Through policy, we don’t just change one life.

We change millions.
Friends,

When I think about what makes The Century Foundation special, one word always comes to mind: people.

It’s the people who work here: passionate, innovative, earnest champions for equity and justice. But more than that, it’s how we do our work—the way we put everyday people front and center, in everything we do—that makes TCF special.

The hard truth is that today, public policy doesn’t work for too many people. The communities most impacted by policy tend to be the ones most disadvantaged by policy choices. Their voices don’t make it to the halls of power. Their needs are the first to get sacrificed. And that hurts us all.

So what does Making Policy Work for People look like at TCF? It means:

• Starting an independent think tank, Next100, that is unlike anything else in the policy sector. Through two cohorts of dynamic, diverse next generation leaders, Next100 has shown that a different type of policy organization is possible—one that prioritizes lived experience and research done in tandem with impacted individuals.

• Defending workers and families fighting for better working conditions, higher pay, and affordable child care. TCF was at the forefront of victories for working people this year—from the surge in labor organizing to historic investments in manufacturing. We helped save more than 3 million child care slots during the pandemic—and got closer than ever to passing truly universal, affordable child care.

• Building a health care system that values women and people of color. In light of the Supreme Court’s decision in Roe v. Wade, we became a go-to resource for how to safeguard and expand abortion access. Our team has helped build momentum in support of maternal health equity to an all-time high—work that was lauded by Vice President Kamala Harris this year.

• Launching a groundbreaking initiative, the Disability Economic Justice Collaborative (DEJC), which is filling a much-needed void by calling attention to the indefensible rates of poverty faced by disabled Americans. In just months, the collaborative has grown to include 40 leading think tanks and disability advocacy groups, representing millions of disabled people across the country.

• Advocating for students burdened by unaffordable and unequal school systems. Our team’s work ensured that 3.7 million parents who owe student debt on behalf of their children would be eligible for loan relief. Through the Bridges Collaborative, we’ve partnered with schools that represent 3.5 million kids, helping advance K-12 integration community by community.

Who are the people at the heart of The Century Foundation? It’s our staff, fellows, partners, and supporters. But, more importantly, it is every single person who has been shut out, hurt, or disenfranchised by a political and policy system that is stacked against them.

At TCF, that’s who we fight for. Because through policy, we don’t just change one life. We change millions. And with your support, we can change millions more.

Sincerely,

Mark Zuckerman
President, The Century Foundation
A Better, Healthier Life for Women and Families

COVID-19 made painfully clear how people of color and people with low incomes face immense barriers to quality, affordable health care and caregiving—which often results in dire consequences. But the pandemic also showed how policy can change that, and tear those barriers down. TCF works to build health care, child care, and early learning systems that truly value and support all families, especially the most vulnerable.

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE | When the U.S. Supreme Court announced its devastating decision overturning the federal right to abortion, TCF wasted no time in jumping to action. We’ve become a go-to resource for how to safeguard and expand abortion access and reproductive rights—advocating for the safety and effectiveness of telehealth abortion pills, pushing Congress and the Biden administration to act, and shining a light on the positive work being done in states and by abortion funds.

“I don’t want to have to advocate for myself. I just want to be able to birth in peace.”

JAZZMIN, A MOM BENEFITTING FROM TCF’S WORK TO IMPROVE BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH OUTCOMES
“Picture the newborn snuggling with her mom. Think about the bonds that teachers, grandparents, and other caregivers share. What could be more fundamental to American communities than how we care for our children?”

**MATERNAL HEALTH** | TCF took its maternal health research and advocacy to the next level in 2022, highlighted by a star-studded event during Black Maternal Health Week featuring Vice President Kamala Harris, Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra, Senator Cory Booker, and a host of other members of Congress. Thanks to the work of TCF and partners, momentum for maternal health equity has never been stronger.

**HEALTH EQUITY** | As states and the federal government take steps to improve and expand health care coverage, TCF is making sure that equity is front and center in these conversations and proposals.

