

# WHERE TO FIND LEGISLATIVE AND ADVOCACY UPDATES

## NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FAMILIES

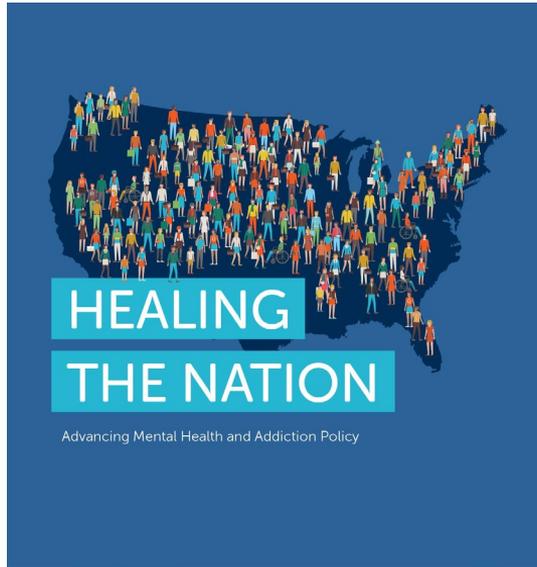
*Bringing Lived Experience to Family Support*



**NATIONALLY**



# ABHW



Advancing Health Care Policy  
for Mental Health and Addiction

[www.abhw.org/advocacy](http://www.abhw.org/advocacy)



# American Academy of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

**For Advocacy Issues**



<https://services.aap.org/en/advocacy/>

**State-Focused Advocacy**



<https://services.aap.org/en/advocacy/state-advocacy/>



AMERICAN **BAR** ASSOCIATION

Center on Children  
and the Law



The Center aims to improve children's lives through advances in law, justice, knowledge, practice and public policy.

[https://www.americanbar.org/groups/public\\_interest/child\\_law/](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_interest/child_law/)

Center on  
 Budget  
and Policy  
Priorities

**State Budgets and Tax Issues**  
<https://www.cbpp.org/topics/state-budget-and-tax>

**TANF in the States**  
<https://www.cbpp.org/topics/tanf-in-the-states>

**Medicaid and CHIP**  
<https://www.cbpp.org/topics/medicaid-and-chip>

**SNAP Basics**  
<https://www.cbpp.org/topics/snap-basics>



Child Trends is the nation's leading research organization focused exclusively on improving the lives of children and youth, especially those who are most vulnerable.

<https://www.childtrends.org/>



ChildFocus connects people, programs and policy to support non-profits, philanthropy and government as unrelenting champions for children, youth and families.

<https://www.childfocuspartners.com/>



The Child Welfare League Of America (CWLA) is a coalition of private and public agencies that since 1920 has worked to serve children and families who are vulnerable. Their expertise, leadership and innovation on policies, programs, and practices help improve the lives of millions of children across the country.

<https://www.cwla.org/>



children's  
defense fund  
Leave No Child Behind

The Children's Defense Fund Leave No Child Behind mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

<https://www.childrensdefense.org/policy/policy-priorities/>



**Depression and Bipolar  
Support Alliance**

Building on a long history of championing personal advocacy, DBSA also advocates for placing peers at the forefront when determining needs and best practices for mental health services. They support both policy and media related advocacy at national and state levels, ensuring the needs and concerns of peers are front and center in policy, service delivery, and treatment decisions.

<https://www.dbsalliance.org/get-involved/advocacy-center/>



# disabilityscoop

Disability Scoop is the nation's largest news organization devoted to covering developmental disabilities. With daily coverage of autism, intellectual disability, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome and more, no other news source offers a more timely and comprehensive take on the issues that matter to the developmental disability community.

<https://www.disabilityscoop.com/latest-news/>



Families USA, a leading national, non-partisan voice for health care consumers, is dedicated to achieving high-quality, affordable health care and improved health for all. Their work is driven by and centered around four pillars: value, equity, coverage, and consumer experience.

