



National Edition 34

# Empowering Financial Futures Starts with You!

March Edition 2026

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Momentum is building across our network, and it's all centered around our community! From free clothing kits and paid career pathways through ReMade in America, to one-on-one peer support, safe AI tools designed specifically for our community, financial empowerment opportunities, and new tax credits that could put real money back in your pocket, this season is full of pathways to stability, opportunity, and independence.

Every program you'll read about below was built with lived experience at the center, designed to ensure foster youth and families have not just resources, but real access, real support, and real opportunity to thrive. Together, these efforts are helping build stronger financial foundations and create pathways toward lasting independence.

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**[ReMade in America: Clothing Kits & Career Pathways — Sign-Ups Are Rolling In!](#)**



**ReMade in America is already gaining early momentum.** Just weeks after sharing the program, **more than 20 individuals or potential partners have already expressed interest**, underscoring strong demand for clothing support and career opportunities tailored to our community.

Through partnerships with major brands, ReMade provides free, size and gender-appropriate clothing kits — including socks, underwear, tops, and bottoms to iFoster members. While the clothing is provided at no cost, a small shipping and handling fee may apply to ensure kits are delivered directly to youth who need them most.

ReMade doesn't stop there—textiles that can't be redistributed are transformed into a new line of plush comfort products made with recycled materials, helping reduce landfill waste in alignment with California's SB 707 textile recycling goals. This circular model turns excess clothing into both comfort items and career pathways.

ReMade also creates paid training and employment opportunities for foster youth, opening doors in sustainability, manufacturing, logistics, and the growing circular economy. Through our Dream Factory launch and collaboration with East Los Angeles College's entrepreneurial and innovation center, youth are actively shaping and co-designing the program.

Momentum is building, and we're just getting started! As we prepare to open in April, we're excited to welcome our community into this next chapter. If you're a foster youth, foster family, or business looking to learn more or order custom comfies, please complete the interest form below. We'd love to connect with you!

[Enroll Here](#)

### Also in Motion: Peers Paving the Path (PPP) & Agent Bob!

**Peers Paving the Path: Free 1:1 Support for Foster Youth**



**Agent Bob: Safe AI for Foster Youth & Families**



**Over 70 individuals have already expressed interest in iFoster's Peers Paving the Path (PPP),** showing strong demand for trusted, lived-experience support! PPP connects current and former foster youth (up to age 26) with trained, certified peers who have lived foster care experience.

Using Medicaid Managed Care Plans, Peer Lead Care Managers provide one-on-one guidance on housing, benefits, education, employment, health, and wellness, and crucial support as youth navigate being in and transitioning out of foster care.

iFoster, a licensed Medicaid provider and registered national apprenticeship program, is the first to train foster youth to deliver peer-led case management, creating pathways to self-sufficiency and careers in social services and healthcare.

Designed at the Microsoft Global Nonprofit Leaders Summit, Agent Bob is a secure AI tool created specifically for foster youth and families. Because child welfare systems are fragmented, many young people miss out on resources that could help them. Unlike generic AI, Agent Bob prioritizes trusted, accurate sources, can access relevant non-public information, and keeps personal data protected within iFoster's HIPAA-compliant systems.

Built by subject matter experts and tested throughout 2025, Agent Bob delivers highly personalized resource connections, from food and housing to education and career pathways, while supporting our Peer Support Specialists behind the scenes.

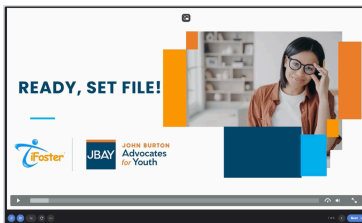
Agent Bob will launch for free public use in Spring 2026.

[Enroll today!](#)

[Explore our website!](#)

## Resources For You

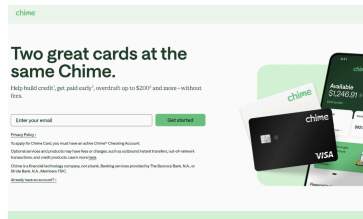
### Money Back Season: Taxes Made Simple



This free, interactive course walks you through everything you need to know about filing your taxes with confidence, whether it's your first time or you need a refresher. You'll learn why filing matters, what tax forms you need (like W-2s), how to read them, and how to prepare your return step-by-step.

The module includes helpful examples, real scenarios, and links to free tax preparation tools and filing services so you can complete your taxes without paying upfront fees. It also covers important credits and refunds you

### Chime: Simple, Fee-free Banking



Looking for an easy way to manage your money? Chime is a financial technology company offering free online banking services with no monthly fees, no minimum balance requirements, and no overdraft fees on standard accounts. Members receive a Chime Visa® Debit Card, access to direct deposit, with the option to get paid up to two days early, and access to a large network of fee-free ATMs nationwide.

Chime also provides tools to help build credit responsibly through its Credit Builder secured card, making it a great option for young

### Career Guidance Made Simple



Not sure what you want to do after high school? Career Cruising helps you figure it out step by step. This free iFoster program lets you explore 600+ careers and 7,500 colleges and trade schools, while getting personalized guidance to build a plan that matches your goals. Whether you're thinking about college, vocational training, or jumping straight into a career path, you'll have tools to map it out with confidence.