**CHILD CARE** | The United States nearly enacted comprehensive child care and universal pre-K in 2022—and we’re now closer to the finish line than ever before. TCF led a coalition of stakeholders and advocates to pressure lawmakers to invest in child care, testifying before the U.S. Senate, bringing the stories of moms and providers to the steps of power, and releasing copious research detailing the harms of inaction and the benefits that would follow if we built a truly equitable child care system.

**8 IN 10**

The percentage of pregnancy-related deaths in the United States that are preventable surpassed eight in ten (84 percent) in 2022.

**$48 BILLION**

The child care and early learning proposals championed by TCF and passed by the U.S. House of Representatives would generate $48 billion in increased parental earnings and $60 billion in gains for businesses and state tax revenue each year.

“Thank you to [TCF] for bringing together this extraordinary group of leaders... and to The Century Foundation... for your unwavering partnership and tireless advocacy.”
An Economy Built on Fairness

Public policy affects every aspect of the economy. TCF’s work throughout the pandemic—including historic efforts to expand unemployment benefits and boost the child tax credit—allowed families to stay afloat and kept millions out of poverty. But America can’t go back to the status quo. Today, our team is working to reimagine the economy so that it finally works for everyone, no matter what race, gender, income, or ability.

INCLUSIVE MANUFACTURING | While some wrote off American manufacturing as a relic of the past, TCF has never given up fighting for quality, high-paying manufacturing jobs, particularly for communities of color. That work paid off this year in an historic $200 billion reinvestment in U.S. industrial policy, through legislation that included many of TCF’s priorities. Also this year, we convened twelve community colleges alongside leading workforce development groups, creating a nationwide model for how to advance a stronger, more equitable manufacturing sector.

FORMER PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON

“The commitment by the Urban Manufacturing Alliance and The Century Foundation, by partnering with community colleges across the country, is helping widen the circle of opportunity and increase racial equity in the manufacturing sector.”

U.S. SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION PETE BUTTIGIEG, SPEAKING AT AN OCTOBER 2022 TCF EVENT

“What’s so exciting about this infrastructure law is that it gives us the resources—not just to offer moral support for disadvantaged communities, but actual funding to help make things better.”
DISABILITY JUSTICE | This spring, TCF launched a first-of-its-kind initiative, the Disability Economic Justice Collaborative (DEJC), supported by the Ford Foundation. The collaborative brings together forty of the nation’s leading think tanks, research organizations, and advocacy groups with the goal of using a disability lens to look across the entire economic agenda and realize economic security for disabled people. As Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley put it: “[The launch of the DEJC] is a long time coming and a historic moment... I’m fighting for liberation, and that is what is beautiful about this space you all have created.”

3 IN 10

Just three in ten disabled voters believe leaders in Washington, D.C. care about people with disabilities, according to a groundbreaking survey TCF conducted with Data for Progress.

71%

Support for organized labor is at its highest level since 1965, with nearly three-quarters of Americans (71 percent) now saying they approve of labor unions.

FIGHTING FOR WORKERS | When the history books are written, 2022 may well be the turning point for the American worker—and TCF was in the trenches, helping build workers’ power and supporting organized labor at every step of the way. Led by Senior Fellow Steven Greenhouse—widely recognized as the dean of labor journalism—we’ve been relentless in calling out the harsh anti-worker tactics of companies such as Amazon and Starbucks, and made the case for why unions don’t just lift up workers, but also protect our democracy.

“Knowing that there are organizations like The Century Foundation fighting for everyday workers like us gives me a huge sense of relief.”

AIMIIE, HAIR STYLIST WHO BENEFITTED FROM TCF’S WORK TO EXPAND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS
At TCF, we know that policy can make people’s lives better. Every day, our team of experts and advocates does research that makes change possible. We work hand-in-hand with communities on the ground, bringing their voices directly to the halls of power. Because through policy, we don’t just change one life. We change millions.

