

# Supplemental Social Security Income for Fosters

## A look at the numbers:



### Current Practice in MN

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 Bill [HF 3211/SF 3955](#), 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



# \$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 apartment



2 years of groceries for 1 individual



1 years worth of transportation

**foster  
advocates**

**Contact Us**

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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

[fosteradvocates.org](https://fosteradvocates.org)

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