

*via electronic mail*

June 7, 2018

The Honorable Kirstjen M. Nielsen  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
3801 Nebraska Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20016

**Renewed Appeal from Experts in Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice and Child Development  
to Halt the Separation of Children from Parents at the Border**

Dear Secretary Nielsen:

We represent 540 organizations from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico that have well-recognized expertise in the fields of child welfare, juvenile justice and child health, development and safety. We first sent this letter to you on January 16, 2018 and resubmitted the letter on January 23, 2018 to include additional organizations. Since then, DHS implemented a systematic practice of separating children from their parents—as many as 658 children in just two weeks in May 2018<sup>1</sup>—and our ranks grew by more than 300 organizations.

**We write again today, after the formal implementation of practices to separate immigrant families, to renew our shared concern that your agency is harming children by taking them from their parents to deter or punish parents and children who come to our border seeking protection.** The separation of children from their parents to deter migration, or to punish migration, will have significant and long-lasting consequences for the safety, health, development, and well-being of children. We therefore urgently request that the Administration reverse course on its practice of separating families at the border.

Countless reports have documented that these families are fleeing persecution and violence in their countries, and come here seeking protection. While many come from Central American countries, the parents and children arrive at our border from all over the world, including countries in Africa, the Caribbean, South America, Asia, the Middle East and Europe.

Since early May, DHS in collaboration with the Department of Justice has routinely separated immigrant children from their parents and families. Parents may be placed in adult immigration detention centers and/or summarily deported, while their children are transferred to the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in facilities across the country—as far away as Illinois, Washington, New York, Florida, and Michigan. HHS bears the responsibility of caring for the traumatized children and finding suitable, alternative caregivers.

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<sup>1</sup> See Testimony of Richard Hudson, Deputy Chief of Operations Program for Customs and Border Protection (CBP) before Senate Judiciary Committee, May 23 (2018), available at <https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/meetings/tvpra-and-exploited-loopholes-affecting-unaccompanied-alien-children>.

The children could remain in government care for months or more than a year, during which time the continued separation from their parents would compound their trauma and the time it would take them to recover and return to a trajectory of good health and normal development. Nor does it make any sense to require the children to participate in a formal legal proceeding about their immigration case while separated from the parent who brought them here, who may have critical information—or the only information—about the child’s claim for protection.

There is overwhelming evidence that children need to be cared for by their parents to be safe and healthy, to grow and develop.<sup>2</sup> Likewise, there is ample evidence that separating children from their mothers or fathers leads to serious, negative consequences to children’s health and development.<sup>3</sup> Forced separation disrupts the parent-child relationship and puts children at increased risk for both physical and mental illness. Adverse childhood experiences—including the incarceration of a family member—are well-recognized precursors of negative health outcomes later in life.<sup>4</sup> And the psychological distress, anxiety, and depression associated with separation from a parent would follow the children well after the immediate period of separation—even after eventual reunification with a parent or other family. We are deeply concerned that recent agency actions institutionalize such harm by taking children from their parents as a matter of policy.

Family unity is a foundational principle of child welfare law. In order to grow and develop, children need to remain in the care of their parents where they are loved, nurtured and feel safe. Thus parents’ rights to the care and custody of their children are afforded particularly strong protection under the U.S. Constitution.<sup>5</sup> While parent-child relationships are generally the province of state law, federal law also recognizes the principle of family unity by providing strong incentives for states to keep children with their parents and to provide services to families to prevent separation and maintain family unity.<sup>6</sup> The administration’s current policies and practices eviscerate that principle.

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<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., American Psychological Assn, *Parents and Caregivers are Essential to Children’s Healthy Development*, available at <http://www.apa.org/pi/families/resources/parents-caregivers.aspx>.

<sup>3</sup> See, e.g., Sankaran, Vivek, Church, Christopher, “Easy Come, Easy Go: The Plight of Children Who Spend Less than 30 Days in Foster Care,” 19 U. Pa. J. L. Soc. Change 207 (2017) (identifying harms to children arising from even short-term separation from a parent’s custody as a result of state action); and Zayas LH, Aguilar-Gaxiola S, Yoon H, Rey GN, “The Distress of Citizen-Children with Detained and Deported Parents,” *J. Child & Fam. Studies*, 2015; 24(11):3213-3223 (the arrest and separation of parents “serve[s] only to complete the trauma, and the certain detrimental impact on the children’s mental health.”).