<https://familiesusa.org/act/>



# Family Focused Treatment Association

Family Focused Treatment Association, (FFTA) was founded to develop, promote and support treatment foster care. Over the years, they've grown to become the national, nonprofit association representing treatment foster care programs across North America.

<https://www.ffa.org/page/Advocacy>



**Family Voices** is a national organization and grassroots network of families and friends of children and youth with special health care needs and disabilities that promotes partnership with families – including those of cultural, linguistic and geographic diversity – in order to improve healthcare services and policies for children.

Family Voices provides information about current policy proposals that could affect children and their families, the policy-making process, and how families can influence policy decisions.

[FamilyVoices.org/publicpolicy](https://FamilyVoices.org/publicpolicy)



# FIRST FOCUS

**CAMPAIGN FOR CHILDREN**

The First Focus Campaign for Children is a bipartisan children's advocacy organization. The Campaign for Children advocates directly for legislative change in Congress to ensure children and families are a priority in federal policy and budget decisions. They maintain a bill tracker to help you keep up to date on the latest effecting children.

<https://ffccscorecard.org/billtracker>

# generations united<sup>®</sup>

Because we're stronger together<sup>®</sup>

Generations United believes that public policy should meet the needs of all generations and that resources are more wisely used when they connect generations rather than separate them. They promote an intergenerational approach to framing public policies that impact children, youth and older adult issues.

<https://www.gu.org/what-we-do/public-policy/>

# Juvenile Law Center

advancing the rights and  
well-being of children in jeopardy

Juvenile Law Center advocates for rights, dignity, equity and opportunity for youth in the child welfare and justice systems. Through litigation, appellate advocacy and submission of amicus (friend-of-the-court) briefs, policy reform, public education, training, consulting, and strategic communications, they fight for children who come into contact with the child welfare and justice systems.

<https://jlc.org/>

The Kennedy Forum seeks to transform the way mental health and substance use disorders are treated in our health care system.



<https://www.thekennedyforum.org/>

- Parity Tracker
  - Federally
  - By State
- Parity Registry
- Don't Deny Me Campaign



**Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance (MMHLA) dedicated to promoting the mental health of mothers and childbearing people in the United States with a focus on national policy and health equity. They have both Federal and State specific resources.**

<https://www.mmhla.org/advocating-for-change/>

# MindSiteNews

SHINING A LIGHT ON MENTAL HEALTH

MindSite News uses journalism to elevate the conversation around mental health, informing the public and policymakers and helping create better outcomes. They send a daily newsletter to your inbox summarizing the most important mental health stories of the day. They have an active policy tracker.

<https://mindsiteneews.org/policy-tracker/>



Mental Health America believes policy should ask people what they need to live the lives they want and support them in getting there. Recovery is founded on the principle that people can take on meaningful roles in the community despite mental health challenges, when they receive the support they need. MHA's goal is recovery for all.

<https://mhanational.org/policy-issues>



**National Alliance on Mental Illness**



## Take Action

[https://nami.quorum.us/action\\_center/](https://nami.quorum.us/action_center/)

## State Fact Sheets

<https://www.nami.org/Advocacy/State-Fact-Sheets>

## Policy Priorities

<https://www.nami.org/Advocacy/Policy-Priorities>

## Public Policy Reports

[www.nami.org/Support-Education/Publications-Reports/Public-Policy-Reports](http://www.nami.org/Support-Education/Publications-Reports/Public-Policy-Reports)

## NAMI's Federal Advocacy

<https://nami.quorum.us/federalpolicy/>



National Conference of State Legislatures

NCSL represents the legislatures in the states, territories and commonwealths of the U.S. Its mission is to advance the effectiveness, independence and integrity of legislatures and to foster interstate cooperation and facilitate the exchange of information among legislatures. Has an active searchable bill data base.

[www.ncsl.org](http://www.ncsl.org)

[Public Policy](#)

[Advocacy Handbook](#)

[Advocacy Blog](#)

[Advocacy Alerts](#)

NATIONAL COUNCIL  
*for* Mental Wellbeing

The National Council for Mental Wellbeing is a membership organization that drives policy and social change on behalf of nearly 3,500 mental health and substance use treatment organizations and the more than 10 million children, adults and families they serve. They advocate for policies to ensure equitable access to high-quality services and promote greater understanding of mental wellbeing as a core component of comprehensive health and health care.



