

# UTILIZING TAX CREDITS TO ALLEVIATE CHILD POVERTY IN THE UNITED STATES

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# Presentation Outline

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## 02 Process & Methods

## 03 The Journey of FF Advocacy

- National Approach to Child Poverty
- First Focus Approach to Child Poverty
- Advocacy at Work
- Leading Coalitions
- A Roadmap to Reducing Child Poverty
- Results of NASEM Study

## 04 Next Steps





# **PROJECT OBJECTIVE AND INTENDED IMPACT**



# PROCESS & METHODS



# Process & Methods

- Conduct a literature review
- Administer interviews with First Focus stakeholders
- Analyze First Focus's Advocacy



# THE JOURNEY

National Approach to Reduction of Child Poverty

First Focus Approach to the Reduction of Child Poverty

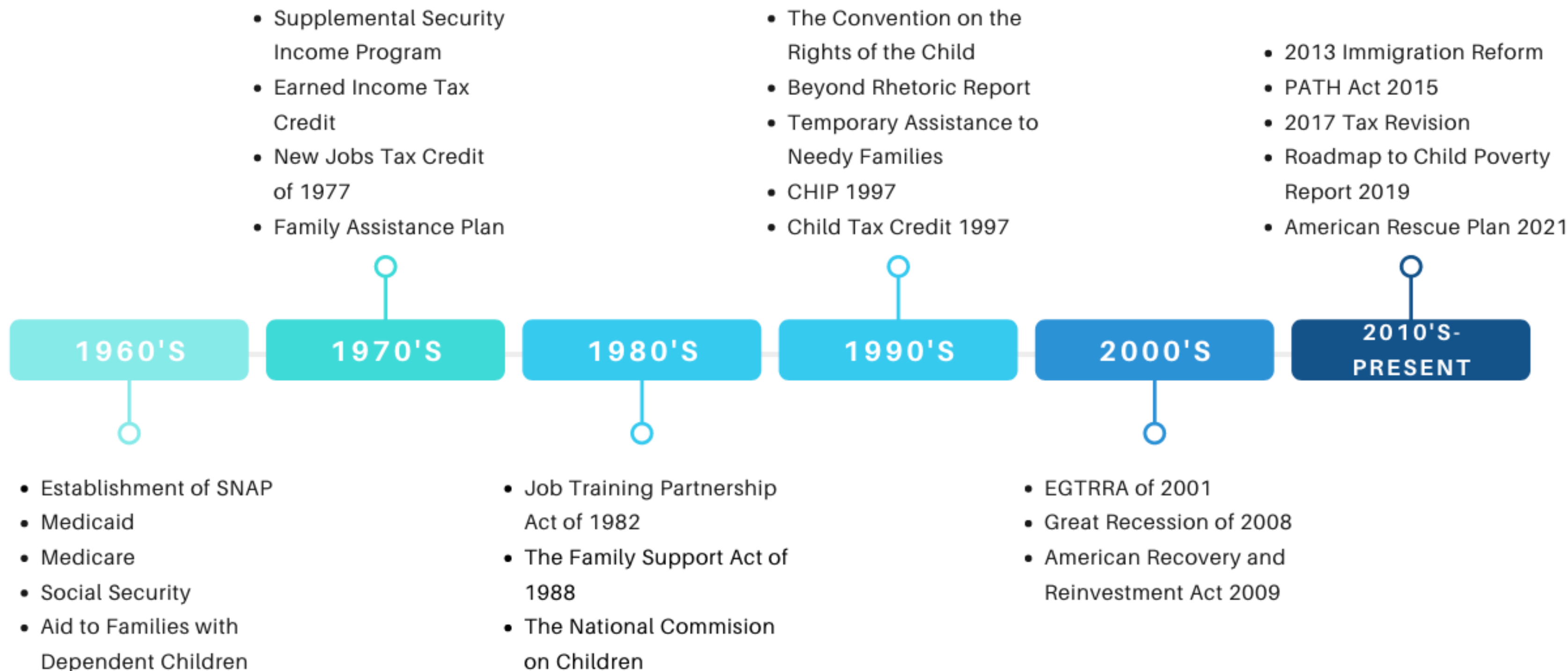
Leading Coalitions

A Roadmap to Reducing Child Poverty



# NATIONAL APPROACH TO CHILD POVERTY

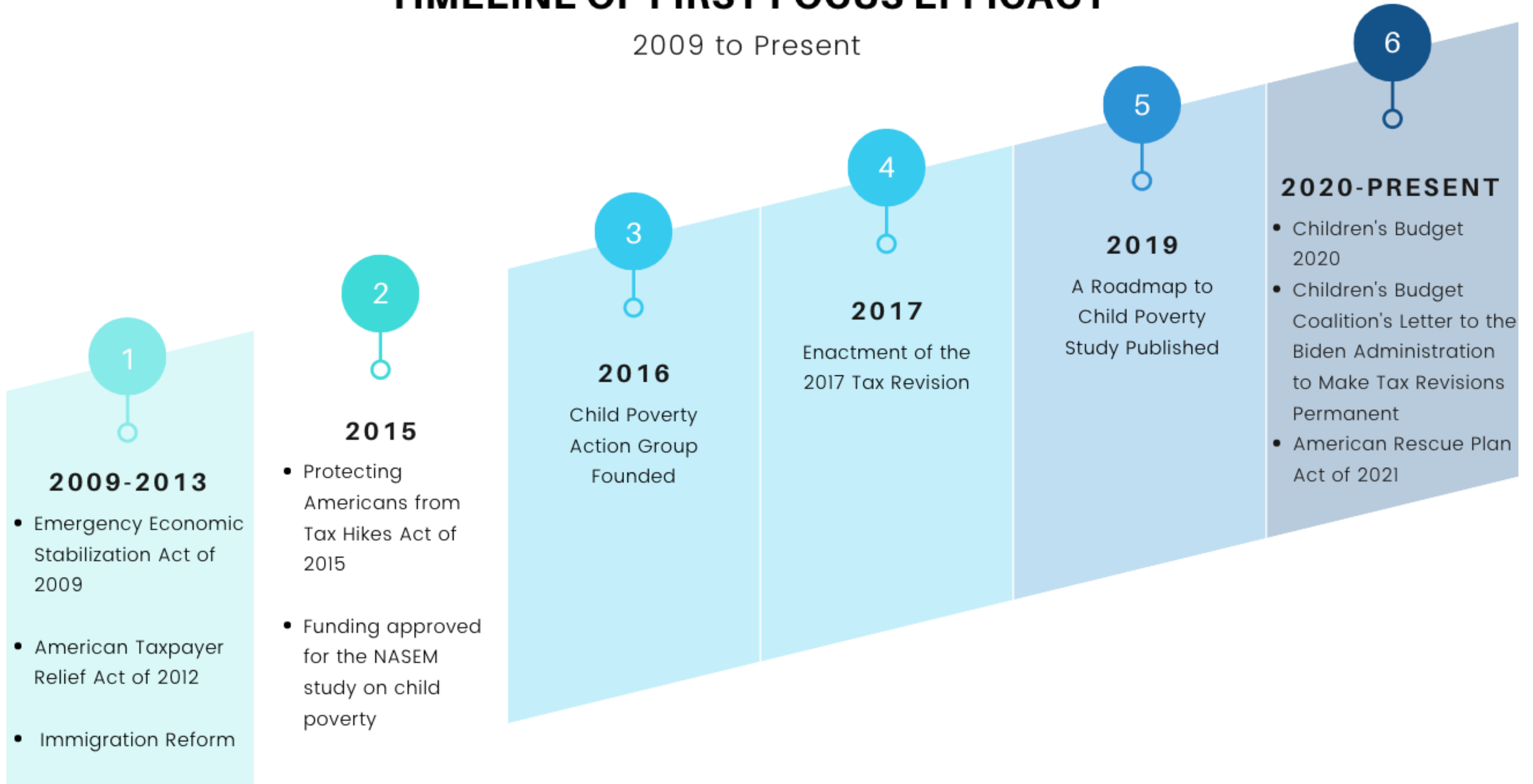
