. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful generosity.

In Community,



Janay Eustace