<sup>4</sup> See, e.g., Dube SR, Cook ML, Edwards VJ, Health-related Outcomes of Adverse Childhood Experiences in Texas, 2002, *Prev Chronic Dis.*, 2010; 7(3):A52, available at [http://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2010/may/09\\_0158.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2010/may/09_0158.htm).

<sup>5</sup> See, e.g., *Santosky v. Kramer*, 455 U.S. 745, 753 (1982) (a parent’s right to the care and custody of her child is a fundamental liberty interest).

<sup>6</sup> See U.S. Dep’t of Health and Human Services, Children’s Bureau, Child Welfare Information Gateway, *Reasonable Efforts to Preserve or Reunify Families and Achieve Permanency for Children*, (March 2016), available at <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/reunify.pdf> (“Federal law has long required State agencies to demonstrate that reasonable efforts have been made to provide assistance and services to prevent the removal of a child from his or her home.”).

For all of these reasons, we urge you to abandon current policies and practices that systematically separate children from their families absent evidence that a specific parent posed a threat to the safety and well-being of his or her child, as required by the laws of all 50 states. Should you have any questions about the serious concerns raised in this letter, or wish to respond to us directly, please contact MaryLee Allen, Director of Policy, Children's Defense Fund at [mallen@childrensdefense.org](mailto:mallen@childrensdefense.org).

Sincerely,

**National Organizations**

Adopt America Network  
Adoption Exchange Association  
Alliance for Early Success  
Alliance for Strong Families and Communities  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American College of Physicians  
American Pediatric Association  
American Pediatric Society  
American Psychological Association  
Association of Children's Residential Centers  
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs  
Boys Town  
BUILD Initiative  
Campaign for Youth Justice  
Casa de Esperanza: National Latin@ Network for Healthy Families and Communities  
Center for Children's Law and Policy  
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)  
Center for the Study of Social Policy  
Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University  
Child Care Aware of America  
Child First, Inc.  
Child Welfare League of America  
Children and Family Futures  
Children's Advocacy Institute  
Children's Defense Fund  
Children's Law Center  
Children's Home Society of America  
Coalition for Juvenile Justice  
Community Catalyst  
Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption  
Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children  
Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund  
Dorothy Day Catholic Worker  
Every Child Matters  
Every Mother is a Working Mother Network  
Family Focused Treatment Association

Family Voices  
Field Center for Children's Policy, Practice & Research  
First Focus  
First Star Institute  
Foster Care Alumni of America  
FosterClub  
Futures Without Violence  
Generations United  
Georgetown University Center for Children and Families  
Girls, Inc.  
HEAL Trafficking  
Healthy Teen Network  
Institute for Child Success  
Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative  
Justice Policy Institute  
Juvenile Law Center  
MomsRising  
National Alliance of Children's Trust Funds  
National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum  
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health  
National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)  
National Association of Counsel for Children  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Center for Child Abuse Statistics & Policy  
National Center for Housing and Child Welfare  
National Center for Parent Leadership, Advocacy, and Community Empowerment  
National Center for Youth Law  
National Center on Adoption and Permanency  
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
National Crittenton Foundation  
National Domestic Violence Hotline  
National Family Preservation Network (NFPN)  
National Indian Child Welfare Association  
National Juvenile Defender Center  
National Juvenile Justice Network  
National Migrant Seasonal Head Start Association (NMSHSA)  
National Network for Youth (NN4Y)  
National Respite Coalition  
National Scientific Council on the Developing Child  
National Youth Advocate Program (NYAP)  
New America Education Policy Program  
North American Council on Adoptable Children  
PACER Center  
Partnership for America's Children  
Pediatric Policy Council