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF  
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

WWW.NCJFCJ.ORG

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges provides judges, courts, and related agencies involved with juvenile, family, and domestic violence cases with the knowledge and skills to improve the lives of the families and children who seek justice.

<https://www.ncjfcj.org/>



# National Council of **Nonprofits**

The National Council of Nonprofits keeps nonprofits informed and empowered to create a positive public policy environment that best supports nonprofits in advancing their missions. They have a free bi-weekly newsletter, *Nonprofit Advocacy Matters*.

<https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/everyday-advocacy>



The National Health Law Program protects and advances health rights of low-income and underserved individuals and families. We advocate, educate and litigate at the federal and state levels to advance health and civil rights in the U.S.

<https://healthlaw.org/our-work/policy/>



**Parity is about fairness.**

Americans with behavioral health conditions often have more difficulty getting the treatment and services they need when compared to individuals seeking other medical care. Explore parity-related information at the federal level regarding legislation, statutes, and regulatory actions since the Federal Parity Law was passed in 2008.

[www.paritytrack.org](http://www.paritytrack.org)

**Federal Parity Reports**

**State Parity Reports**



# PARTNERSHIP FOR AMERICA'S **CHILDREN**

Connecting, strengthening, and inspiring  
state and local child advocates

The Partnership for America's Children's mission is to support its network of state and community child advocacy organizations in effective advocacy. The Partnership connects its members to peer expertise and national resources and facilitates interstate collaborations to deepen the level of impact of child advocacy within and across states.

<https://foramericaschildren.org/content/about-partnership>



# Partnership to End Addiction

The Partnership to End Addiction partners with families, professionals and other organizations to end addiction in this country. There is a public health approach, rooted in science and compassion.

<https://drugfree.org/advocate-for-change/>

# SHATTERPROOF™

Shatterproof is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to reversing the addiction crisis in the United States.

[shatterproof.org/advocacy](https://shatterproof.org/advocacy)



# Within Our Reach

Within Our Reach is an office established within the Alliance for Strong Families and Communities to further the recommendations of the Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities.

[Policy Action Center \(alliance1.org\)](http://alliance1.org)

**IN YOUR STATE**



The mission of Voices for Alabama's Children is to speak for the well-being of Alabama's children through research, public awareness and advocacy.

<https://alavoices.org/issues/>

**ALABAMA**

The logo for Alabama Arise features the word "ALABAMA" in a dark blue, sans-serif font. To its right is a stylized icon of three human figures in shades of green and blue, with their arms raised. Below "ALABAMA" is the word "Arise" in a large, light green, sans-serif font.

ALABAMA   
Arise

The mission of Voices for Alabama's Children is to speak for the well-being of Alabama's children through research, public awareness and advocacy.

<https://www.alarise.org/>

**ALABAMA**



<https://www.alaskachildrenstrust.org/focus-areas>

**ALASKA**





Children's  
Action Alliance

**ARIZONA**

<http://azchildren.org/>

**Take Action**



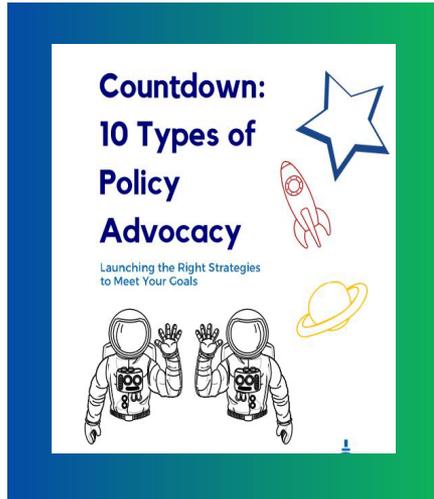
<https://Azchildren.org/advocacy-and-outreach>

**District Fact Sheets**



<https://azchildren.org/advocacy-and-outreach/legislative-district-fact-sheets/>

# ARKANSAS



<https://www.aradvocates.org/issues/>



# Children Now

*2022 California Children's Report Card*, the state's most comprehensive report on children's health, education, and well-being. This year's *Report Card* grades California on 32 key children's issues, from prenatal to age 26.

