

March 9, 2022

The Honorable Ron Wyden Chairman Senate Finance Committee Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Neal Chairman House Ways and Means Committee Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone Chairman House Energy and Commerce Committee Washington DC 20515 The Honorable Mike Crapo Ranking Member Senate Finance Committee Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin Brady Ranking Member House Ways and Means Committee Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers Ranking Member House Energy and Commerce Committee Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Wyden, Ranking Member Crapo, Chairman Neal, Ranking Member Brady, Chairman Pallone, and Ranking Member McMorris Rodgers,

The undersigned national, state, and local organizations thank you for your past support of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV) and urge your support of a robust and timely reauthorization of the program by September 30, 2022.

The National Home Visiting Coalition is a diverse group of organizations committed to the well-being of children, united to promote federal support of home visiting to strengthen families in communities across the country. MIECHV is a federal grant program to states, territories, and Tribes that supports voluntary, evidence-based early childhood home visiting for families from pregnancy through kindergarten entry. Recognized as the gold standard for evidence-based policymaking, MIECHV-funded home visiting supports families by promoting interventions to improve maternal and infant health; creating connections between caregivers, the pediatric medical home, and other health practitioners in the community; providing screening for perinatal depression and connecting parents with appropriate community-based behavioral health care; supporting families in their child's early development and learning; providing referrals when certain risk factors, including trauma or domestic violence, are

present in the home; providing resources for children who experience trauma and toxic stress; targeting the social determinants of health affecting families, such as social support, parental stress, access to health care, income and poverty status, and environmental conditions; and helping families navigate complex community-based systems of supports.

MIECHV's range of models with demonstrated effectiveness allows communities to select the approach that best addresses their needs. This local flexibility, along with strong evidence of success, enables this program to consistently yield true bipartisan support. As you work together to reauthorize MIECHV, the National Home Visiting Coalition respectfully seeks the following:

1) Increase MIECHV funding over the next five years to reach more families and better support the workforce.

MIECHV has received no increase since reaching its current funding level almost a decade ago, despite being recognized across the aisle as a model for evidence-based policy. Level funding year over year – with cuts for sequestration - challenges MIECHV's ability to reach new families and ensure that home visitors earn a competitive wage. Pre-pandemic estimates showed MIECHV reached only three to five percent of eligible families each year. Statewide needs assessments required through the last MIECHV reauthorization have identified additional communities that would benefit from MIECHV, but those programs cannot be established without additional funding. Moreover, recruitment, retention, and high turnover of home visitors due to low wages, pose challenges to adequately serve families. To reach more eligible families and better serve the workforce primarily made up of women, the Home Visiting Coalition recommends scaling up MIECHV over the next five years with annual increases of \$200 million, arriving at a total of \$1.4 billion.

2) Double the Tribal set-aside.

Tribal MIECHV helps develop and strengthen tribal capacity to support and promote the health and wellbeing of families through home visiting in American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) communities, and support and strengthen cooperation and linkages between programs that serve tribal children and their families. Historical and ongoing inequities within AIAN communities have only been amplified by COVID-19. Currently, Tribal MIECHV receives \$12 million annually for the more than 600 eligible Tribes and Tribal-serving organizations. To address these inequities, the Home Visiting Coalition recommends doubling the tribal set-aside within MIECHV from three to six percent to reach more families in AIAN communities.

3) Continue to allow virtual home visiting with model fidelity as an option for service delivery.

In 2020, Congress allowed virtual home visits to count as home visits through MIECHV during the national health emergency, removing barriers to the provision of services due to health and safety concerns. Yet, virtual home visiting has demonstrated many additional benefits including greater flexibility in where, how, and when families can receive visits, and increased access in areas where families often lack an entrance point to quality maternal, infant, and early childhood programs, including

rural and frontier areas. The Home Visiting Coalition recommends that virtual home visiting implemented with model fidelity continue to be an allowable service delivery modality for families who choose it, as part of their receipt of comprehensive home visiting services.

Finally, timing is of the essence- the current MIECHV statute is slated to expire on September 30, 2022. It is imperative that MIECHV be reauthorized before it expires to avoid any lapse in programming. Likewise, a five-year reauthorization will provide stability and security to the field, further preventing any disruptions to the program.

The National Home Visiting Coalition and its state and local partners look forward to working with you to ensure a timely reauthorization that expands MIECHV to reach more families and better support the workforce. Thank you again for your ongoing support of MIECHV and the families who benefit from this essential program.

