



TOP ASKS FOR THE WHITE HOUSE IN 2022 FROM A NEW DEAL FOR YOUTH

OVERALL

- ◇ Increase accountability across the federal government to young people with lived experience or who will be directly impacted by policies and programs by requiring consultation with youth leaders as proposals are developed and implemented
- ◇ The Administration should build a pipeline for young people to be directly involved in policy making – such as through targeted, paid internships, fellowships and leadership summits. Sustained investments help to avoid tokenism.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- ◇ Issue an executive order requiring a trauma assessment of all policies
- ◇ Reinstate the Obama Administration Social Innovation Fund's commitment to investing in community solutions in youth development
- ◇ Continue commitment to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women task force through an annual proclamation designating Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Awareness Day
- ◇ Use platform to condemn discrimination of and violence against Indigenous tribes throughout the nation.
- ◇ Direct the U.S. Department of Education to reinstate guidance and accompanying funds to incentivize state and local education agencies on school climate and discipline and alternatives to suspensions and expulsions. Also, direct the Department of Education to remove school resource officers and law enforcement in schools.
- ◇ Preventing gun violence through developing an executive order promoting universal background checks for individuals selling guns.
- ◇ Include data on gun deaths resulting from police violence as part of larger data collection efforts on gun violence in America
- ◇ Use the Bully Pulpit to emphasize that community violence prevention programs and community investment is the key to reducing gun violence, not investing in more weapons or over-investing in policing budgets.
- ◇ Naming instances of mass gun violence as 'domestic terrorism' and prosecuting such instances as federal hate crimes



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HOUSING

- ◇ There should be one federal definition of homelessness across all federal programs that include all forms of homelessness that youth experience, including invisible forms of homelessness
 - ◇ Youth with lived expertise should be leading these changes across systems and programs to ensure that the definition reflects their unique and diverse experiences - include couch surfing
 - ◇ Within this change, funding must be targeted specifically to provide housing options for youth, inclusive of both minors and young adults
- ◇ Ensuring tenant access to a lawyer during eviction proceedings, and sharing resources targeted at young people about their rights during evictions and to have their eviction cases reviewed
- ◇ Create an on-demand voucher program for young adults

EDUCATION

- ◇ Eliminate at least \$50,000 in student debt per borrower (without income restrictions or means testing)
- ◇ Apologize for and acknowledge the harm caused by American Indian Residential Schools. The administration should establish a Task Force to identify any remains from the Residential Schools and to return those remains to the surviving families and tribal communities. The administration should also provide support for the intergenerational trauma caused by the Residential Schools.

CLIMATE

- ◇ Bold climate action focused on renewable energy, quality green jobs, supporting treaty rights of tribal nations, and environmental justice

PUBLIC BENEFIT ACCESS

- ◇ Provide young people with opportunities to partner with the administration to increase access to public benefits for young people through administrative actions, via forums such as White House summits, youth town halls, and directing agencies to collaborate with young people on an ongoing basis.



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IMMIGRATION

- ◇ Abolish all aspects of immigration that are elitist and ableist (examples include the public charge rule, education requirements, high application fees, etc.)
- ◇ Not all 50 states allow Undocumented Immigrants to apply to college and pay In-State Tuition. The Federal government should encourage states to adopt in state Tuition for Undocumented Immigrants, as well as State/Federal Aid
- ◇ Establish an Office of Immigration and Immigrant Families within the Administration for Children and Families to prioritize and coordinate the needs of children of immigrants within ACF, HHS, and across other federal departments and agencies.
- ◇ Halt and reform immigration enforcement actions and policies that harm children by utilizing alternatives to detention, increased protections and assistance for immigrants, and greater oversight of immigration enforcement officials.
- ◇ Due process issues for those facing deportation, requirements of attorney and legal representation or else it is not valid to detain

CARCERAL SYSTEM¹

- ◇ Promote opportunities for people with prior felony convictions to get jobs that pay a livable wage and to access secure housing.
 - ◇ Explore opportunities to automatically clear conviction records via administrative action.
 - ◇ Redistribute funding from federal prisons to the education system to invest in the development and opportunities of young people
 - ◇ Center historically oppressed communities, including those impacted by the criminal justice system, BIPOC youth and young adults, and communities of color
 - ◇ Issue executive actions to reverse harmful policies from the Trump Administration and incentivize economic justice.
 - ◇ Work with Congress to ensure continued long-term investments and immediately pass legislation to advance racial justice that divests from mass incarceration and policing such as the Federal Clean Slate Act.
- Ensure continued momentum for transformational change by creating a Commission for Equity and Justice and working with Congress, states, and localities to reimagine justice.

A NEW DEAL FOR YOUTH

¹ Note: The "carceral system" is the system involving prisons and jails, policing, and the incarceration of people. We avoid using the phrase 'criminal justice' or 'carceral justice' in acknowledgement that the mass incarceration of young people does not involve 'justice' and is an inherently unjust institution.