Ray E. Helfer Society  
 RISE  
 Robert F Kennedy Children's Action Corps  
 School Social Work Association of America  
 SchoolHouse Connection (SHC)  
 Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine  
 Society for Pediatric Research (SPR)  
 The Children's Village  
 The Sentencing Project  
 UNICEF USA  
 Voice for Adoption  
 W. Haywood Burns Institute  
 Within Our Reach  
 Year Up  
 Youth Advocate Programs (YAP)  
 Youth Catalytics  
 Youth Law Center  
 ZERO TO THREE

### **State and Local Organizations**

#### Alabama

- Alabama Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
- Alabama Institute for Social Justice
- First 5 Alabama
- VOICES for Alabama Children

#### Alaska

- Alaska Children's Trust
- Northern and Interior Alaska Association for the Education of Young Children (NIAAEYC)
- Northwest Resource Associates
- Presbyterian Hospitality House

#### Arizona

- A New Leaf
- American Academy of Pediatrics – Arizona Chapter
- Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children (AzAEYC)
- Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence
- Arizona Council of Human Service Providers

#### (Arizona continued)

- Arizona Legal Women and Youth Services (ALWAYS)
- Child and Family Resources
- Children's Action Alliance
- Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – Arizona Chapter
- National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence – Phoenix
- Prevent Child Abuse Arizona
- Southern Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children (SAZAEYC)
- Southwest Key Programs

#### Arkansas

- Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families (AACF)
- Arkansas Association for Infant Mental Health (AAIMH)
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – Arkansas Chapter

## California

- American Academy of Pediatrics – California Chapter
- California Association for the Education of Young Children (CAAEYC)
- California Child Care Resource & Referral Network
- California Department of Social Services
- Casa Pacifica Centers for Children & Families
- Children Now
- Children’s Defense Fund – California (CDF-CA)
- Children’s Law Center of California
- Consortium for Children
- County Welfare Directors Association of California
- Family Violence Appellate Project
- Family Voices of California
- First 5 Association of California
- First 5 LA
- Harriet Buhai Center for Family Law
- Hillside
- Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity
- Kids in Common, a program of Planned Parenthood Mar Monte
- Legal Services for Children
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
- OneJustice
- Parent Voices
- San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program
- Southwest Key Programs
- Sunny Hills Services
- The Children’s Partnership
- The Law Foundation of Silicon Valley
- University of California, Berkeley Center for the Study of Child Care Employment
- VOICES Youth Centers
- Wayfinder Family Services
- Youth Justice Coalition

## Colorado

- American Academy of Pediatrics – Colorado Chapter
- Clayton Early Learning
- Colorado Association for Infant Mental Health (COAIMH)
- Colorado Children’s Campaign
- Colorado Office of the Alternate Defense Counsel
- Colorado Office of the Child’s Representative
- Colorado Juvenile Defender Center (CJDC)
- Rocky Mountain Children’s Law Center
- The Adoption Exchange

## Connecticut

- All Our Kin
- Center for Children’s Advocacy, Inc.
- Children in Placement – CT, Inc.
- Connecticut Alliance of Foster and Adoptive Families, Inc
- Connecticut Association for Human Services
- Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance
- Connecticut Voices for Children
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – Connecticut Chapter
- National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Connecticut Chapter

## Delaware

- American Academy of Pediatrics – Delaware Chapter
- Girls Incorporated of Delaware

## Florida

- American Academy of Pediatrics – Florida Chapter
- Florida Health Justice Project
- Florida Policy Institute
- Florida’s Children First
- Heartland for Children
- Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, Inc.
- One Hope United
- Sant La Haitian Neighborhood Center
- Southwest Key Programs
- University of Miami School of Law Children and Youth Law Clinic

## Georgia

- CHRIS 180
- Families First
- Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students (GEARS)
- Quality Care for Children
- Voices for Georgia's Children

## Hawaii

- EPIC ‘Ohana
- Hawaii Association for the Education of Young Children (HIAEYC)
- Hawaii Children’s Action Network (HCAN)

## Idaho

- Idaho Association for Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health (AIM Early Idaho)
- Idaho Parents Unlimited, Inc.

