



April 17, 2020

The Honorable Charles Grassley  
Chairman  
Finance Committee  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Ranking Member  
Finance Committee  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Chairman  
Ways and Means Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin Brady  
Ranking Member  
Ways and Means Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Grassley and Neal and Ranking Members Wyden and Brady:

We are writing as state and local organizations committed to supporting vulnerable families with young children to request relief that will allow home visiting programs in our communities to respond to the needs created by the COVID-19 global pandemic.

We thank you for your leadership in beginning to address the needs of families during this crisis. Like nearly every sector of society right now, families served through the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program (MIECHV) are facing new challenges. We urge you to provide emergency flexibility and a one-time investment of \$100 million for MIECHV, as outlined below, to help preserve this valuable program:

- Prioritize a **one-time \$100 million appropriation for MIECHV**. These funds can be used to train home visitors to deliver services through technology that enables home visits from a distance, as well as tangible needs for families including technology, formula, diapers, etc.
- **Allow virtual visits to be considered home visits** through the end of the calendar year to safely preserve valuable relationships without being penalized.

- **Maintain all funding for and staffing levels of MIECHV programs** regardless of potential temporary reductions in enrollment to preserve the existing home visiting infrastructure.

MIECHV is more important now than ever, as families who already faced complex needs have been thrust into chaos due to COVID-19. Home visitors are a critical link of support for families who are facing a variety of challenges that will be exacerbated by this crisis. With public health at risk and the social safety net in higher demand, these professionals are working overtime to deliver services to families in an unprecedented environment and through creative means.

In order to meet the needs of the most vulnerable, home visitors need flexibility and additional resources. MIECHV-funded programs have begun pivoting to accommodate new ways of reaching families, including expanding telehealth and virtual home visits, but they must have the certainty that these visits are covered by the MIECHV program. Our community is committed to preserving the invaluable relationships that have already been established between home visitors and families, and to making sure families get the information and help they need to stay healthy and safe during this unprecedented crisis.

We greatly appreciate your attention to the critical needs of the home visiting community, and are hopeful that these items can be included in future legislation. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

#### Alabama

Alabama Cooperative Extension System (HIPPIY Conecuh)  
Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education  
Alabama Partnership for Children  
Circle of Care Center for Families  
East Alabama Mental Health  
Easterseals West Alabama  
Eufaula City Schools/Parents as Teachers  
Gift of Life  
Parents As Teachers  
Talladega Clay Randolph Child Care Corporation  
TCR Childcare  
TCR Parents as Teachers  
United Ability

#### Alaska

Child Development; RuRAL CAP, Inc

#### American Samoa

American Samoa Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting  
Department of Health Maternal, Infant & Early Childhood Home Visit/Aiga Manuia

## Arizona

Arizona Head Start Association  
Child and Family Resources: HFAz  
Easterseals Blake Foundation  
Prevent Child Abuse Arizona  
Southwest Human Development: Healthy Families

## Arkansas

Family Network  
Healthy Connections  
Healthy Families Arkansas - Ozark Mountains  
Healthy Families of America Polk and Garland County  
Arkansas Children's  
Open Arms Pregnancy Center  
Paragould School District Parenting Partners Parents as Teachers  
Van Buren and Stone County HIPPPY

## California

American Academy of Pediatrics, California  
BreastfeedLA  
California Family Resource Association  
Children Now  
First 5 Association of California  
First 5 Fresno County  
First 5 Monterey County  
First 5 Riverside  
First 5 San Benito  
First 5 San Francisco  
First 5 Siskiyou Children and Families Commission  
First 5 Sonoma County  
Head Start California  
Placer Community Action Council, Inc  
Postpartum Health Alliance  
Region 9 Head Start Association  
SHIELDS For Families  
Social Advocates for Youth  
Solano County Healthy Families Solano  
South Los Angeles Health Projects  
St. Francis Medical Center  
Tikun Olam Foundtion  
United Way of Santa Cruz County  
Yolo County Children's Alliance

