Key Discussion Questions
1. Have you implemented any activities around the expanded Child Tax Credit?
2. If yes, what activities have you implemented?
3. Who might you partner with to do outreach and education around the expanded Child Tax Credit in your state?

Colorado Title V Efforts
- Speaker: Isabel Dickson, Economic Mobility Specialist in Colorado Department of Health and Environment’s Maternal and Child Health Program.
- Presentation slides are included in the Resources Shared box below.
- Strategies to connect families to tax credits in Colorado include:
  - Outreach and messaging, with a particular focus on non-filers
  - Navigator training and support
  - Strengthening and referring to free tax help at Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) agencies
  - Co-enrollment with SNAP, WIC, childcare subsidies, other assistance programs
  - Partnerships with groups, such as AmeriCorps, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
- CYSHCN-specific strategies include:
  - Intake software change
  - Training and updates for CYSHCN care coordinators
  - Learning from care coordinators what they need to be able to talk with families about the CTC (talking about taxes can be scary or intimidating)

State Experiences and Reflections
- States remarked that offering support to families around accessing the CTC should be a core part of case management functions. Colorado includes a prompt in their database to remind Title V care coordinators to ask questions about the child tax credit (e.g., do you have a child 18 or younger? If yes, are they receiving the child tax credit?) and provide information about how to access the credit in both English and Spanish.
- Isabel recommended states work within their departments of public health and their grantees as well as childcare agencies, WIC programs, and other special-needs programs to reach potentially eligible and underserved families who may be most at risk of missing out on the CTC. The Get It Back Toolkit (linked in the Resources Shared box) has language that public health departments can use to raise awareness about the child tax credit in newsletters, social media, and flyers.
- One concern raised by states is a lack of safeguards in place to protect immigrants who apply for the tax credit. They may be hesitant about applying for the credit out of fear for
detrimental effects in the future; these concerns are valid, and it is important for anyone talking with a family to be transparent. Obtaining the CTC doesn't affect immigration status because the IRS code prohibits sharing immigration status with other agencies. Taxpayer privacy is a critical aspect of the US tax system.

Section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Code state that the IRS is not authorized to release taxpayer information to other government agencies except for 1. providing information to the Treasury Department for investigations about tax administration, or 2. under a court order served for a criminal investigation.

Importantly, allowing the IRS to share information beyond this would require a new law by Congress.

- Families should be aware that if they use a paid tax preparer, the tax preparer will charge them a fee for this service, which may be deducted from the total credit.

While there is currently no data available on the impact of the CTC that is specific to CYSHCN, research on the early impact of the CTC show that it decreases food insecurity in households with children and decreases reports of difficulty paying for expenses. The top three items’ families receiving the CTC report spending money on are food, clothing, and utilities. More information on the early impacts of the CTC can be found in the Resources box on the next page.
Resources Shared


  o Outreach Toolkit: https://docs.google.com/document/d/121Jli3eDzBoEsfAULf8XcXno48BuZyb9T14aYSOujsxU/edit
  o Navigator Training and Resources: https://www.taxoutreach.org/blog/training-becoming-a-ctc-navigator-and-non-filer-portal-walk-through/
  o Resources for Immigrant Outreach: http://www.taxoutreach.org/blog/multilingual-child-tax-credit-outreach-materials


- An online course from the AAP on Effective COVID-19 Vaccine Conversations: https://shop.aap.org/effective-covid-19-vaccine-conversations/