## Illinois

- A Safe Place
- AIDS Foundation of Chicago
- Allendale Association
- Alternatives, Inc.
- American Academy of Pediatrics - Illinois Chapter
- Arden Shore Child and Family Services
- Bethany for Children & Families
- Beyond the Baby Blues

## (Illinois continued)

- Center on Halsted
- Chicago Children's Advocacy Center
- Chicago Survivors
- Children’s Place Association
- Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of Illinois
- Community Crisis Center, Inc.
- Connections for Abused Women and their Children (CAWC)
- Duane Dean Behavioral Health Services
- East Side Aligned
- Elgin Partnership of Early Learning
- Erickson Institute
- Erie Neighborhood House
- Esperanza Health Centers
- EverThrive Illinois
- Family Focus
- Forefront
- Foster Care Alumni of America-Illinois Chapter
- Heartland Human Care Services
- HOPE of Ogle County
- Hoyleton Youth & Family Services
- Illinois Action for Children
- Illinois AfterSchool Network
- Illinois Association for Infant Mental Health (ILAIMH)
- Illinois Association for the Education of Young Children (Illinois AEYC)
- Illinois Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (ILAECTE)
- Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities
- Illinois Childhood Trauma Coalition
- Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Illinois Collaboration on Youth
- Illinois Head Start
- Illinois Partners for Human Service
- Illinois PTA
- Illinois Public Health Association
- Illinois Public Health Institute
- Instituto del Progreso Latino
- Jewish Child and Family Services
- Juvenile Justice Initiative of Illinois

### (Illinois continued)

- Juvenile Protective Association
- Kaleidoscope
- Legal Council for Health Justice
- Leslie Bates Davis Neighborhood House, Inc.
- Loyola University Chicago Civitas Childlaw Center
- Mano a Mano Family Resource Center
- Maryville Academy
- Metropolitan Family Services
- Mid Central Community Action, Inc.
- National Alliance on Mental Illness Chicago (NAMI Chicago)
- National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Illinois Chapter
- One Hope United
- Ounce of Prevention Fund
- Puentes de Esperanza
- Rincon Family Services
- Safe Passage
- Starfish Family Homes
- Stopping Woman Abuse Now (SWAN)
- The Baby Fold
- Thresholds
- Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities
- Voices for Illinois Children
- Youth Employment Coalition
- YMCA Sauk Valley
- YWCA of Elgin

### Indiana

- Family Voices Indiana
- Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children (Indiana AEYC)
- Indiana Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children
- Marion County Commission on Youth, Inc.
- The Villages of Indiana, Inc.

### Iowa

- Bethany for Children & Families
- Child and Family Policy Center
- Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children (Iowa AEYC)
- Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV)
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – Iowa Chapter
- YSS

### Kansas

- Alliance for Childhood Education
- Children’s Alliance of Kansas
- El Centro
- Foster Adopt Connect
- Kansas Action for Children
- Kansas Appleseed
- Kansas Association for the Education of Young Children
- Kansas Head Start Association
- Saint Francis Community Services
- United Community Services of Johnson County

### Kentucky

- Juvenile Restorative Justice, Inc.
- Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Kentucky Chapter
- Omni Visions

### Louisiana

- Agenda for Children
- American Academy of Pediatrics - Louisiana Chapter
- Families and Friends of Louisiana’s Incarcerated Children
- Kingsley House
- Louisiana Policy Institute for Children



## Maine

- American Academy of Pediatrics - Maine Chapter
- Community Concepts, Inc.
- Helping Hands with Heart
- Maine Association of Psychiatric Physicians
- Maine Children's Alliance
- Maine Community Action Association
- Maine Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists
- Maine Resilience Building Network (MRBN)
- Tri-County Mental Health Services

## Maryland

- Advocates for Children and Youth
- Identity, Inc.
- Maryland Family Network
- Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services

## Massachusetts

- Association for Behavioral Health Care
- Children's Law Center of Massachusetts
- Children's Mental Health Campaign
- Citizens for Juvenile Justice
- Committee for Public Counsel Services
- Communities for People (CFP)
- Health Law Advocates
- Lower Roxbury Coalition
- Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange
- Massachusetts Association for the Education of Young Children (MassAEYC)
- Massachusetts Law Reform Institute (MLRI)
- Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – Massachusetts Chapter
- National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Massachusetts Chapter
- Parent/Professional Advocacy League (PPAL)

