

119K COMMISSION MEMBER QUOTES

"Every youth deserves a pathway to opportunity, and we want all our young people to thrive. However, that requires intention, investment, and action. Our plan represents a collaborative, bipartisan set of recommendations that, if adopted and implemented, will significantly change the trajectory of our young people and our state. Connecticut needs to take immediate action and commit to a sustained investment that will dramatically expand our state's capacity to support our young people in order to create the conditions for our youth to succeed in their day-to-day lives and communities. Critical to this effort is dramatically increasing state funding and support for our schools, out-of-school programs, and crisis intervention programs that serve our young people." NEW HAVEN MAYOR JUSTIN ELICKER

"Our collective action plan is a beacon of hope for disconnected youth. Together, we can bridge the gaps in education and employment." MIDDLETOWN MAYOR BEN FLORSHEIM

"This initiative is about more than policy; it's about restoring futures and rekindling dreams for our young people." HARTFORD MAYOR ARUNAN ARULAMPALM

"We've seen firsthand of how the impact of youth disconnection can adversely affect their future development as productive members of our society. Our commitment to this action plan is essential, unwavering, and represents an important role that we play as elected officials in doing everything we can to help people." NORTH HAVEN FIRST SELECTMAN MIKE FREDA

"This work provides a playbook for the State, cities and towns, school districts, service agencies and families how to work together to improve the lives of our disconnected youth via collaboration. By uniting our resources and dedicating ourselves toward this effort, we can create sustainable solutions for the youth of Connecticut." STRATFORD MAYOR LAURA HOYDICK

"Our work over these past months reflects our dedication to empowering every young person with the tools they need to succeed." NEW LONDON MAYOR MICHAEL PASSERO

"The action plan we've developed is a testament to our resolve to dismantle the barriers faced by disconnected youth." STAMFORD MAYOR CAROLINE SIMMONS

"By focusing on comprehensive strategies, we're not just addressing symptoms; we're drilling down on the root causes of disconnection." BLOOMFIELD MAYOR DANIELLE WONG

"It's inspiring to see how our combined efforts are generating innovative solutions tailored to the needs of our youth." CANTERBURY FIRST SELECTMAN CHRIS LIPPKE

"Supporting our disconnected youth and preventing future disconnections is not only an ethical responsibility; it's also a smart investment. By fostering their potential, we can achieve outcomes that benefit everyone." STONINGTON FIRST SELECTMAN DANIELLE CHESEBROUGH

"Our focus on data-driven solutions ensures we're not just making promises but delivering results for Connecticut's youth. In these past months, we've forged partnerships that are essential for the

long-term success of our youth-focused initiatives. Our unified approach is a powerful statement: we will not let any young person fall through the cracks." CCM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO JOSEPH DELONG

119K COMMISSION CO-CHAIRS:

"This report provides a critical roadmap for addressing one of the most urgent issues facing our state. We must act decisively to ensure every young person has the opportunity to thrive. I am committed to working with CCM and our partners to implement these recommendations." CO-CHAIR, 119K COMMISSION & MAYOR of TORRINGTON, ELINOR CARBONE

" Addressing youth disconnection is a moral imperative. We're proud of the strides we've made in such a short time. Our action plan is a promise that we will do everything possible to guide disconnected youth back to the path of opportunity. With this plan, we're investing in our youth as the future leaders of Connecticut—every effort counts." CO-CHAIR, 119K COMMISSION, JOSH T. BROWN

"Today marks a pivotal step forward for Connecticut's youth. Our plan is a beacon of hope, designed to bridge gaps and create pathways for disconnected youth in our state. Together, we can empower every young person to find their voice, build their future, and thrive in our communities." CO-CHAIR, 119K COMMISSION, ANDREW FERGUSON