## Colorado

Caring for Colorado Foundation  
Clayton Early Learning  
Colorado Head Start Association  
Denver's Early Childhood Council  
Illuminate Colorado  
Invest in Kids  
Kempe for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect  
Parent Possible  
Raise Colorado Coalition

## Delaware

Attachment and Biobehavioral Catch-up  
Children and Families First  
Delaware Head Start Association

## District of Columbia

DC Action for Children  
Institute for Childhood Preparedness  
Lamaze International  
Mary's Center  
National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI)  
RESULTS  
The Education Trust

## Florida

Bay Franklin Gulf Healthy Start Coalition, Inc.  
Central Florida Child Health Program Inc  
Charlotte County Healthy Start, Inc.  
Chipola Healthy Start, Inc.  
Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions  
Florida Head Start Association  
Health Choice Network  
Healthy Start Coalition of Hillsborough County  
Healthy Start Coalition of Orange County  
Healthy Start Coalition of Osceola County  
Healthy Start Coalition of Pasco  
Healthy Start Coalition of Pinellas. Inc.  
Healthy Start Coalition of Southwest Florida, Inc.  
HIPPI USA  
Indian River County Healthy Start Coalition  
Kids Central Inc  
Northeast Florida Healthy Start Coalition, Inc.

Nurse Family Partnership BRHPC  
Nurse Family Partnership Highlands  
Okeechobee Healthy Start  
UF Health Jacksonville

#### Georgia

Coastal Coalition for Children  
GEEARS  
Georgia Head Start Association  
Healthy Families America  
National SafeCare Training and Research Center at Georgia State University  
Prevent Child Abuse Athens GA  
Region IV Head Start Association

#### Hawaii

Head Start Association of Hawaii  
Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Centers  
Parents And Children Together

#### Idaho

Idaho Head Start Association  
Idaho Voices for Children

#### Illinois

Child Abuse Council  
Children's Home & Aid  
ChildServ  
Easterseals  
Erikson Institute  
Family Focus Inc  
HealthConnect One  
Illinois Head Start Association  
Macoupin County Healthy Families  
Prevent Child Abuse Illinois  
YWCA METROPOLITAN CHICAGO  
YWCA Northwestern Illinois

#### Indiana

Adams County Healthy Families  
Cardinal Services, Inc.  
Dunebrook  
Family Services & Prevention Programs  
Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana Nurse-Family Partnership  
HealthNet Healthy Families

Healthy Families  
Healthy Families Marion 1  
Indiana Head Start Association  
IU Health Community Health Nurse-Family Partnership  
Mental Health America of Northwest Indiana  
Nurse-Family Partnership of Northern Indiana  
Putnam County Family Support Services dba. Family Support Services of West Central Indiana  
Straight Path Consulting  
The Villages Healthy Families

#### Iowa

Child Abuse Prevention Services  
Child and Family Policy Center  
Crittenton Center  
Genesis VNA  
Iowa ACEs 360  
Lutheran Services in Iowa  
Prevent Child Abuse Iowa  
Siouxland District Health Department  
Southwest Iowa Families Inc

#### Kansas

Aligned  
Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County  
Kansas Action for Children  
Kansas Children's Service League  
Kansas Head Start Association  
Ks Head Start Association  
Parents as Teachers Parent Educator  
Retired Children's Home and Child Advocacy Center Administrator

#### Kentucky

Brighton Center  
Kentucky Head Start Association

#### Louisiana

Louisiana CASA Association  
Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families  
Louisiana Policy Institute for Children  
Save the Children Head Start

#### Maine

Aroostook Council for Healthy Families  
Maine Head Start Directors Association

New England Head Start Association

Maryland

Center for Children  
DRUMondawmin Healthy Families, Inc.  
Mary's Center  
Sinia Hospital Healthy Families of America

