There is so much reason for hope. And Millennials are the most hopeful generation today. Yet, when it comes to our political system, young people are not hopeful—they are dispirited. In fact, only 25% of Millennials and 17% of Gen Z even trust Congress to solve the problems we face.

That’s because our current political system isn’t serving them. They see a world where Americans shout down and shut out voices they disagree with. A world where people search for information that affirms what they already think. They see their politicians becoming antagonistic, and media fanning the flames of that antagonism. They see their elected leaders reluctant to collaborate. And we all see the resulting tribalism and gridlocked government that threatens our nation’s ability to solve long-term problems. Young people are disillusioned with our political system because they will bear the brunt of this dysfunctional cycle, which has left critical issues like climate change, racial equity, and affordable higher education unaddressed while our national debt piles up.

MAP was founded to break that cycle.

We believe in the power of "generational transformation" — the notion that young new leaders are positioned to change the paradigms, norms, and behaviors that are holding us back. Over the next five years, MAP plans to engage both legislators and constituents to seed a better civic infrastructure, and create a more virtuous feedback loop: engaged, collaborative legislators, who inspire engaged, cooperative citizens, which begets more productive policymaking.

In nearly a decade of work, MAP has carved out a unique value proposition: our flagship Future Caucus program has made it easy for young policymakers to engage across the aisle. But we have learned that they still face very real barriers. They have little leadership training and few role models or mentors; they have insufficient opportunity to focus on policy solutions; and they have difficulty connecting with the voters most likely to be energized by their collaborative, effective leadership.

MAP is working to take these barriers down. In doing so, we are building a framework designed to enable a thriving pluralism and a stronger, more functional democracy.

Through our strategic and operational planning for the next five years, MAP has developed a theory of change that will drive our activities and impact:

MAP creates systemic change to disrupt toxic polarization through the development of new structures, new relationships, and new narratives with young legislators that produce improved governance, transformative public policy, and post-partisan vision.
STRATEGIC VISION

Millennial Action Project removes the barriers young legislators face, in order to build a more inclusive and effective democracy.

CONNECT
MAP establishes, builds, and maintains the body of elected officials in state and Congress in the Future Caucus Network.

TRAIN
We provide legislators the skills and leadership development they need to have an impactful career.

CATALYZE
We activate the MAP network to advance key and emerging policy issues, and promote post-partisan policymaking.

AMPLIFY
MAP uplifts positive models of public service by young leaders, to inspire voters through storytelling, media, and public engagement.
2022 and Beyond: Goals and Objectives

In eight years of work, MAP has built a network of more than 1,600 young elected leaders across the country. In our next chapter of organizational growth and impact, achieving the following objectives will enable us to scale the infrastructure we’ve built, harness the energy of the next generation, and protect our democracy.

**Objective 1:**
Support legislators to find like minded leaders, build relationships, and enact effective legislation

- Invest in Future Caucus model, in which MAP works with identified states to develop meeting structures, bipartisan policy and media opportunities, and provides other support to accelerate the work of the Future Caucus in those states.
- Partner with organizations that provide Future Caucus members unique access to thought and industry leaders.
- Develop digital tools for legislators to share policy solutions and ideas for public engagement, and facilitate networking.

**Objective 2:**
Strengthen MAP network by growing pipeline of young elected leaders joining Future Caucuses

- Develop strategic partnerships that allow for increased engagement with young legislators.
- Develop peer-to-peer recruitment initiatives at state and congressional level.

**Objective 3:**
Build identity of Future Caucus

- Identify critical needs of legislators and ensure MAP is bringing value to its members in those areas.
- Develop and refine an onboarding program for new caucus members.
- Sustain year round engagement of caucus members.
Objective 1:
Build capacity of Future Caucus legislators

- Create professional development content, interactive trainings, and tools that respond to identified needs: leadership skills, digital communications capacity, legislative negotiations, and others.
- Establish partnerships to build, deliver, and practice the suite of tools.

Objective 1:
Equip Future Caucus leaders to solve select critical national problems

- Identify six national problems, such as energy and the environment, democracy, justice reform, or workforce development, that lend themselves to cross-party work and solutions.
- Launch an “Innovation Lab” to establish a deep bank of knowledge on the identified issues, to catalyze and empower legislators to take action.
- Identify and establish relationships with individuals and organizations that can provide expertise on policy issues and serve as a resource to legislators.
- Engage Future Caucus members in peer groups to share and advance policy solutions in identified areas, providing technical assistance where needed.

Objective 2:
MAP is the pre-eminent thought leader in new approaches to leadership and policymaking

- Build a dataset of young legislators across the country at the state and federal levels to fill the knowledge gap of youth political leaders.
- Analyze political behavior of Millennial and Gen Z candidates and elected leaders to identify trends, barriers, and opportunities.
- Build awareness of root causes of polarization and its impact on young leaders through convenings, media appearances, articles, and town halls.
Objective 1:
Continue to boost the visibility of legislators and caucuses in their communities through effective storytelling and media campaigns

- Create media (earned, paid, shared, print) opportunities to showcase bipartisan policy achievements of Future Caucus members.
- Develop messaging guidelines to distribute to Future Caucus members, staff and surrogates, to popularize effective post-partisan language.
- Elevate work of legislators achieving forward-thinking policy solutions through storytelling, including digital touchpoints, programs, and events targeted at their constituents.

Objective 2:
Frame the collective work of young lawmakers as a national movement for better government

- Raise awareness of MAP as an institution empowering young legislators to make change.
- Build a body of research on disaffected voters as a tool for lawmakers who hope to engage them.

TO INVEST IN OUR COUNTRY’S FUTURE:

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