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 (HIPPY 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 HIPPY

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 Foundation
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.
HIPPY 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.
Dunbrook
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 Healthy 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