# Videos, Meetings, and Townhalls



**Meeting with UCF Students** 

# **Cheddar News Collaboration**

This year, **Cheddar News** asked Gen Z and Millennial-aged social media users about their willingness to engage with lawmakers and advocacy groups online. This research may be instructive for Future Forum members and their goals moving forward.

## INTERESTING FINDINGS

- 14% believe that their interests are being heard by the current administration
- 73% said they would interact with an advocacy group on Instagram
- 44% said they would engage with a TikTok that covered policy





**Read More:** cheddar.com/media/how-gen-z-and-millennials-usesocial-media-and-what-they-want-to-see-next-cheddar-survey



The start of the 117th Congress marked the beginning of a new chapter in the history of the Future Forum Caucus.

Under the leadership of Congressman Darren Soto (FL-09), the caucus will focus on the issues that are currently affecting young Americans the most. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to pose new challenges and opportunities for us to grow as a nation, we are committed to listening to the voices of our youth and advocating for real change in Congress.

We are extremely proud of our progress thus far, and look forward to what we will accomplish during the remainder of this Congress.

Please visit <u>our website</u> for more information on our work and follow us on <u>Twitter</u> to stay up to date on our work to boost youth engagement in Congress!

### INTRODUCING NEW LEADERSHIP



#### Chairman Darren Soto (FL-09)





Vice Chair Haley Stevens (MI-11)





Chair Emeritus Stephanie Murphy (FL-07)

### WHAT IS FUTURE FORUM?

Members of our leadership team took to <u>our Twitter</u> to explain the mission of Future Forum and their reasons for becoming involved in the Caucus.

### Future Forum Congress 🥥

Constituents often ask: What is Future Forum?

Our Chairman, @RepDarrenSoto, is here to explain and give exciting updates on our upcoming work to boost youth engagement in Congress!

#### #CongressIsOld



Future Forum Congress 🧿

With the support of his community, @RepColinAllred was able to achieve his version of the #AmericanDream.

He understands the importance of rallying behind our young people to make sure that they're engaged and involved in our democracy!



#### Future Forum Congress 🧿

#### Vice chair @RepHaleyStevens is the first #millennial to represent Michigan at the Congressional level!

She understands the importance of listening to young Americans as we work to create a country that provides equal opportunity for everyone.



9:43 AM - Feb 26, 2021 - Twitter for iPhone

## ADVOCATING FOR CONGRESSIONAL ACTION

Urging Congressional Leaders to Address Issues Faced by Young Americans in COVID-19 Relief Package

In February, Members of the Future Forum Caucus sent a letter to House and Senate leaders urging them to include provisions that address the student loan crisis and economic impact payment eligibility in the next COVID-19 relief package.

#### Click here for the full letter

## Supporting the American Dream and Promise Act and the Farm Workforce Modernization Act

In March, members sent a letter to House leaders expressing their support for passage of H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise Act of 2021 and H.R. 1603, the Farm Workforce Modernization Act of 2021. They recognize the positive impact that these changes in immigration policy would have on the next generation of leaders and are committed to advocating for the young Americans who would benefit from them.

Click here for the full letter

### HOSTING MONTHLY TOWN HALLS

#### February Town Hall at Polk State College

Chairman Darren Soto hosted a town hall with Polk State College students to discuss COVID-19 relief for young Americans and their overall needs during this pandemic. The conversation centered around student loan relief, rental assistance for young people and their families,



President Biden's American Rescue Plan, and COVID-19 vaccinations for youth, among other things.

ick here for a full video of the town hall

#### March AAPI Youth Town Hall



vice Chair Sara Jacobs hosted a virtual town hall centered around the **experiences of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) youth**. Vice Chair Jacobs and Future Forum members opened the event by speaking about Congressional actions to address the rising trend of anti-

Asian violence in the United States, and Vice Chair Jacobs then moderated a conversation with AAPI leaders in San Diego.

lick here for a full video of the town hall

### **CREATING TASK FORCES**

In March, the caucus announced the creation of six task forces aimed at addressing issues greatly affecting America's youth. Task force members will hold quarterly meetings to review relevant pieces of legislation and discuss ways to further engage young Americans.

