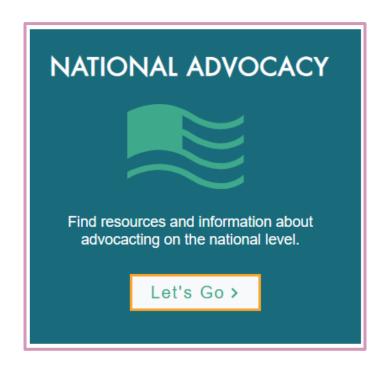
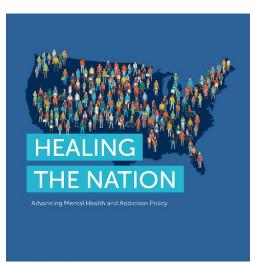
WHERE TO FIND LEGISLATIVE AND ADVOCACY UPDATES

NATIONALLY







Advancing Health Care Policy for Mental Health and Addiction

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/



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

www.americanbar.org/groups/public_interest/child_law/



The Alignment for Progress is an action-oriented movement combining vision, commitment, and investment with the goal of redirecting the future of care.

https://www.alignmentforprogress.org/



For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities The Arc has been at the forefront of the fight for the civil rights and inclusion of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and their families, playing a lead role in major victories in civil rights, community living, education, income security, and other important issues.

https://thearc.org/policy-advocacy



The Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law has advocated for the civil rights, full inclusion and equality of adults and children with mental disabilities.

https://www.bazelon.org/



The Bipartisan Policy Center is a not-for-profit organization that ensures policymakers work across party lines to craft bipartisan solutions.

https://bipartisanpolicy.org/

State Budgets and Tax Issues



TANF in the States

• https://www.cbpp.org/topics/tanf-in-the-states

Medicaid and CHIP

 https://www.cbpp.org/topics/medicaid-andchip

SNAP Basics

https://www.cbpp.org/topics/snap-basics

https://www.cbpp.org/topics/state-budget-and-tax



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 Coalition on Human Needs (CHN) is an alliance of national organizations working together to promote public policies which address the needs of low-income and other vulnerable populations.

www.chn.org



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/our-work/advocacy/



Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance Building on a long history of championing personal advocacy, DBSA 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 timely and more 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 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



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 stay up to date on the latest effecting children.

https://ffccscorecard.org/billtracker



Because we're stronger together®

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/

inseparable

Inseparable envisions a world where mental health is treated as a critical and equal piece of overall health, and where systems are designed with their impact on mental health in mind and improve care for millions of Americans.

https://www.inseparable.us/

Juvenile 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.

Parity Registry

https://www.parityregistry.org/

Don't Deny Me Campaign

https://www.parityregistry.org/dont-deny-me/

https://www.thekennedyforum.org



Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance (MMHLA) is 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 provide <u>reports by state</u>.

https://www.mmhla.org/advocacy-agenda



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

https://mindsitenews.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

- Take Action
- State Fact Sheets
- Policy Priorities
- Public Policy Reports
- NAMI's Federal Advocacy





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. Find comprehensive information for all 50 states in NCSL's searchable bill tracking databases.

ww.ncsl.org

- Public Policy
- Advocacy Handbook
- Advocacy Blog
- Advocacy Alerts

for Mental Wellbeing

HEALTHY MINDS - STRONG COMMUNITIES

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.



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 offer 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. They 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/





The National Women's Law Center fights for gender justice—in the courts, in public policy, and in our society—working across the issues that are central to the lives of women and girls.

https://nwlc.org/take-action/

- ParityTrack.org
- Federal Parity Reports
- State Parity Reports



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.



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/about/



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

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



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

shatterproof.org/advocacy

IN YOUR STATE



ALABAMA



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



Alabama Arise is a statewide, member-led organization advancing public policies to improve the lives of Alabamians who are marginalized by poverty.

https://www.alarise.org/

ALASKA



ACT works towards policies and services that strengthen families and communities, promote healthy child and youth development, and prevent child abuse and neglect before it happens.

https://www.alaskachildrenstrust.org/

ARIZONA



Children's Action Alliance (CAA) is an independent voice for Arizona children at the state capitol and in the community.

- http://azchildren.org/
- Legislative Scorecard

ARKANSAS





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

The mission of Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families is to ensure that all children and their families have the resources and opportunities to lead healthy and productive lives and to realize their full potential.

CALIFORNIA



<u>2024 California Children's Report Card</u>, is 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/

COLORADO





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

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

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/

DELAWARE









EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION



CHILD WELFARE



FAMILY ECONOMIC











MENTAL HEALTH



STUDENT BELONGING

Voices for Children Coalition tracks policies that affect child-wellbeing. Use the Fast Democracy platform to stay up-to-date on these policies. Visit their website to explore the bills they are tracking by category.



IUVENILE IUSTICE



GUN VIOLENCE

https://voicesforchildrendelco.org/fast-democracy/

FLORIDA

- https://iamforkids.org/
- Action Alerts
- Key Issues



Florida's leading nonpartisan voice for all children at the state capitol and in local communities.

