Prevent Child Abuse America's Government Affairs Initiative: 2024

Background and Purpose:

Prevent Child Abuse America (PCA America), and its nationwide network of state chapters, promote policies and investments that strengthen families and communities, support healthy child development, and prevent child abuse and neglect before it happens. To advance this work, PCA America mobilizes support at the federal level and provides technical assistance to our nationwide network of chapters to help facilitate effective state advocacy.

The Government Affairs Initiative (GAI), launched in 2019, is a strategic effort to increase the public policy and government affairs capacity of PCA America's state chapter network. The GAI provides public policy support through direct technical assistance, guidance, and consultation, with the goal of growing internal capacity and expanding or leveraging the network's presence at the state and federal level to affect change. To date, almost all state chapters have participated in the GAI, receiving support and technical assistance from the PCA America policy department and advancing policy related efforts identified during their engagement. The GAI also provides broad support to the entire network through strategic webinars, a policy affinity group, and the development of shared resources.

GAI 2024 "One Policy":

This year's GAI is focusing on building advocacy capacity and strategy of the chapter network through advancing one focused set of policy options to strengthen family financial security and mobility—policies that are evidence based for supporting families and children. Included are state policy options such as child tax credits, earned income tax credits, paid family and medical leave, childcare subsidies, and supportive housing assistance. The GAI will support 12 chapters who expressed interest in promoting one or more of these policy options in their own state. The national office is eager to be partnering with these Chapters to build internal capacity and strategy, with a specific emphasis on advancing one focused set of policy options to strengthen family economic security and mobility and prevent child abuse and neglect.

The following are the Primary Prevention Policy Champions who will make up the GAI in 2024:

- Alaska Children's Trust
- Prevent Child Abuse Arizona
- Connecticut Children's Alliance
- Prevent Child Abuse Delaware
- Prevent Child Abuse Illinois
- Prevent Child Abuse Indiana – The Villages of Indiana, Inc.
- Kansas Children's Service League
- Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky
- FamilyWise, PCA Minnesota
- Positive Childhood Alliance North Carolina
- Prevent Child Abuse Utah
- Families Forward Virginia
- Prevent Child Abuse West Virginia – TEAM for West Virginia Children

See here to learn more about the GAI.