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2022 Legislative Agenda

At Treehouse, we envision – and strive to create – a world where every child that has experienced foster care has the opportunities and support they need to pursue their dreams and launch successfully into independence.

Our policy priorities seek to provide youth in foster care an equitable educational journey that leads to high school completion, prepare youth and young adults to transition to independence, and ensure youth have positive experiences that lead to identity development, a sense of belonging and healthy relationships. We are committed to transforming the foster care and education systems to drive positive outcomes and reduce disparities caused by systemic racism.

Lead Priorities

- **Ensure mobility and independence through Driver's Assistance program:** Allocate an additional $1.15 million for youth in foster care to obtain their driver's license and auto insurance coverage, allowing them to get to school and work reliably and safely.

- **Align and strengthen education law:** Ensure that all students experiencing foster care have legal access to the services that will support their education stability.

- **Extend support for alumni of care:** Allocate $10.6 million of federal relief dollars to provide economic and housing stability to young people who aged out of Extended Foster Care during the pandemic.

- **Increase systems capacity:** Allocate resources for the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) Adolescent Services division and OSPI to improve education coordination and provide timely services to students.

Support Priorities

We support policies and funding that will:

- Provide a robust service array to ensure young people do not exit state systems of care into homelessness

- Seal and expunge most juvenile records

- Improve special education funding and support

Treehouse is proud to support the advocacy agendas of Project Education Impact, The Mockingbird Society, Child Welfare Advocacy Coalition (CWAC) and the High School Success Coalition.