

Prevent Child Abuse America's Government Affairs Initiative

Background and Purpose:

Purpose: The purpose of the Government Affairs Initiative (GAI) is to increase the public policy and government affairs capacity of Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) chapters. The initiative provides public policy support through direct technical assistance, guidance, and consultation, with the goal of growing internal capacity and expanding or leveraging PCA chapter presence at the state-policy level.

Background: The GAI launched in 2019, beginning with the solicitation from interested PCA Chapters and the subsequent selection of six GAI states receiving policy and legislative engagement support. Building off the initial success and response from the chapter network, the GAI has grown its support to selected chapters to include technical assistance, policy agenda development, consultation on policy priorities, and engagement and outreach with state legislators. It expanded into a robust program providing broad support to the entire network through strategic webinars, forming a policy affinity group, and the development of timely resources.

Through this effort, the majority of states (27) have engaged in direct policy support and received technical assistance from the PCA America policy department. There are seven state chapters joining the effort in 2023 while the prior GAI chapters continue to advance the policy related efforts started during their initial engagement in the GAI.

- 2019 PCA Chapters: GA, OK, TX, VA, WY, & PA
- 2020 PCA Chapters: DE, KY, NC, OR, PA, & TN
- 2021 PCA Chapters: AL, FL, MI, NY, OH, & UT
- 2022 PCA Chapters: CO, CT, IL, KS, & ME
- 2023 PCA Chapters: AZ, KY, IA, MN, NH, NJ, & WY

Direct PCA Chapter Technical Assistance

Direct technical assistance in 2023 will be provided to seven chapters with varying degrees of requested support. The selected chapters – **Arizona, Kentucky, Iowa, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, and Wyoming** – began meeting in early March and will be engaged in different timeframes and varying focuses of policy support. Highlights of the intended support in 2023 includes building internal public policy capacity and state legislative engagement and outreach.