Member assignments are as follows:

#### Economy (including technology and housing) Task Force:

Co-chairs: Rep. Colin Allred (TX-32) and Rep. Haley Stevens (MI-11) Members: Rep. Angle Craig (MN-02), Rep. Jimmy Gomez (CA-34), Rep. Sara Jacobs (CA-53), Rep. Derek Kilmer (WA-06), Rep. Grace Meng (NY-06), Rep. Stephanie Murphy (FL-07), Rep. Chris Pappas (NH-01), Rep. Katie Porter (CA-45) and Rep. Eric Swalvell (CA-15)

#### Climate Change Task Force:

Co-chairs: Rep. Nanette Diaz Barragán (CA-44) and Rep. Mike Levin (CA-49) Members: Rep. Sharice Davids (KS-03), Rep. Jimmy Gomez (CA-34), Rep. Lori Trahan (MA-03) and Rep. Joe Neguse (CO-02)

#### Healthcare Reform Task Force:

Co-chairs: Rep. Lauren Underwood (IL-14) and Rep. Chris Pappas (NH-01) Members: Rep. Angie Craig (MN-02), Rep. Josh Gottheimer (NJ-05) and Rep. Lori Trahan (MA-03)

#### Education Task Force:

Co-chairs: Rep. Sara Jacobs (CA-53) and Rep. Jimmy Gomez (CA-34) Members: Rep. Ruben Gallego (AZ-07), Rep. Joaquin Castro (TX-20), Rep. Andy Kim (NJ-03) and Rep. Haley Stevens (MI-11)

#### Social Justice Task Force:

Co-chairs: Rep. Sharice Davids (KS-03) and Rep. Joe Neguse (CO-02) Members: Rep. Nanette Diaz Barragán (CA-44), Rep. Darren Soto (FL-09) and Rep. Eric Swalwell (CA-15)

#### Immigration Task Force:

Co-chairs: Rep. Ruben Gallego (AZ-07) and Rep. Grace Meng (NY-06) Member: Rep. Darren Soto (FL-09)

### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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Committee Offices

In April, members of the Future Forum Caucus sent a letter to the leaders of the Appropriations Subcommittee in the Legislative Branch urging them to include funds for interns who serve in committees in the House of Representatives. Committee offices are unable to compensate interns due to access to funds that member offices have access to.

### Monthly Member Meetings



In April, our members met with Ed Helms to discuss H.R. 1, The For the People Act. Members had the opportunity to discuss the importance of

fighting voter suppression, gerrymandering, dark money in politics, as well as the importance of advocating for important issues in Congress.

Click here for the full video

#### Youth Engagement

#### Meeting with Young Americans

In April, Chairman Darren Soto visited a virtual UCF classroom to have a discussion regarding issues affecting young Americans during COVID-19. Chairman Soto also discussed his experiences as a member of Congress, and the impact that young people can have on the future.





In April, Chairman Darren Soto participated in a virtual lobby day hosted by March For Our Lives. Chairman Soto met with young people from Orlando and Puerto Rico to discuss gun violence in our communities, bipartisan background checks, the community-based violence prevention program in the American Rescue Plan, along with other ways to prevent violence in our communities.

Amplifying Young Voices	
Australiant degrees     Image: Compare the	In April, we partnered with Cheddar News to create a survey to better understand the policy priorities of young Americans, By understanding the policy priorities of young Americans, we can more efficiently amplify their voices and advocate for them in Congress and in Future Forum Task Forces.
Getting the COVID-19 vaccine is a safe and effective way to protect you and your family from COVID- 19 and new variants. It's important that young people get vaccinated to fight the spread.	Bandback State Acceleration Control of the state
Follow Us on	Social Media



Watch Chairman Soto Kick Off Day Two

### **Appropriations Victory**

Leading the Effort to Fund Paid Committee Internships

House Democrats' funding bill grows opportunity by increasing funding for internships to support more interns from low & middle-income families

In July, a Future Forum-led effort to fund paid committee internships passed the House. Paying committee interns is a powerful step in ensuring that the diverse experiences of young Americans are represented.

Click here for the full letter

### Advocating for Congressional Action

Asking the White House to Expand Opportunities for Young Americans in the Federal Government



In October, members of the Future Fo rum Caucus, in collaboration with YouthInGov, sent a letter to President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris asking their administration to take steps to expand opportunities for young Americans in the federal government.

Click here for the full letter

