

# WHERE TO FIND **STATE** LEGISLATIVE AND ADVOCACY UPDATES

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

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# IN YOUR STATE

## STATE ADVOCACY



Find resources and information about  
advocating in your state.

Let's Go >

# 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

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](#)



# CALIFORNIA



*2024 California Children's Report Card*, 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



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

<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



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.



CHILD HEALTH & SAFETY



EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION



CHILD WELFARE



FAMILY ECONOMIC SECURITY



FOOD ACCESS AND NUTRITION



HEALTH CARE ACCESS



MENTAL HEALTH



STUDENT BELONGING



JUVENILE JUSTICE



GUN VIOLENCE

<https://voicesforchildrenelco.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](#)
- [Ten Tips for Talking to Lawmakers](#)
- [Advocacy Made Easy](#)



<https://georgiavoices.org>

# HAWAII



**HCAN**  
Hawai'i Children's Action Network

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



Illinois  
Collaboration  
on Youth

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 [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/>

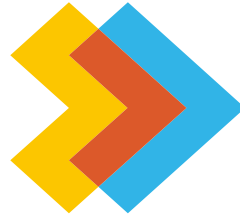
# IOWA



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.

**Kansas Children's Agenda**

**LET'S MAKE OUR STATE THE BEST PLACE TO RAISE – AND BE – A CHILD**

Food. Shelter. Health care. Education. With these building blocks in place, Kansas kids succeed. But too often, poverty and structural racism keep them out of reach.

For 40 years, Kansas Action for Children has worked to change this. We listen to families and the organizations that support them, gather data that reflects their realities, then share this work with lawmakers.

The best solution, though, is bigger than anything that comes from the Statehouse. When Kansans from every corner of the state, inspired and educated, use their voices and votes, our kids win.

The Kansas Children's Agenda, supported by advocates across the state, gives this shared movement a clear direction.

**ABOUT THE AGENDA**

The Kansas Children's Agenda is built on a foundation of work to improve early learning, health, and family economic security. Our kids need quality and affordable childcare. Our kids need a doctor's visit when they get sick. Our kids need a place to stay and food to eat if their families go through tough times. The agenda's recommendations provide a starting point for solutions.

We're not just looking to change laws or implement good ideas. We want to invest resources, time, and attention in our next generation. And we're setting out a shared platform that shows us how to get there with their voice amplifying the values of caring Kansans.

Our coalition has much to add in these critical areas. We will always center racial equity because those Kansans who have been longest neglected so often have the greatest need.

Kansas kids need a state that stands up for them. The Kansas Children's Agenda shows us how to get there.

ORGANIZED BY Kansas Action for Children

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# KENTUCKY

# Kentucky *youth* Advocates

<https://kyyouth.org/>



## Advocacy Toolkit

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

TAKE ACTION



# 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



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



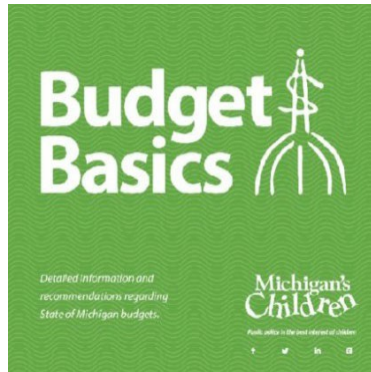
A statewide network that advocates for policy, systems, and practice solutions to ensure all children in Massachusetts have access to resources to prevent, diagnose, and treat mental health issues in a timely, effective, and compassionate way.

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

# MICHIGAN

Michigan's  
**Children**

*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.

**Michigan  
Alliance  
for Families**

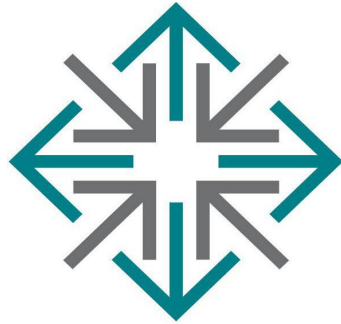
*Information  
Education  
Support*



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

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

**MINNESOTA**



**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>

# MISSISSIPPI



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



<https://childadvocacymss.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



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

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

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/>



# NEW YORK



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

## TheChildren'sAgenda

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/>

# 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



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**

**NC Child**

The Voice for North Carolina's Children

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

**Action Page**

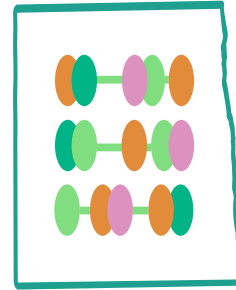
<https://ncchild.org/get-involved/take-action/>

**Weekly Advocacy Updates**

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

# NORTH DAKOTA

**KIDS COUNT**  
NORTH DAKOTA



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

# OHIO



## **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>

# OKLAHOMA



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/>



# 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



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/>

# 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

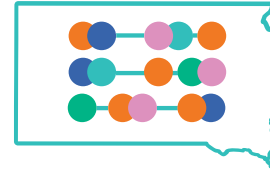


Family Connection South Carolina changes lives by making connections, raising awareness, and promoting inclusion for those with disabilities and special healthcare needs.

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

# SOUTH DAKOTA

**KIDS COUNT**  
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.



TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON  
**CHILDREN & YOUTH**

<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

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>

# UTAH

- [State Policy](#)
- [Federal Policy](#)
- [2024 Legislative Bill Tracker](#)



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

# VERMONT



# 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/>

# VIRGINIA



For Virginia's  
Children

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



**KIDS FORWARD**

**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



**BETTER WYO**.ORG

<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](mailto:Mcovington@ffcmh.org).

Keep up with the latest on the National Federation of Families' [Legislative and Advocacy Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/NationalFederationLegislationAdvocacy).

A graphic for the National Federation of Families' Legislation and Advocacy Facebook page. The background is light blue with a faint architectural pattern. On the right, there is a photograph of a large crowd of people. The NFF logo is in the top left, with the tagline 'Bringing Lived Experience to Family Support'. The main title 'LEGISLATION AND ADVOCACY' is in large, bold, black letters. Below it, the word 'We:' is followed by a list of four bullet points, each with a yellow checkmark. At the bottom, there is a dark blue button with the hashtag '#ACCEPTADVOCATEACT' and a globe icon next to the website URL 'www.ffcmh.org/legislation-and-advocacy'.

**NFF** NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FAMILIES  
*Bringing Lived Experience to Family Support*

## LEGISLATION AND ADVOCACY

**We:**

- ✓ Monitor Legislation that Impacts Families and Youth
- ✓ Identify Funding Opportunities that Support Families, Youth, and Family Peer Support
- ✓ Represent Family Voice at the National Level
- ✓ Provide Advocacy Tools and Resources

**#ACCEPTADVOCATEACT** [www.ffcmh.org/legislation-and-advocacy](http://www.ffcmh.org/legislation-and-advocacy)

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

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ADVOCACY

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