1960's to Present





# TIMELINE OF FIRST FOCUS EFFICACY

2009 to Present





# Advocacy at Work

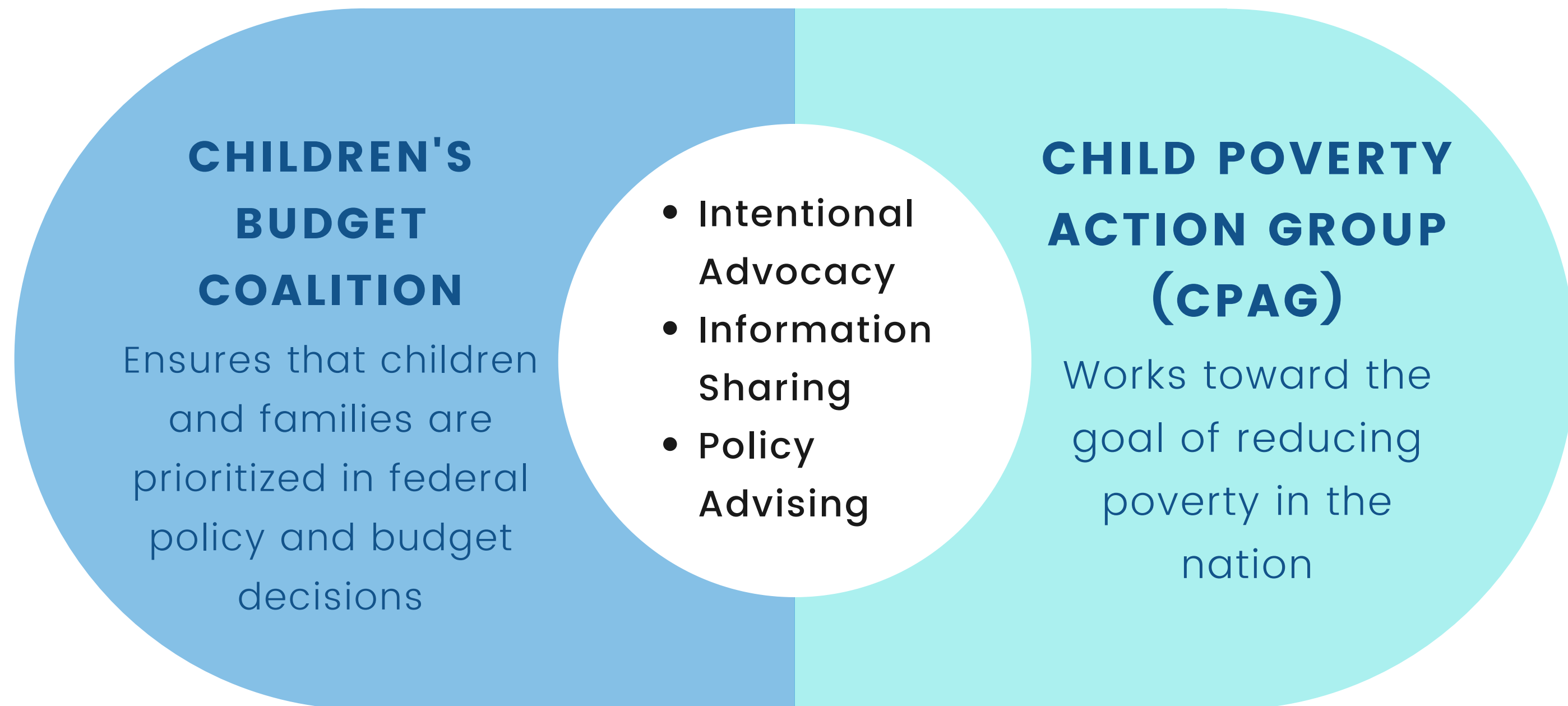
- ITIN Requirements
  - Restrictions on the eligibility for the Child Tax Credit may put many children at risk of falling into poverty
  - Positive Impact
    - Establishment of The Center for the Children of Immigrants
- Child Tax Credit vs. Child Dependent Care Tax Credit
- Child advocates vs. adult advocates
  - Earned Income Tax Credit