Sincerely,

2020 Mom African American Health Alliance AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families America Forward American Academy of Pediatrics American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs Association of State and Territorial Health Officials Association of State Public Health Nutritionists Attachment and Biobehavioral Catch-up (ABC) **Black Mamas Matter Alliance** Brazelton Touchpoints Project, Inc. **Center for American Progress** Center for the Economics of Human Development, The University of Chicago Center for the Study of Social Policy Centerstone, Early Childhood Services Child First Children's Advocacy Institute Children's Defense Fund **Children's Funding Project** Children's Rights Children's Trust Fund Alliance Child Welfare League of America **Coalition on Human Needs Community Prevention Partnership Council For a Strong America** Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC) **Education Development Center** Families USA Family Centered Treatment Foundation

Family Connects International First Five Years Fund First Focus Campaign for Children Forum for Youth Investment Foster Care Alumni of America **Futures Without Violence** HealthConnect One **Healthy Families America** Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY US) IDEA Infant and Toddler Coordinator's Association (ITCA) Institute For Child Success Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health Kempe Foundation Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc. March of Dimes **Melinated Moms** Mom Congress MomsRising National Association for Children's Behavioral Health National Association of Counsel for Children National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners National Association of Social Workers National Center on Adoption and Permanency National Council of Urban Indian Health National Diaper Bank Network National Family Support Network National Head Start Association National Indian Health Board National League for Nursing National Nurse-Led Care Consortium National Partnership for Women & Families National Prevention Science Coalition to Improve Lives National WIC Association National Women's Law Center Nemours Children's Health Network Lobby for Catholic Social Justice **Nurse-Family Partnership One Hope United** Parent-Child Relationship Programs at the Barnard Center Parents as Teachers Partnership for America's Children **Prevent Blindness** Prevent Child Abuse America RESULTS SafeCare Save the Children SchoolHouse Connection Social Current

Start Early The Family Focused Treatment Association The National Exchange Club Trust for America's Health United Way Worldwide Urban Health Collaborative ZERO TO THREE

### Alabama

Alabama Chapter-American Academy of Pediatrics Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education Alabama Network of Family Resource Centers VOICES for Alabama's Children

#### Alaska

Alaska Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics Alaska Children's Trust Best Beginnings Alaska

#### **American Samoa**

American Samoa MIECHV Program

#### Arizona

Arizona Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Arizona Council of Human Service Providers Children's Action Alliance Department of Child Safety Easterseals Blake Foundation Prevent Child Abuse Arizona Healthy Families America - Child and Family Resources Southwest Human Development

#### Arkansas

Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families Arkansas Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics Excel by Eight Healthy Connections Healthy Families America Arkansas

#### California

Antelope Valley Partners for Health Children Now Children's Institute Early Edge California El Sol Neighborhood Educational Center First 5 Association of California First 5 California First 5 Humboldt First 5 Kern First 5 LA First 5 Mariposa County First 5 Merced First 5 Mono County First 5 Riverside First 5 Santa Clara County First 5 Siskiyou Children and Families Commission First 5 Sonoma County First 5 Tehama First 5 Ventura County First 5 Yolo Children and Families Commission Folsom Cordova Community Partnership Hillsides John Burton Advocates for Youth LA Best Babies Network Pasadena Public Health Department Prevent Child Abuse California Sacramento County Department of Health Services, Department of Public Health SHIELDS for Families Solano County Sonoma County Department of Health Services Sutter County Children & Families Commission **Sycamores** Tehama County Department of Education The California Family Resource Association The Children's Partnership YWCA Greater Los Angeles

### Colorado

**Boulder County Public Health** Colorado Children's Campaign **Colorado Home Visiting Coalition** Empowering Communities Globally: For the Care of Children Engaged Latino Parents Advancing Students Outcomes (ELPASO) Family Visitor Programs **Focus Points** Healthy Child Care Colorado Healthy Families America Polk & Garland CO (Healthy Connections) Illuminate Colorado Invest in Kids Mile High United Way **Parent Possible Roots Family Center** San Luis Valley Area Health Education Center / HIPPY The Early Childhood Partnership of Adams County

#### Connecticut

Alliance for Family Support - Thames Valley Council for Community Action African Caribbean American Parents of Children with Disabilities, Inc. (AFCAMP) Branford Early Learning Center Children's Community Programs of CT Children's Learning Centers of Fairfield County

Connecticut Association for the Education of Young Children (CTAEYC)

Connecticut Children's Alliance

Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance

**Connecticut Voices for Children** 

Day Kimball Healthcare

Early Childhood Higher Education Collaborative

East Shore District Health Department Nurturing Families Network

Exchange Club Center

EdAdvance Parents as Teachers

Families Network of Western CT, Inc.

Family & Children's Aid

Family Centered Services of CT

Family Enrichment Center

Family Life Education

Family Strides, Inc.

Hamden Adult Education

Help for Kids

Hudson Country Montessori School

Madonna Place

McCall Center for Behavioral Health

Norwalk Early Childhood Council

Nurturing Families Network Day Kimball

**Odyssey Achievement Program** 

RVNAhealth

The Hospital of Central Connecticut - Family Enrichment Center

The Village for Families and Children

TVCCA, Inc.