<https://www.childrennow.org>

# CALIFORNIA



The Children's Partnership (TCP) is a California advocacy organization advancing child health equity through research, policy and community engagement

<https://www.childrenspartnership.org/news/>

**CALIFORNIA**



COLORADO  
CHILDREN'S  
CAMPAIGN  
*Every Chance for Every Child*

COLORADO

<https://www.coloradokids.org/advocacy/>



**Capitol Updates** - Each week during sessions of the Colorado General Assembly, Colorado Children's Campaign tracks important bills related to the well-being of Colorado's children.

CONNECTICUT  
VOICES  
FOR CHILDREN

# CONNECTICUT

<https://ctvoices.org/advocacy-news-events/>

**Issues Campaign**



<https://ctvoices.org/issue-campaign/>

**Legislative Blog**



<https://ctvoices.org/advocacy-news-events/our-voice/voices-from-the-capitol/>

# THE CHILDREN'S CAMPAIGN

<https://iamforkids.org/>

## FLORIDA

- [Legislative and Policy Agenda 2022](#)
- [Action Alerts](#)
- [Legislative Center](#)



The Family Cafe "Let's Talk" Legislative Conference Call Series during Florida's legislative session will keep you up to speed on everything happening in Tallahassee.

[Advocacy Toolkit](#)

**FLORIDA**

<https://familycafe.net/>



<https://georgiavoices.org>

**GEORGIA**

- [Weekly Legislative Updates](#)
- [Join the Action Network](#)
- [Ten Tips for Talking to Lawmakers](#)
- [Advocacy Made Easy](#)



# Hawai'i Children's Action Network

Building a unified voice for Hawai'i's children

Hawaii Children's Action Network is committed to advocating for children. They address the root causes of poverty and inequity and develop public policies that help children and their families.

<https://www.hawaii-can.org/advocacy>

# HAWAII



Idaho Voices for Children champions policies that help kids and families thrive. They serve as a voice for children in policymaking conversations and drive change in the areas of health, child safety and well-being, education, school readiness and family economic security.

<https://www.idahovoices.org/policy/>

**IDAHO**



Illinois Children's  
Mental Health  
Partnership

ICMHP takes a broad look at children's mental health by using a public health approach. They know that a comprehensive children's mental health system must be built on a foundation of quality prevention, promotion, early intervention/identification and treatment services and supports.

<https://www.icmhp.org/>

**ILLINOIS**



**Kids' Voice of Indiana**

Advocate. Educate. Protect.

The Kids' Voice of Indiana houses the Derelle Watson-Duvall Children's Law Center that serves Indiana attorneys, judges, and child service providers by providing education and training on juvenile and family law topics; legal assistance and resources; and best practice and policy recommendations

<https://www.kidsvoicein.org/>

**INDIANA**



Common Good Iowa is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization built on a collective 50 years of experience of two respected Iowa organizations - the Child and Family Policy Center and Iowa Policy Project. Their team of policy advocates and researchers leverage reliable data, solid analysis and collaborative relationships to craft people-centered policy solutions for Iowa's most pressing issues.

**IOWA**

<https://www.commongoodiowa.org>



Shaping policy that puts children first

Kansas Action for Children's mission is to shape health, education, and economic policy that will improve the lives of Kansas children and families.

<https://www.kac.org/>



KANSAS





# Advocacy Toolkit

*Learn how to advocate on behalf of Kentucky kids!*

TAKE ACTION



# KENTUCKY

<https://kyyouth.org/>



Agenda for Children was founded to make Louisiana a state in which all children can thrive, by ensuring that the basic needs of children and families are met, that our children are nurtured and well taught, beginning in the early years and continuing through adolescence.