## Massachusetts

- Strategies for Children (SFC)
- The Children's League of Massachusetts
- Whittier Street Health Center

## Michigan

- Heartland Human Care Services
- Methodist Children's Home Society
- Michigan DEC
- Michigan's Children
- National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Michigan Chapter

## Minnesota

- AspireMN
- Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare at the University of Minnesota
- Children's Law Center of Minnesota
- Minnesota Association for the Education of Young Children & MN School-Age Care Alliance
- Minnesota CEC/DEC
- National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Minnesota Chapter
- North Homes Children and Family Services

## Mississippi

- American Academy of Pediatrics - Mississippi Chapter
- Mississippi Coalition Against Domestic Violence (MCADV)
- Mississippi Low Income Child Care Initiative

## Missouri

- Alliance for Childhood Education
- American Academy of Pediatrics - Missouri Chapter
- Foster Adopt Connect
- One Hope United

## Montana

- Child Care Resources

### Nebraska

- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – Midwest Chapter (Nebraska)
- PromiseShip
- Saint Francis Community Services
- Voices for Children in Nebraska

### Nevada

- ACTIONN
- Children’s Advocacy Alliance
- Community Chest, Inc
- Family to Family Connection, ISD 13
- Foster Change
- Foster Kinship
- Hispanic Caucus
- Make it Work Nevada
- Make the Road Nevada
- Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence
- Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada (PLAN)
- The Foster and Adoption Coalition of Nevada
- The Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada
- The Adoption Exchange
- The Hills Preschool

### New Hampshire

- American Academy of Pediatrics - New Hampshire Chapter
- Girls Incorporated of New Hampshire
- New Hampshire Association for the Education of Young Children (NHAEYC)

### New Jersey

- Advocates for Children of New Jersey
- Bridges to Learning
- Family Voices New Jersey
- National Association of Social Workers (NASW) New Jersey Chapter
- New Jersey Association for the Education of Young Children (NJAEYC)

### New Jersey

- New Jersey Parents Caucus, Inc
- NMCAN
- SPAN Parent Advocacy Network
- The Children 's Home Society of New Jersey

### New Mexico

- All Faiths Children’s Advocacy Center
- American Academy of Pediatrics – New Mexico Chapter
- Brindle Foundation
- National Association of Social Workers (NASW) New Mexico Chapter
- New Mexico Voices for Children

### New York

- All Our Kin
- American Academy of Pediatrics – New York Chapter 3
- ANDRUS
- Association to Benefit Children
- Bronx Defenders
- Brooklyn Defender Services
- Catholic Charities Community Maternity Services
- Center for Children’s Initiatives
- Center for Family Representation
- Child and Family Services
- Child Welfare Organizing Project
- Children’s Aid
- Children’s Defense Fund – New York
- Citizens' Committee for Children of New York, Inc.
- Coalition for Asian American Children and Families
- Council of Family and Child Caring Agencies
- Forestdale, Inc.
- JCCA
- Jewish Board
- Martin de Porres Group Homes
- MercyFirst
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – Greater New York Chapter

(New York continued)

- New York Association for the Education of Young Children (NYAEYC)
- New York City Administration for Children's Services
- New York State Association for Infant Mental Health
- Northern River Family of Services
- NYCOAC
- Sanctuary for Families
- Schuyler Center for Analysis & Advocacy Southwest Key Programs
- Society for the Care and Protection of Children
- The Children's Agenda
- Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation

North Carolina

- Alexander Youth Network
- Children First/Communities in Schools of Buncombe County
- Children's Homes of Iredell County, Inc.
- Child Care Services Association
- Monarch
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – North Carolina Chapter
- NC Child
- North Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children (NCAEYC)
- North Carolina Pediatric Society
- Omni Visions
- Southlight HealthCare
- Timber Ridge Treatment Center, Inc.
- YWCA of Asheville

North Dakota

- Family Voices of North Dakota
- Pride Inc., Pride Manchester, Inc., Pride Wilton, Inc.

