Julián Castro served as U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under President Barack Obama from 2014-2017. Before that, he was Mayor of his native San Antonio, Texas — the youngest mayor of a Top 50 American city at the time. Before that he served as a member of the San Antonio City Council from 2001 to 2005. In 2012, he was the keynote speaker at the Democratic National Convention, during which he described the American Dream as a relay to be passed from generation to generation. After his historic campaign for president in 2020, Secretary Castro launched People First Future in May to help elect bold, progressive candidates whose campaigns are focused on improving the lives of all people they hope to represent. In September, Secretary Castro launched "Our America with Julián Castro," a podcast with Lemonada Media that puts a spotlight on vulnerable communities and takes a humanizing and hopeful look at how drastically the American experience shifts from one person to the next. Secretary Castro serves on the board of the Center for American Progress, the Bipartisan Policy Center, Common Sense Media, and the LBJ Foundation. Secretary Castro received his Bachelor's degree from Stanford University and his J.D. from Harvard University.