<http://agendaforchildren.org/>

**LOUISIANA**



Maine  
Children's  
Alliance



Maine Children's Alliance works to inform, empower and inspire parents and providers, practitioners and organizations, and advocates and policy makers to make Maine a better place to be a child.

<http://mekids.org/>

**MAINE**



# MARYLAND FAMILY NETWORK

The mission of MARYLAND FAMILY NETWORK is to ensure that young children have strong families, quality early learning environments, and a champion for their interests.

<https://www.marylandfamilynetwork.org/for-advocates>

# MARYLAND



MASSACHUSETTS  
ADVOCATES  
*for* CHILDREN

The mission of Massachusetts Advocates for Children is to remove barriers to educational and life opportunities for children and youth.

<https://www.massadvocates.org/>

**MASSACHUSETTS**



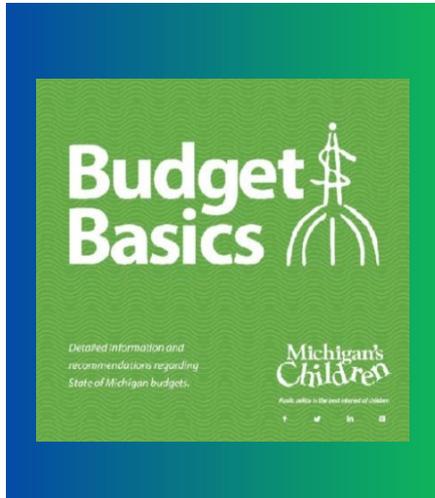
A statewide network that advocates for policy, systems, and practice solutions to ensure all children in Massachusetts have access to resources to prevent, diagnose, and treat mental health issues in a timely, effective, and compassionate way.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthcampaign.org/advocacy/>

**MASSACHUSETTS**

# Michigan's Children

*Public policy  
in the best interest  
of children*



# MICHIGAN

<https://www.michiganschildren.org/>

The logo for Michigan Alliance for Families features the organization's name in a bold, red, sans-serif font, centered within a circular graphic composed of several overlapping, light-colored rings. Below the name, the words "Information", "Education", and "Support" are stacked vertically in a smaller, italicized, black font, all contained within a light gray rectangular box.

# Michigan Alliance for Families

*Information  
Education  
Support*

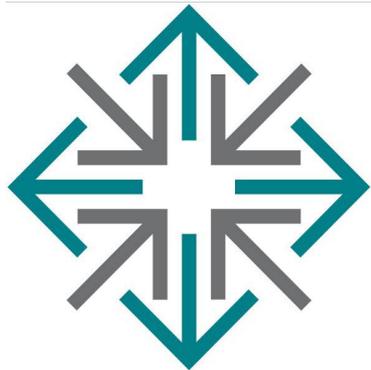


[www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org](http://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org)

Michigan Alliance for Families is a statewide resource that connects families of children with disabilities to resources to help improve their children's education.

<https://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/>

# MICHIGAN



# MINNESOTA CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

The Alliance works with multidisciplinary teams and their communities to strengthen the systems meant to keep children safe with ongoing training, research and advocacy efforts.

<https://minnesotachildrensalliance.org>

# MINNESOTA



**DISABILITY RIGHTS MISSISSIPPI**  
Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Disabilities

<http://www.drms.ms/>

# MISSISSIPPI



<https://childadvocacymss.org/legislation>



Missouri KidsFirst successfully advocates at the state and federal levels for policies and funding for programs that protect children from abuse and prioritize their safety and well-being.

<http://www.missourikidsfirst.org/our-work/policy>

**MISSOURI**



**MCPA**  
MONTANA CHILD PROTECTION ALLIANCE  
Child Safety • Family Support

<https://mtchildprotectionalliance.org/our-impact/legislative-advocacy/>

**MONTANA**



The Montana Association for the Education of Young Children (mtaeyc) is an organization of early childhood professionals working to solve local, state, and national issues that affect children and families.

