Prevent Child Abuse America
Centering families through every turn.

33 N. Dearborn Street, Suite 2300
Chicago, IL 60602
312.663.3520 | PreventChildAbuse.org

Government Affairs Initiative 2025: *Insights for Impact*

Background and Purpose: The Government Affairs Initiative (GAI) is an effort to increase the public policy and government affairs capacity of our nationwide prenvetion network. The initiative provides policy support through direct technical assistance, guidance, and consultation with the goal of growing internal capacity. To date, nearly all state chapters have engaged in the GAI in varying capacity through receiving technical assistance, participating in the policy affinity group, and utilizing shared resources.

Highlights of the GAI 2025: The focus of the GAI in 2025 was to strengthen the capacity of our nationwide network in translating public health science to inform action toward the prevention of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), including child abuse and neglect. This included:

- **Primary Prevention Champion Sites**: The GAI provided targeted training and technical assistance to two state chapters with the overarching goal of increasing awareness and understanding of policy and programmatic initiatives that can prevent child abuse and neglect. This included guidance to Alaska Children's Trust to advance their efforts of raising awareness of the role of Paid Family and Medical Leave in the prevention of child abuse and neglect across their legislature, community, and businsses. And technical assistance to PCA Illinois in raising awarness of the prevalence and impact of ACEs and the practices and policies that support the prevention of ACEs with the legislature and community through the state's first ACEs Awareness Day.
- **Policy Cohort:** The GAI brought together network participants for regular meetings to advance primary prevention policies across the states. This cohort included opportunities for regular policy updates, cross-sharing of policy priorities, and translating insights learned into actionable ideas.
- **Shared Resources:** Webinars and resources were developed in an effort to raise the awareness of the need for upstream policies and programs, mobilize PCA America's networks to become messengers and champions to educate state and federal lawmakers on the importance of policy solutions and investments, and provide a foundation of knowledge for how to translate insights for impact.