DOUBLED
Over the past five years, TCF’s team of experts and advocates on staff has more than doubled, as have our philanthropic partnerships—growth that is a testament to our increasing policy impact, and that is helping us have even greater influence with policymakers. As a result, we recently moved into a new, expanded office space at 2000 M Street in Washington, D.C., just minutes from Capitol Hill, allowing us more room and resources as we continue to grow in size, convene partners, and work directly with lawmakers to effect change.

3.6 MILLION
More than 3.6 million students are represented by the organizations that make up TCF’s Bridges Collaborative, a first-of-its-kind nationwide initiative focused on building more diverse schools and neighborhoods.

40
TCF’s new Disability Economic Justice Collaborative includes forty of the nation’s leading think tanks, research organizations, and advocacy groups together representing millions of people across the country.

35 MILLION
A record 35 million people have gained health coverage thanks to the Affordable Care Act that TCF helped pass, defend, and strengthen, bringing America’s uninsured rate to near an all-time low.
MAKING POLICY WORK FOR PEOPLE | THE CENTURY FOUNDATION

15
TCF has convened an extraordinary group of fifteen Black leaders working in maternal health policy—a collective that has become a go-to resource for policymakers across the country who are crafting maternal health legislation.

20,000
More than 20,000 people have downloaded TCF’s two cornerstone podcasts: Off-Kilter, which is focused on poverty and inequality and hosted by Rebecca Vallas, and Order from Ashes, which explores the human impact of global policy and is hosted by Thanassis Cambanis.

1 IN 4
One in every four workers lost their job at some point during the pandemic. But unlike previous economic downturns, these workers were eligible for historic increases in unemployment aid to sustain themselves, thanks in large part to TCF’s efforts.

3.7 MILLION
More than 3.7 million families who owe Parent PLUS loans will now be eligible for student loan relief, following TCF’s work to ensure parent borrowers were included in President Biden’s loan cancellation plan.

18,000
Across two cohorts over three years, Next100 has provided more than 18,000 hours of training and support to sixteen dynamic emerging policy leaders.

3 MILLION
The American Rescue Plan championed by TCF during the pandemic saved more than 3 million child care spots for young children who needed care and education.

35 MILLION
A record 35 million people have gained health coverage thanks to the Affordable Care Act that TCF helped pass, defend, and strengthen, bringing America’s uninsured rate to near an all-time low.

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Quality Education for All, No Exceptions

Education is the bedrock of American democracy: It’s one of the most powerful tools for giving everyone an opportunity to succeed. But today, the nation’s schools—from pre-K to college—don’t deliver on that promise. TCF works to change that, so that every young person has access to a high-quality education.

THE BRIDGES COLLABORATIVE | TCF’s landmark school integration initiative—which includes fifty-seven school districts, charter organizations, and housing groups, representing 3.6 million students—concluded its inaugural cohort with a national convening in Baltimore, Maryland this summer. Due to the overwhelming success of the first two years, Bridges is gearing up to expand, bringing on even more members and launching new, specialized offerings for organizations wanting to go deeper in their integration work.

CHRIS THIEL, LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANAGER FOR MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, A BRIDGES MEMBER

“The Bridges Collaborative has reinvigorated the conversation and brought back to the fore the passion that people have for integration.”

PHOTO: 2022 BRIDGES NATIONAL CONVENING IN BALTIMORE.

ENGLISH LEARNERS | English learners (ELs) are a large and growing share of the U.S. student body, yet they continue to be underserved and marginalized in our nation’s schools. TCF is advancing policies that meet the distinct strengths and needs of these students, in addition to working alongside ELs, bilingual teachers, and local communities to improve how language immersion programs are serving students in real terms.
As the Biden administration contemplated student debt cancellation, it was TCF that made sure that one often-ignored group wasn’t forgotten: parent borrowers. Ultimately, thanks to relentless advocacy and a groundbreaking report, the millions of families who owe Parent PLUS debt were included in the administration’s loan forgiveness plan—a huge victory for Black and Latino families, in particular, who disproportionately hold this type of debt.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) are exceptional institutions—but they are vastly underfunded. TCF has extensively documented how chronic underfunding holds these schools back, and we’re pushing for an historic investment so that HBCUs can have the stability and independence they need to propel millions more students onto pathways of success.