**MONTANA**



<https://voicesforchildren.com/>

**NEBRASKA**

- [State Policy Agenda](#)
- [Pro Kid Policy Plan](#)
- [Take Action](#)



Children's  
Advocacy  
ALLIANCE

Children's Advocacy Alliance serves as an independent voice to advocate on behalf of Nevada's children and families, as well as those providing services on their behalf, regarding policy changes, resources and crucial community support necessary to ensure safe, stable and healthy families.

<https://www.caanv.org/>

**NEVADA**



Alliance for Early Success advocates to advance positive policies for children and families in New Hampshire.

<https://earllysuccess.org/new-hampshire>

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**



Giving every child the chance to grow up safe, healthy and educated. The mission of Advocates for Children of New Jersey is to identify children's needs through research, policy and legal analysis, to raise awareness of those needs through strategic communications, and to work with elected officials and other decision-makers to enact effective responses.

<https://acnj.org/>

**NEW JERSEY**



The mission of New Mexico Voices for Children is to improve the status, well-being and racial/ethnic equity of New Mexico's children, families, and communities in the areas of health, education, and economic security by promoting public policies through credible research and effective advocacy.

<https://www.nmvoices.org/>

**NEW MEXICO**



The Schuyler Center for Analysis is a nonprofit, policy analysis and advocacy organization working to shape policies to improve health, welfare and human services for all New Yorkers, especially the poor or vulnerable.

<https://www.scaany.org/>

**NEW YORK**



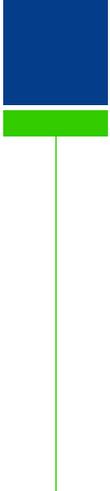
# The Children's Agenda

Smart Choices. Bold Voices.

The Children's Agenda advocates for effective policies and drives evidenced-based solutions for the health, education and success of children. We are especially committed to children who are vulnerable because of poverty, racism, health inequities and trauma.

<https://thechildrensagenda.org>

# NEW YORK



# WESTCHESTER **CHILDREN'S** ASSOCIATION



Children's Champions Since 1914

The mission of Westchester Children's Association is to improve the lives of Westchester's young people by shaping policies and programs to meet their needs and by keeping their well-being at the top of the public agenda.

<https://wca4kids.org/>

# NEW YORK



**Citizens' Committee  
for Children** *of* NEW YORK



Citizen's Committee for Children is the leading child advocacy organization in New York City.  
Foundational to their work are the three pillars:  
Public Policy, Research and Data, and Civic Engagement.

<https://www.cccnewyork.org>

**NEW YORK**



**NORTH  
CAROLINA**

**NC Child**  
The Voice for North Carolina's Children

<https://www.ncchild.org/>

**Action Page**



<https://ncchild.org/get-involved/take-action/>

**Weekly Legislative  
Updates**



<https://www.facebook.com/ncchildorg/>



<https://www.ndkidscount.org/>

**NORTH DAKOTA**



# Ohio Children's Alliance

*Leading change for child and family service providers*

Ohio Children's Alliance aims to ensure that Ohio's evolving public policies result in a system that is integrated, efficient, cost effective and beneficial to those who matter most - children and families.

<https://www.ohiochildrensalliance.org>

# OHIO



INSTITUTE  
FOR **CHILD**  
ADVOCACY

OICA was established to create a strong advocacy network that would provide a voice for the needs of children and youth in Oklahoma, particularly those in the state's care and those growing up amid poverty, violence, abuse and neglect, disparities, or other situations that put their lives and future at risk..

<http://oica.org/>

**OKLAHOMA**



The mission of Children First for Oregon is to empower communities to advocate for kids so all children in Oregon can thrive.

<https://ourchildrenoregon.org/our-work/policy-advocacy/>

**OREGON**



PENNSYLVANIA  
PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR CHILDREN  
A VOICE FOR KIDS SINCE 1992

The mission of Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children is a strong, effective and trusted voice to improve the health, education and well-being of children and youth in the Commonwealth.