Ohio

- Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE)
- Children's Defense Fund – Ohio
- Justice for Children Project, Moritz College of Law
- Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children (Ohio AEYC)
- Ohio Domestic Violence Network
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – Ohio Chapter
- The Ohio Division for Early Childhood

Oklahoma

- American Academy of Pediatrics - Oklahoma Chapter
- Oklahoma Association for the Education of Young Children
- Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy
- Saint Francis Community Services

Oregon

- Children First for Oregon
- Oregon Pediatric Society
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – Oregon Chapter
- Northwest Resource Associates
- Youth, Rights and Justice

Pennsylvania

- Pennsylvania Association for the Education of Young Children (PennAEYC)
- Pennsylvania Chapter of DEC
- Public Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY)
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – Pennsylvania/Delaware Valley Chapter
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – Pennsylvania/Three Rivers Chapter
- Support Center for Child Advocates
- Three Rivers Adoption Council
- Trying Together
- Youth Service, Inc.

### Rhode Island

- Adoption Rhode Island
- Communities for People
- Rhode Island Association for the Education of Young Children (Rhode Island AEYC)
- Rhode Island Coalition for Children and Families
- Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
- St. Mary's Home for Children

### South Carolina

- American Academy of Pediatrics - South Carolina Chapter
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – South Carolina Chapter
- South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center
- South Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children (SCAEYC)
- South Carolina Infant Mental Health Association

### South Dakota

- American Academy of Pediatrics - South Dakota Chapter
- South Dakota Association for the Education of Young Children (SDAEYC)
- South Dakota Parent Connection

### Tennessee

- Black Children's Institute of Tennessee
- Harmony Family Center
- Nashville Area Association for the Education of Young Children (NAAEYC)
- National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Tennessee Chapter
- Omni Visions
- Tennessee Alliance for Children and Families
- Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth
- Tennessee Justice Center

### Texas

- Center for Public Policy Priorities
- CHILDREN AT RISK
- Children's Defense Fund - Texas
- Clarity Child Guidance Center
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – Austin, Texas Chapter
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – Greater Texas Chapter
- National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Texas Chapter
- Saint Francis Community Services
- Southwest Key Programs
- Texans Care for Children
- Texas Association for the Education of Young Children (Texas AEYC)
- Voices for Children of San Antonio

### Utah

- Children's Service Society
- The Adoption Exchange
- Utah Association for the Education of Young Children (UAEYC)
- Voices for Utah Children

### Vermont

- Let's Grow Kids
- Voices for Vermont's Children

### Virginia

- American Academy of Pediatrics - Virginia Chapter
- Legal Aid Justice Center
- Northern Virginia Association for the Education of Young Children (NVAEYC)
- Virginia Association for the Education of Young Children (VAAEYC)
- Virginia Poverty Law Center
- Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance

### Washington

- American Academy of Pediatrics – Washington Chapter
- Children’s Alliance
- Legal Counsel for Youth and Children
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – Washington Chapter
- Northwest Resource Associates
- Partners for our Children
- Treehouse
- Washington State Association of Head Start and ECEAP

### West Virginia

- American Academy of Pediatrics – West Virginia Chapter
- TEAM for West Virginia Children
- West Virginia Child Care Association
- West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence

### Wisconsin

- American Academy of Pediatrics – Wisconsin Chapter
- AVAIL, Inc.
- Community Referral Agency
- Embrace Services, Inc.
- End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin
- Family Advocates, Inc.
- Haven Inc.
- Kids Forward
- Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin
- Milwaukee Center for Children and Youth (MCCY)
- One Hope United
- People Against a Violent Environment, Inc. (PAVE)
- Rainbow House Domestic Abuse Services
- Southwest Key Programs
- Stepping Stones, Inc.
- Wisconsin Association of Family & Children's Agencies
- Wisconsin Early Childhood Association

### Wyoming

- American Academy of Pediatrics – Wyoming Chapter
- UPLIFT
- Wyoming Afterschool Alliance
- Wyoming Community Foundation

### Washington, D.C.

- Children's Law Center
- DC Association for the Education of Young Children (DCAEYC)
- Mary’s Center

### Puerto Rico

- Centro Pediátrico de Lactancia y Crianza
- Puerto Rico Association for the Education of Young Children
- Youth Development Institute of Puerto Rico