

Why We Can't Wait: A New Deal for Youth

Healing and Wellbeing Social Media Toolkit

Background

At a time of pandemic, recession, public lynchings, and uprisings for racial justice, our nation is at a crossroads. The mounting stress and economic fallout from COVID-19 and racial turmoil is widening the equity gap for young people and communities of color. We are in a crisis and need action and investment from the public and private sector to support the solutions proposed for decades by young people and racial justice leaders.

CLASP created a [2020 Youth Data Portrait](#) that analyzes data related to [economic justice](#), healing and wellbeing, and safe communities for youth and young adults before and during the pandemic. [This set of data, focusing on healing and wellbeing, shows how the pandemic has exacerbated the existing mental health crisis for youth and young adults, particularly among young people of color.](#)

We can't wait for economic justice. We can't wait for healing and well-being. We can't wait for safe communities. It is time for a New Deal for Youth that responds to the historic roots and current scale of the crisis. When the current, once-in-a-lifetime catastrophe is over, our future as a nation will depend on how intentionally we invest in this and future generations.

Please join us in sharing this data to ensure our nation centers healing and wellbeing for youth and young adults who have been systemically excluded from mental health and wellbeing supports.

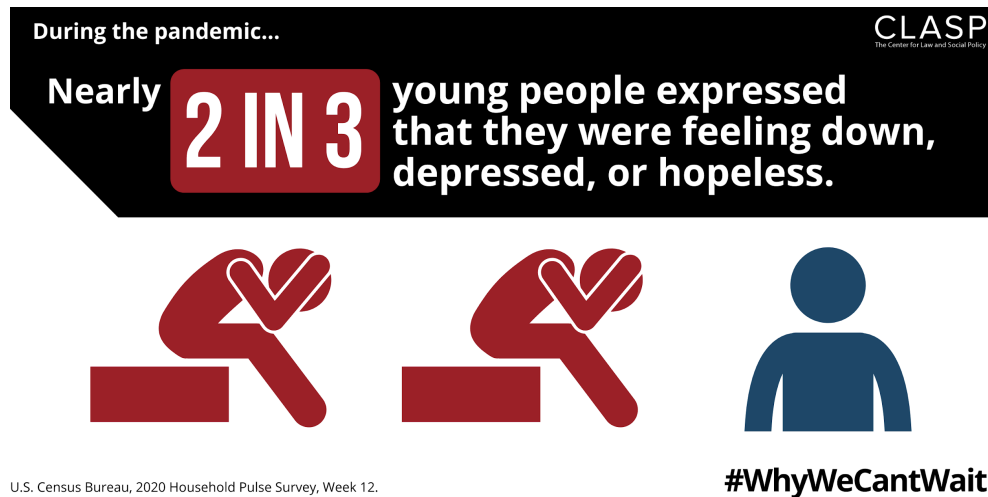
[DOWNLOAD SOCIAL MEDIA SHAREABLES HERE](#)

Sample tweets

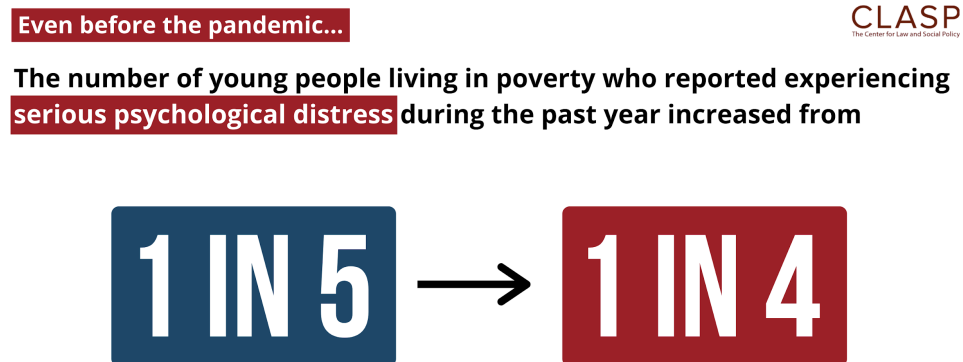
- The #COVID19 pandemic has exacerbated the existing mental health crisis for youth and young adults, particularly among young people of color. We need a #NewDealForYouth #WhyWeCantWait <http://bit.ly/ND4YHWP>



- Young people need access to quality mental health and wellbeing supports NOW! We need a #NewDealForYouth #WhyWeCantWait <http://bit.ly/ND4YHWP>



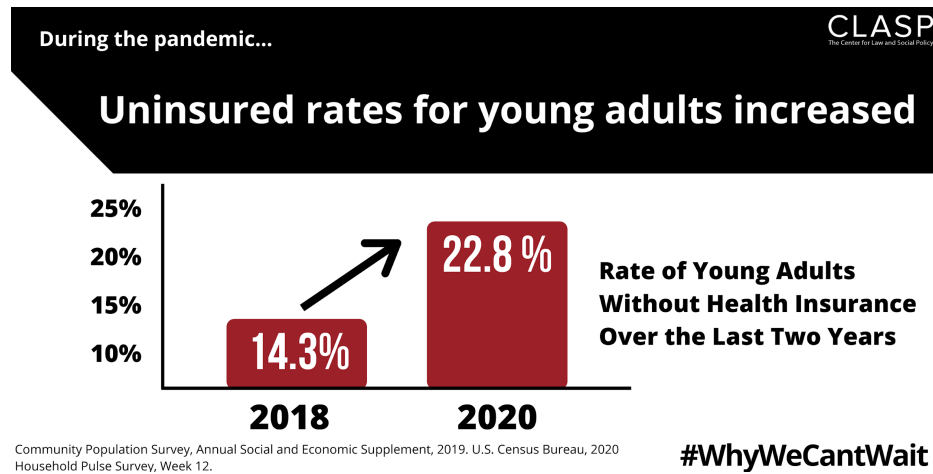
- Even before the #COVID19 pandemic, young people living in poverty were experiencing increased rates of serious psychological distress. We need a #NewDealForYouth #WhyWeCantWait <http://bit.ly/ND4YHWP>



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, SAMHSA, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, NSDUH, 2018.

#WhyWeCantWait

- Young people have been left out of #COVID19 relief efforts and need access to health and mental health supports NOW. #NewDealForYouth #WhyWeCantWait <http://bit.ly/ND4YHWP>



- Young people, particularly BIPOC youth and young adults, have been systemically excluded from health and mental health supports, before and during the #COVID19 pandemic. We need a #NewDealForYouth #WhyWeCantWait <http://bit.ly/ND4YHWP>

