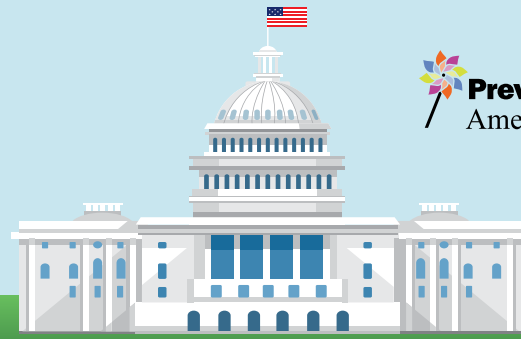


Federal Policy Priorities



All children and families deserve to live a purposeful and happy life with hope for the future. A child's early experiences impact them throughout life – both positively and negatively. When families face an overload of stress, it can hamper their ability to provide the supportive relationships and environments children need to prosper. When families have what they need, when they need it, without stigma, children can thrive.

Priorities Supporting Children and Families



Investments in Primary Prevention

Prevention is possible. Programs and policies supporting families before they are in crisis can equip parents with the tools they need to give their kids a safe and healthy environment. Funding federal programmatic efforts such as [Community Based Child Abuse Prevention](#) grants and [Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences](#) allows states and communities to implement efforts tailored to the needs of their families.

Primary Prevention - Strategies and interventions that work upstream of the issue to reduce risk factors and increase protective factors



Comprehensive Family Supports

The ability to access services and systems is critical to the health of families and children. Through available systems of prevention, we can create and build environments that strengthen families and open opportunities – elements that prevent child abuse and neglect before it occurs. Programs such as early childhood home visiting and family resource centers serve as gateways for families to access important supports, stabilize crises, and promote positive physical, mental, and behavioral health.



Economic Stability and Mobility

Policies strengthening family financial security help create the conditions for all children, families and communities to thrive. Economic security gives families hope. Policies such as childcare subsidies, paid family leave, and the child tax credit reduce the stressors of poverty that can overload families, promote safe and nurturing family environments, and ultimately build more prosperous communities.

Research shows that for every additional \$1,000 that states spent on federal, state and local benefit programs per person living in poverty, there was a 4% reduction in substantiated child abuse, a 2% reduction in foster care placements and about an 8% reduction in fatalities due to child abuse and neglect.

[Prevent Child Abuse America](#) advocates for policies and investments that are evidence informed, equitable, family-centered, bold and accountable. Strategies and goals are prioritized according to [Prevent Child Abuse America's Theory of Change](#).



Prevent Child Abuse America is the nation's oldest and largest non-profit focused on preventing child abuse before it occurs. Prevent Child Abuse America includes a **nationwide network of chapters** and one of the most widely implemented evidence based home visiting programs, **Healthy Families America®**.

For more information, please contact policyteam@preventchildabuse.org