Massachusetts

Boston Area Healthy Families-MSPCC/Eliot  
Child & Family Services  
Community Action Pioneer Valley  
Family & Children's Service of Greater Lynn  
Healthy Families North Worcester County  
Healthy Families of Berkshire County  
Kennedy-Donovan Center  
Making Opportunity Count, Inc.  
Massachusetts General Hospital Chelsea HealthCare Center  
Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children  
MelroseWakefield Healthcare  
MSPCC Healthy Families Lowell  
Southeast Family Services

Michigan

Central Michigan District Health Department  
Child & Family Services of Northeast Michigan  
Cradle Connections MIHP  
District Health Department #10  
Family Futures  
Hurley Nurse Family Partnership  
Michigan Council for Maternal and Child Health  
MPHI  
Nurse Family Partnership  
Public Health Nurse Administrators Forum for Michigan  
Spaulding for Children  
Starfish Family Services

Minnesota

Fairmont Area Early Childhood and Family Education  
HFA Minnesota South Central Counties  
Minnesota Communities Caring for Children  
Minnesota Head Start Association, Inc.  
Minnesota Targeted Home Visiting Coalition

Simpson Housing Services  
Way to Grow  
West Central Initiative

Mississippi  
Mississippi Head Start Association

Missouri  
Generate Health  
Holden R-3 Parents As Teachers  
Kids Win Missouri  
Lumen Touch, LLC  
Parents as Teachers  
Region VII Head Start Association

Montana  
AWARE  
Rocky Boy Family Spirit  
Zero to Five Montana

Nebraska  
Healthy Families Gage and Jefferson Counties  
Nebraska Head Start Association  
NENCAP

Nevada  
Children's Advocacy Alliance  
Community Chest  
Nevada Head Start Association

New Hampshire  
Children Unlimited Inc.  
Family Resource Center  
Monadnock United Way  
New Futures Kids Count  
NH Head Start Directors Association  
Save The Children Action Network - NH  
The Family Resource Center of Northern Coos and Grafton county

New Jersey  
Acenda, Inc.  
Advocates for Children of New Jersey  
Burlington community Action Partnership, Inc  
Care Plus NJ. org



Caring for kids  
Center for Family Services  
Central Jersey Family Health Consortium  
Coalition of Infant/Toddler Educators  
Famcare, Inc.  
Healthy Families/TIP MONMOUTH COUNTY  
New Jersey Head Start Association  
NJ Association for Infant Mental Health  
Passaic County Healthy Families-TIP Program  
PRAB INC  
Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey  
Project Self-Sufficiency  
Southern New Jersey Perinatal Cooperative  
St. Francis Community Center  
United Way of Central Jersey  
Visiting Nurses Association of Central Jersey  
Warren County Parents as Teachers  
Youth Consultation Service-Institute for Infant and Preschool Mental Health

#### New York

Adirondack Birth to Three Alliance  
BHSN  
Buffalo Prenatal-Perinatal Network  
Cayuga Seneca County Action Agency  
Center for Children's Initiatives  
CIDS  
Citizens' Committee for Children of New York  
Early Care & Learning Council  
Early Childhood Alliance - Onondaga  
Healthy Families Jefferson County  
Healthy Families of Rensselaer County  
Healthy Families of Sullivan / Sullivan County Public Health  
Healthy Families Rockland County  
New York Immigration Coalition  
Postpartum Resource Center of New York  
Power of Two  
Prevent Child Abuse NY  
Public Health Solutions  
The Children's Agenda  
Westchester Children's Association

#### North Carolina

Blue Ridge Healthy Families

Child Care Services Association  
Children and Youth Partnership  
F I R S T  
Family Resource Center South Atlantic  
Guilford Child Development  
Hoke County Parents As Teachers  
Imprints Cares  
North Carolina Division of Public Health  
North Carolina Head Start Association  
Prevent Child Abuse NC  
Rockingham County Partnership for Children, Inc.  
Wake County Smart Start  
Lutheran Social Services of ND  
North Dakota Head Start Association

