

## Gift Cards for ICAN Members

## The Need

The United States is the only country in the world that sentences children who cause harm to spend their entire lives, and then die, in prison. It's the only country in the world that gives children a sentence called juvenile life without parole (JLWOP); and per capita, Black children are given JLWOP at a rate of 10x compared to White children.

The CFSY is working to ban this practice. Because of our work, more than 720 people who were told as children they'd die in prison, are now home. Most are in their 40s and 50s when they come home and reintegration into free society is very challenging. Many lack traditional work histories, have never had a driver's license or rented an apartment, and come from communities ravaged by racism, poverty and other forms of marginalization. We hear every week from individuals who are struggling to access basic resources and pay for daily necessities such as clothing, food, household items, and cleaning supplies.

## You Can Help

The CFSY is collecting electronic gift cards for the members of our <u>Incarcerated Children's</u> <u>Advocacy Network</u> (you can see pictures and read the stories of these amazing individuals on this site). Every ICAN member was given JLWOP or an extreme prison sentence as a child, served decades in prison and is now home providing leadership and making positive contributions to their communities and to society.

Go to <u>Target.com</u> or <u>Walmart.com</u> and purchase electronic gift cards in the amounts of \$25.00 or \$50.00 (you can purchase as many as you want). For the recipient type in <u>amelbin@cfsy.org</u> The gift card will be delivered to the CFSY via email, and then passed along to ICAN members in need.

For more information, including to provide any guidance on how you want your gift cards distributed and to receive an acknowledgement of your donation, please email CFSY's Director of Strategic Partnerships, Anna Melbin - <a href="mailto:amelbin@cfsy.org">amelbin@cfsy.org</a> Thank you!!