FLORIDA

- https://familycafe.net/
- Advocacy Toolkit



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.

GEORGIA

- Weekly Legislative Updates
- <u>Ten Tips for Talking to Lawmakers</u>
- Advocacy Made Easy



https://georgiavoices.org

HAWAII



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

IDAHO



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/

ILLINOIS



Children's Advocates for Change is an independent advocacy organization committed to the well-being of every Illinois child. They champion those policies and investments children need so that they are educated, healthy, and thriving.

https://childrensadvocates.org/

ILLINOIS



ICOY champions the safety, well-being, and success of all Illinois' children, youth, and families by connecting and strengthening the organizations that serve them and by being a collective voice for policy and practice.

https://www.icoyouth.org//

INDIANA



The Kids' Voice of Indiana houses the <u>Derelle Watson-Duvall Children's Law Center</u> 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/

IOWA



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.

https://www.commongoodiowa.org

KANSAS

Kansas Action for Children

https://www.kac.org/

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



KENTUCKY

Kentucky youth Advocates

https://kyyouth.org/





LOUISIANA



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/

MAINE



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. They provide profiles on each county.

http://mekids.org/

MARYLAND



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

MASSACHUSETTS



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/

MICHIGAN



Public policy in the best interest of children





https://www.michiganschildren.org/

MICHIGAN

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



Information Education Support



https://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/

MINNESOTA



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

MISSISSIPPI





http://www.drms.ms/

https://childadvocacyms.org

MISSOURI



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

MONTANA



Montana Child Protection Alliance seeks to engage all stakeholders, including families, community members, and other service providers, in the process of effective advocacy. They work closely with legislators to introduce bills that seek to help keep children safely with their families when possible and avoid the traumatic experience of entering foster care.

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.

https://mtaeyc.org/

NEBRASKA

- State Policy Agenda
- Pro Kid Policy Plan
- Take Action



https://voicesforchildren.com/

NEVADA



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/

NEW HAMPSHIRE



The Alliance for Early Success works with early childhood policy advocates at the state level to ensure that every child, birth through eight, has an equal opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed.

https://earlysuccess.org/new-hampshire

NEW JERSEY



Giving every child the chance to grow up safe, healthy, and educated. Advocates for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ) works with local, state and federal leaders to identify and implement changes that will benefit New Jersey's children. Their work results in better laws and policies, more effective funding and stronger services for children and families.

https://acnj.org/

NEW MEXICO



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/



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/

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. They are especially committed to children who are vulnerable because of poverty, racism, health inequities, and trauma.

https://thechildrensagenda.org/advocate/



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/



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

NORTH CAROLINA



https://www.ncchild.org/

Action Page

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

Weekly Advocacy Updates

https://ncchild.org/what-we-do/can-update/

NORTH DAKOTA



https://www.ndkidscount.org/

OHIO



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

OKLAHOMA



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/

OREGON



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/

PENNSYLVANIA



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/

RHODE ISLAND

http://www.rikidscount.org/



SOUTH CAROLINA -



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.familyconnectionsc.org/

SOUTH DAKOTA



https://www.sdkidscount.org/

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/educate-inform1/policy-briefs.html

TENNESSEE



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.

https://www.tnjustice.org/

TEXAS



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

http://txchildren.org/

TEXAS



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

http://hogg.utexas.edu

UTAH

- State Policy
- Federal Policy
- 2024 Legislative Bill Tracker



https://www.utahchildren.org/

VERMONT



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/

VIRGINIA



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

For Virginia's Children

https://vakids.org/

WASHINGTON



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/

WEST VIRGINIA



The Legislative Action Team actively monitors pending legislation affecting children and families and advocates for those policies and legislative proposals that benefit children. The Team meets weekly on Mondays during the WV Legislative Session.

https://teamwv.org/legislative-action-team/

WISCONSIN



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/

WYOMING



https://betterwyo.org/advocate/

WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR LEGISLATIVE UPDATES?



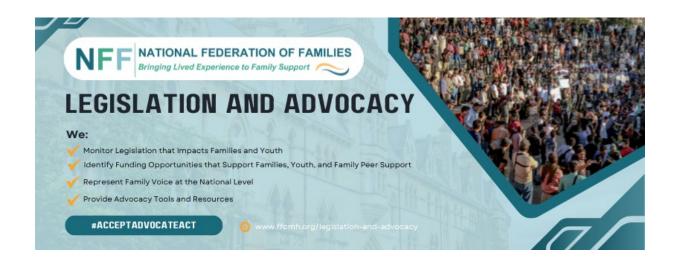
Please let us know where you get the legislative news for your state.





Send additional organizations and resources to Mcovington@ffcmh.org.

Keep up with the latest on the National Federation of Families' <u>Legislative and Advocacy Facebook Page</u>.



https://www.facebook.com/NationalFederationLegislationAdvocacy

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ADVOCACY