

Talking Points: Trump-Vance Proposal Would Take Child Care Assistance Away from Working Families & Direct it to Stay-At-Home Parents

- According to reporting from the New York Times, the Trump-Vance administration is planning to divert dollars away from child care assistance for working families under the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) to married couples with a stay-at-home parent.
- This radical - and likely illegal - proposal continues the Heritage Foundation's aggressive efforts to force a traditional family structure on all Americans at the expense of working women.
- CCDF is already deeply underfunded: only 1 in 7 eligible children receive child care assistance. As of the end of 2025, 400,000 children across the country were stuck on waiting lists for child care assistance, and that's just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to unmet need.
- All parents, including stay-at-home parents, deserve more support when it comes to raising children. Affordable child care, paid family and medical leave, and an economy that works for everyone are all vital to creating a care system where families have real choices that fit their needs.
- But instead of advancing solutions to help families by investing in more robust basic need supports, the Trump administration is raiding a critical child care assistance program that will make it harder for parents with low incomes to go to work and feed their families.
- Many of the children who are helped by CCDF are raised by single moms. The Trump proposal would take money away from these families and give it to married couples with a stay-at-home parent, making it harder and more expensive for single mothers and low income families to afford child care to work or go to school.
- The proposal would also harm the child care sector, including the underpaid and overworked early educator workforce, which is disproportionately made up of women and women of color, worsening workforce shortages and making it harder for parents to find care.

- This draft proposal would be especially devastating as the Trump administration implements stricter work reporting requirements on Medicaid and food assistance that are already decimating access to these essential services.
- The Trump-Vance administration is hell-bent on dismantling our federal child care system in service of its anti-woman agenda, and this latest proposal is just the latest in a long line of attacks aimed at weakening our child care system and making it harder for certain types of families to make ends meet.