# Leading Coalitions

## Intentional Coalition Building





# Leading Coalitions

## Intentional Coalition Building

### Steps that led to Success

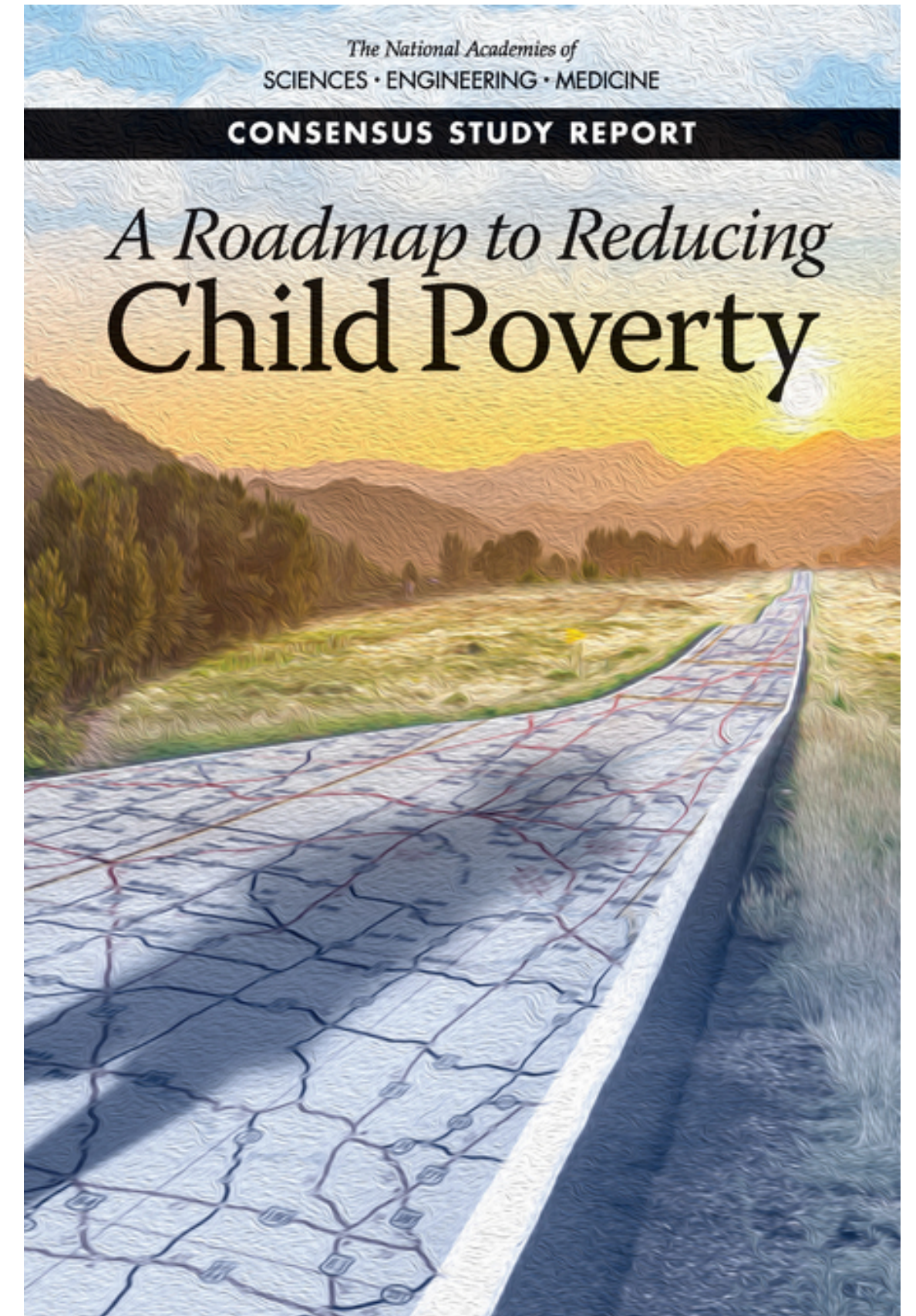
- Diminishing barriers of politics and expertise
- Merging passion for a common goal
- Creating a transparent space
- Committing to collaborative advocacy
- Taking action & Defending Cause/Issue



# A Roadmap to Reducing Child Poverty

“Our report laid out a really strong case and presented different proposals which showed that it is definitely possible to reduce child poverty by half in the next ten years, at a price that is way less than what it costs a country to have so many children living in poverty.”

*- Suzanne Le Menenstrel, National Academy of Sciences Senior Program Officer for the Board on Children, Youth and Families*



# Results of the 2019 NASEM Study

- Tackling child poverty was seen as achievable
- Change in the way we measure the number of children living in poverty
- Expanding and improving the CTC would cut child poverty in half over a decade
- Identified an \$800 billion to \$1.1 trillion annual cost of child poverty to society
- Found no evidence that providing supports like the CTC reduces work



# NEXT STEPS



# Next Steps

- Continue to elevate importance of CTC, CDCTC, & EITC
- Educate legislators, staff, & administration on efficacy & varying roles of tax credit policies
- Advocate for permanent authorization of tax credit reforms authorized in the American Rescue Plan Act



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