<https://www.papartnerships.org/>

**PENNSYLVANIA**



**RHODE ISLAND**

<http://www.rikidscount.org/>



# Children's Trust

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

The mission of Children's Trust of South Carolina is to strengthen families and lead communities to prevent child abuse, neglect and injuries in South Carolina.

<https://scchildren.org/>

# SOUTH CAROLINA



Family Connection South Carolina changes lives by making connections, raising awareness and promoting inclusion for those with disabilities and special healthcare needs.

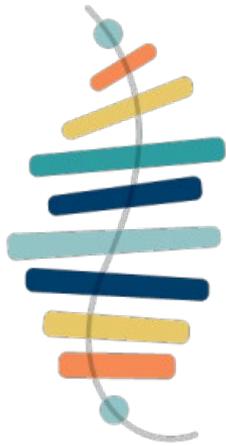
<https://www.familyconnectionsouthcarolina.org/>

**SOUTH CAROLINA**



**SOUTH DAKOTA**

<https://www.sdkidscount.org/>



TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON  
**CHILDREN & YOUTH**

**TENNESSEE**

The mission of Tennessee Commission on Children & Youth is to lead systems improvement for all children and families through data-driven advocacy, education and collaboration.

<https://www.tn.gov/tccy/>

TJC advocates for  
Tennessee's most vulnerable  
families and children, so that all  
Tennesseans can enjoy the dignity,  
security and opportunity that is  
every person's right.

**TENNESSEE**



<https://www.tnjustice.org/>



# TEXANS CARE *for* CHILDREN

Texans Care for Children drives policy change to improve the lives of Texas children today for a stronger Texas tomorrow.

<http://txchildren.org/>

# TEXAS



# Hogg Foundation *for* Mental Health

The Hogg Foundation for Mental Health's mission is to -  
Transform how communities promote mental health in everyday life.

<http://hogg.utexas.edu>

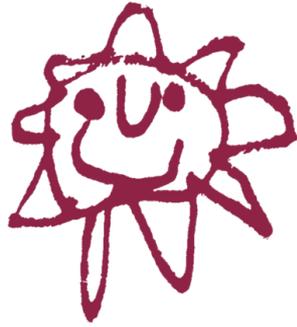
**TEXAS**



<https://www.utahchildren.org/>

# UTAH

- [State Policy](#)
- [Federal Policy](#)
- [2022 Legislative Bill Tracker](#)



# Voices for Vermont's Children

The mission of Voices for Vermont's Children is to promote public policy that enhances the lives of children and youth in Vermont.

<https://www.voicesforvtkids.org/>

# VERMONT



For Virginia's  
Children

**VIRGINIA**

The mission of Voices For Virginia's Children is to champion public policies that improve the lives of Virginia's children.

<https://vakids.org/>



**CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE**

The mission of Children's Alliance is to improve the well-being of children by effecting positive changes in public policies, priorities and programs.

<http://www.childrensalliance.org/>

**WASHINGTON**



<https://wvkidscount.org/>

**WEST VIRGINIA**



Every Kid. Every Family. Every Community.

The mission of Kids Forward is to inspire action and promote access to opportunity for every kid, every family, and every community in Wisconsin. They envision a Wisconsin where every child thrives.

<http://kidsforward.net/>

**WISCONSIN**



Wyoming  
Education Association

<http://wyoea.org/legislative-updates/>

**WYOMING**

# WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR LEGISLATIVE UPDATES?



Please let us know where you  
get the legislative news  
for your state.



Send additional organizations  
and resources to  
[Mcovington@ffcmh.org](mailto:Mcovington@ffcmh.org)

# Keep up with the latest on the National Federation of Families Legislative and Advocacy Facebook Page

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FAMILIES**

*Bringing Lived Experience to Family Support*



**FAMILY VOICE MATTERS.**

**NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US.**

<https://www.facebook.com/NationalFederationLegislationAdvocacy>

**THANKS FOR  
YOUR ADVOCACY**

[www.ffcmh.org/legislation-and-advocacy](http://www.ffcmh.org/legislation-and-advocacy) | [mcovington@ffcmh.org](mailto:mcovington@ffcmh.org)