High school youth and older who are iFoster members are eligible (membership is free!).

may qualify for, which could mean more money back in your pocket.

Designed for foster youth and young adults, building financial independence!

Get Started for Free!

adults who are establishing or rebuilding credit.

Check out our how-to-sign-up for a Chime account guide below!

Chime Sign-up Guide

Youth can sign up directly or caregivers, case workers, CASAs, attorneys, and agencies can enroll individuals or entire groups.

Sign Up Here

## Understanding “Trump Accounts”: Key Information for Families



While many details are still being finalized, here is a potential opportunity that may benefit your children: “**Trump Accounts.**”

You can read more in this [Hill article](#).

During the 2025 tax filing season, parents may choose to open a new investment-based savings account for certain children who meet specific eligibility criteria. These accounts are designed to grow over time and help young people cover major adult expenses such as education, purchasing a home, or starting a business once they turn 18.

Accounts may be funded through seed contributions from the federal government, philanthropy, and family members. Funds are invested and grow over time, with children able to access them beginning at age 18.

### While additional guidance is expected, here is what we understand so far:

- During the 2025 tax filing season, a new Form 4547 is available to establish an account [here](#).
- Some children may qualify for a one-time \$1,000 deposit from the U.S. Treasury to help start the account. To qualify for this \$1,000 seed contribution:
  - The child must be born between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2028
  - The child must have a valid Social Security number
  - Sufficient government and philanthropic funds must be available
- Children under 18 who do not qualify for the \$1,000 federal seed money may qualify for a one-time **\$250 contribution**, depending on eligibility rules and available philanthropic funding.
- Family and friends may contribute up to **\$5,000 per year total**. Employers may contribute up to \$2,500 per year, which counts toward the \$5,000 annual limit. Details regarding the tax treatment of these contributions are still pending.
- Contributions cannot begin until after **July 4, 2026**, and an online registration portal is expected to launch this summer.
- Funds will be invested and allowed to grow over time. Additional guidance on the tax treatment of investment growth is forthcoming.
- Withdrawals generally cannot occur until the child turns 18. Funds are expected to be used for:
  - Education
  - Purchasing a first home
  - Starting a business
  - Other qualifying expenses (to be determined)
- There may be tax penalties for early withdrawals.
- A recent analysis shows that while most states are not planning to tax children’s earnings from “Trump accounts,” at least eight states could tax those earnings immediately. This landscape is still evolving, so staying up to date on your state’s position will be important in the months ahead.

As more details become available, we will share updates to help families make informed decisions.

## MyPath Launches Inaugural WealthRYTS Fellowship to Strengthen Financial Coaching for Young Adults Nationwide

**Meet the Inaugural 2026 MyPath WealthRYTS Fellows**

Five community leaders, across 8 months, righting financial futures and paving the road for economic mobility for young adults across their communities.

**Mariana Chavez-Aleman**  
JUMA Ventures

**Tiye Kurtz-Miott**  
Dream Youth Clinic

**Skyler Noble**  
Youth Uprising

**Anita Postell**  
Young Community Developers

**Shauna Rash**  
Larkin Street Youth Services

**mypath.**

**MyPath has launched its inaugural WealthRYTS Fellowship**, an eight-month professional development program designed specifically for youth workers and youth-serving organizations looking to strengthen their financial mentoring and coaching for young adults.

Beginning this February, five nonprofit leaders will deepen their expertise in credit building, savings and wealth-building strategies, debt management, and long-term financial planning. Fellows will earn their Money Management Essentials certification and apply MyPath's Youth Financial Capability framework, integrating youth development principles and lived experience into their financial coaching practices.

The Fellowship also works directly with participating organizations to embed these strategies into their youth programs. In other words, the WealthRYTS Fellowship prepares youth workers and their organizations to build the capacity needed to deliver high-quality, culturally responsive financial mentoring, helping close opportunity gaps and supporting young adults in building strong financial foundations and real economic power.

Too many young adults, especially BIPOC youth, enter adulthood without access to trusted financial guidance, often paying billions in unnecessary fees and interest. By investing in youth-serving professionals, the WealthRYTS Fellowship is expanding financial coaching capacity nationwide and strengthening long-term wealth-building pathways for young people.

[Join the Interest List Here](#)

**New Podcast Episode 12: Money 101-**

**Budgeting, Credit & Taxes**

This month, lived-experienced experts are talking about budgeting, understanding credit, and filing taxes for the first time — sharing tips, real stories, and resources to help you feel confident managing your money.

Whether you're just starting out or looking to get organized, this episode is packed with insights to help you take control of your financial future.

**Tune in now for practical advice you can use today!**

Find resources for foster youth and families at [iFoster.org](http://iFoster.org) or [support@ifoster.org](mailto:support@ifoster.org).



Got ideas for our next Life After Foster Care episode?

We're all ears! Share your thoughts and help us craft the perfect guide to tackling the next big hurdle in your journey out of foster care.

Share Your Thoughts



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For more information, please contact: iFoster Support at 855-936-7837 / text 530-550-8001/ [support@ifoster.org](mailto:support@ifoster.org)  
Must be an iFoster Member/ Register at [www.ifoster.org](http://www.ifoster.org), it's free!

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