TCF estimates that the tuition-free community college proposal under consideration in Congress—America’s College Promise—would benefit some 8 million students, if designed properly.

More than 1.1 million victims of predatory for-profit colleges have received federal student loan discharges, totalling over $14.5 billion in debt relief—an issue that TCF has continuously led on.

“For Logan, I want an education that is very open-minded. I think kids should know that it doesn’t matter what you look like or where you come from, you can always be great.”

GREG, BALTIMORE FATHER BENEFITTING FROM TCF’S WORK TO PROMOTE HIGH-QUALITY, DIVERSE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Next100 is a one-of-a-kind think tank launched by TCF aimed at changing the face and future of progressive policy making. For our second cohort, we welcomed a new group of policy entrepreneurs who bring diversity and lived experience, as well as professional expertise, to their work in the areas of immigration, criminal justice, climate change, education, housing and design, and national service. Next100 puts people who are usually excluded from policy making in the driver’s seat, showing that another type of think tank isn’t just possible—it’s sorely needed and capable of significant impact.

Next100 recently published two landmark reports informed by our unique approach: one focused on how to directly engage impacted communities in the policy and research process, and a second on how to build a more diverse and inclusive policy sector. The reports followed the release of public polling Next100 did, which revealed that young Americans feel disconnected and skeptical of government—precisely what Next100 is working to change.

MEET STEFAN LALLINGER | This year, TCF’s very own Stefan Lallinger became Next100’s new executive director. A renowned education equity expert, advocate, and former school principal, Stefan brings a wealth of experience to the think tank that is disrupting the policy space. As TCF President Mark Zuckerman said: “Under his leadership, there’s no limit to what Next100 can accomplish.”

“My background is usually a barrier, but Next100 embraced it and they celebrated it. And they make sure that I have the tools, the support, the resources that I need to create change.”

DIANA MARTINEZ QUINTANA, NEXT100 POLICY ENTREPRENEUR WHO WAS FORMERLY UNDOCUMENTED
TCF’s world-class foreign affairs program is now Century International, a new independent center for international research and policy. Century International works with researchers and activists around the world to produce reporting and research that shows the human impact of global policy. Century International bridges the gap between what’s happening on the ground and how governments around the world can—and should—respond.

Century International’s Networks of Change: Reviving Governance and Citizenship in the Middle East project looks for ways to break the impasse caused by failing states and an ailing international system. This initiative, supported by the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the Open Society Foundations, includes a startup program on the social and political dimensions of climate change in the Middle East.

CENTURY INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR THANASSIS CAMBANIS

“The recent crises in the U.S. that threaten our democracy are not unique. But too often, these issues are considered in a vacuum, without thought to the commonalities across countries. We hope to change that.”
At TCF, we stand for equity and justice for all and believe that diversity is a strength. We are committed to building a more diverse and inclusive organization that continues to value all voices and perspectives and treats everyone with respect, fairness, and integrity.

Learn more and see TCF’s most recent demographic data at: tcf.org/about/diversity-and-inclusion/.
The Century Foundation

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Chantal Hinds, Education + Early Years
Dan Mathis, Housing + Design, Climate
Diana Martinez Quintana, Climate + Immigration

Century International
Thanassis Cambanis, Senior Fellow and Director of Century International
The Century Foundation is a progressive, independent think tank that conducts research, develops solutions, and drives policy change to make people's lives better. We pursue economic, racial, gender, and disability equity in education, health care, and work, and promote U.S. foreign policy that fosters international cooperation, peace, and security.

If you are interested in supporting our work, please email development@tcf.org for more information.

Learn more at tcf.org.