Supplemental Social Security Income for Fosters

A look at the numbers:



An estimated 1,400 children in foster care are eligible for federal Supplemental Social Security Income, largely due to receiving Survivor Benefits because of a death of a parent.

However, under current law, child welfare agencies take this money and make children pay for foster care. This is immoral, likely illegal, and we can change it to ensure Fosters receive the benefits they are due.

Under SF2464/HF2467, child welfare agencies would be required to:

- Apply to be the representative payee for the child while in care
- · Notify the young person of eligibility and the amounts received annually
- Establish and manage a trust that will be made available to Fosters at 18 years old
- Repay Fosters for past stolen funds

\$8400

The average amount of Supplemental Social Security Income that a child welfare agency can claim from a child each year.

> These funds can create a bridge of support & stability for a new adult, including ...



6 months of child care for a parent



1 year of rent for a 1 BR



2 years of groceries for 1 individual



1 years worth of transportation

foster advocates

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foster advocates

What We Do



Relationships

We collectively organize with Fosters as they direct the growth of our networks, programs, communication, and advocacy.



Research

We center and elevate the lived experiences of Fosters as they identify gaps. barriers, and solutions for systems change.



Reform

We advocate for legislative. policy, and practice reform at all levels to improve experiences for Minnesota Fosters.

Who We Serve

- · 35,000+ children involved in maltreatment reports
- · 13.000+ youth in foster care
- · Hundreds of foster youth who age out of care
- · Every uncounted former foster youth and their families

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