#### Ohio

Butler County Educational Service Center  
Columbus Early Learning Center  
Every Child Succeeds  
Groundwork Ohio  
Highland BoDD HMG  
Huron County Board of DD: Help Me Grow Home Visiting  
Pike County Help Me Grow  
Piqua Parents as Teachers  
Ross County Health District  
The Ohio Head Start Association  
Youth Advocate Services

#### Oklahoma

Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy  
Parent Promise/Prevent Child Abuse Oklahoma

#### Oregon

Children's Institute  
Family Building Blocks  
Happy Valley Montessori School, LLC  
Healthy Families Oregon- High Desert  
Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children  
Oregon Association of Relief Nurseries  
Our Children Oregon  
Prevent Child Abuse Oregon  
Reach Out and Read

## Pennsylvania

Allegheny Intermediate Unit  
Allies for Children  
Columbia County Family Center  
CVCA  
Erie Family Center  
Family Service Association of Bucks County  
Greater Susquehanna Valley United Way  
Greene County Family Center  
Healthy Family Partnership  
Maternity Care Coalition  
McKean Co. Family Center - The Guidance Center  
National Nurse-Led Care Consortium  
Nurse-Family Partnership Lehigh Valley Health Network Pocono  
Outreach Center for Community Resources  
PA Parents as Teachers State Office  
Pennsylvania Head Start Association  
Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children  
The Guidance Center  
Trying Together  
UPMC Homehealth Care NFP Huntingdon County  
Wayne County Family Center

## Puerto Rico

Instituto Tercera Misión  
Third Mission Institute, Albizu University

## Rhode Island

Blackstone Valley Community Action Program  
Care Transformation Collaborative of Rhode Island  
Family Service of Rhode Island  
Rhode Island KIDS COUNT  
Washington County Coalition for Children

## South Carolina

Carolina Health Centers, Inc.  
Children's Trust of South Carolina  
Family Connection of SC  
Healthy Families America  
Healthy Families Georgetown  
Inner Healing Ministry, LLC  
Institute for Child Success  
McLeod Health Nurse Family Partnership

McLeod Regional Medical Center  
MUSC Helathy Families America  
Prevent Child Abuse Pickens County  
Private Consultant  
Save the Children Action Network South Carolina

#### Tennessee

HFA  
Lebonheur Healthy Families  
Methodist Lebonheur Maternal child  
PCAT  
Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee  
Save the Children Action Network - Tennessee  
Tennessee Justice Center  
The Stephens Center

#### Texas

Children at Risk  
Coalition of Health Services  
Datatude Inc.,  
Highland Park Parents as Teachers  
Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters  
Madonna Center Inc  
Parents as Teachers  
Texans Care for Children  
TexProtects  
United Way of the Coastal Bend  
WiNGS

#### Utah

Central Utah Public Health Department  
Children's Service Society  
Prevent Child Abuse Utah  
United Way of Salt Lake  
Voices for Utah Children  
YWCA Utah

#### Virginia

Child Health Investment Partnership (CHIP) of Roanoke  
Early Impact Virginia  
Healthy Families Southwest Virginia  
Hopewell/Prince George Healthy Families  
Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance

MEOC Healthy Families  
Northern Virginia Family Service  
The Improvement Association  
Thrive Virginia  
Virginia Head Start Association  
Voices for Virginia's Children

Washington

Chelan-Douglas Health District  
Children's Trust Fund Alliance  
Children's Alliance  
Partners for Our Children  
Port Gamble Sklallam tribe Parents as Teachers  
United Indians of All Tribes Foundation

West Virginia

REACHH Family Resource Center  
TEAM for West Virginia Children  
West Virginia Head Start Association

Wisconsin

Bad River Family Foundation's  
Children's Wisconsin  
COA Youth & Family Centers  
Family Resource Center of Sheboygan county  
Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council  
Wisconsin Association of Family & Children's Agencies  
Wisconsin Head Start Association