Wheeler Clinic

## **District of Columbia**

DC Action Rebuilding Independence My Style

### Delaware

Children & Families First Delaware Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics Prevent Child Abuse Delaware Rodel

### Florida

Broward Healthy Start Coalition Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Florida Health Justice Project Florida Voices for Health Florida's MIECHV Program / Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions Healthy Start Coalition of Santa Rosa County, Inc. Northeast Florida Healthy Start Coalition Northeast Florida Nurse-Family Partnership Okeechobee Healthy Start Coalition

### Georgia

Brightpaths Coastal Coalition for Children Family Support Council, Inc. GEEARS: Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students Healthy Families Crisp Healthy Families Houston County

#### Hawaii

Hawaii's Children Action Network Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Center Parents And Children Together

#### Idaho

Idaho Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Idaho Voices for Children Panhandle Health District Prevent Child Abuse Idaho

#### Illinois

Abilities Plus Carle Health Carole Robertson Center for Learning Children's Home & Aid COFI & Power-PAC IL **Cornerstone Foundations for Families DuPage County Health Department Erie Neighborhood House Erikson Institute** EveryChild Family Focus **Firman Community Services Healthy Families Illinois Kids Above All** Livingston County Health Department HFI Lyons School District 103 Metropolitan Family Services **OHO** and Associates Prevent Child Abuse Illinois Provincial Council Clerics of St. Viator

The Children's Center of Cicero Berwyn YWCA Metropolitan Chicago YWCA Northwestern Illinois

### Indiana

Brightpoint CAPS DJ Center for Youth, Inc Early Care Consultants Family Services & Prevention Programs Goodwill Industries of Michiana HealthNet Healthy Families Heathier Moms and Babies Indiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Indiana Hospital Association IU Health Lutheran Social Services of Indiana New Hope Services, Inc. - Healthy Families Nurse-Family Partnership of Goodwill of Central and Southern Indiana United Way of Allen County

#### lowa

Common Good Iowa Genesis VNA/ Clinton and Jackson PH Iowa Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Kossuth County C.A.R.E Team League of Women Voters Iowa Linn County Early Childhood Iowa Lutheran Services in Iowa Prevent Child Abuse Iowa

#### Kansas

**City-Cowley County Health Department Crawford County Health Department** Delivering Change, Inc. **Greenbush Parents as Teachers Greenwood County Health Department** Jefferson County Health Department, Home Health and Hospice Kansas Action for Children Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition Kansas Children's Service League - Healthy Families Kansas City Kansas Parents as Teachers Kansas Department for Children and Families Kansas Department of Health and Environment Kansas Parents as Teachers Kansas Parents as Teachers Association My Family My Family Labette

My Family Montgomery and Wilson Counties Project Eagle Reno County Health Department Saline County Health Department/Maternal Child Health The Family Conservancy Turner School Parents as Teachers Unified Government Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas Public Health Department USD 445 Parents as Teachers Wichita Children's Home

## Kentucky

Kentucky Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky Save the Children Action Network

## Louisiana

Kingsley House Louisiana CASA Association Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families Louisiana Policy Institute for Children Power Coalition for Equity and Justice

#### Maine

Council for a Strong America Maine Maine Association for the Education of Young Children Maine Children's Alliance Maine Children's Trust Maine Community Action Partnership

### Maryland

Frederick County Health Care Coalition Healthy Families Baltimore County Healthy Families Washington County Maryland Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics Maryland Family Network Montgomery County Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, Inc.

#### Massachusetts

Child Care of the Berkshires, Inc Children's Trust Children's League of Massachusetts Community Action Pioneer Valley Health Imperatives Healthy Families Central Middlesex of JF&CS Healthy Families Harbor Area Healthy Families Massachusetts-North Worcester County Kennedy-Donovan Center Healthy Families Massachusetts Citizens for Children MelroseWakefield Healthcare, Inc. MV Catholic Charities Southeast Massachusetts Council on Advocacy Square One Wayside Youth & Family Support Network

## Michigan

Catholic Charities West Michigan Comprehensive Youth Services, Inc. District Health Department #10 Family Futures Health Department of Northwest Michigan (HDNW) Healthy Families America Wayne Program Michigan Council for Maternal and Child Health Michigan Family Voices Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) Starfish Nurse-Family Partnership

### Minnesota

Minnesota AAP Early Childhood Working Group Minnesota Coalition for Family Home Visiting Saint Paul-Ramsey County Public Health West Central Initiative

Mississippi Mississippi Low-Income Child Care Initiative

## Missouri

A Red Circle Brighter Beginnings Home Visitation Collaborative Children's Mercy Community Partnership of the Ozarks Easterseals Midwest FamilyForward Generate Health STL Healthy Families of Randolph County MO. Missouri Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics The Alliance of Southwest Missouri United Way of Greater Kansas City Unleashing Potential

### Montana

Billings Exchange Clubs' Child Abuse Prevention Center - The Family Tree Center Community Health Partners Healthy Communities Coalition Mineral County Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies, The Montana Coalition, Inc. Lewis and Clark Public Health RiverStone Health

#### Zero to Five Montana

#### Nebraska

First Five Nebraska Healthy Families Nebraska Panhandle Nebraska Children and Families Foundation Nebraska Children's Home Society Nebraska Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics Public Health Solutions - Healthy Families America

### Nevada

Children's Advocacy Alliance Nevada Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics University of Nevada Reno

#### **New Hampshire**

Waypoint

### **New Jersey**

Acenda Integrated Health Adam and Danielle's Children's Center Adirondack Birth to Three Alliance Advocates for Children of New Jersey **Barat Foundation** Bergen County Office for Children **Bergen Family Center - HIPPY** Care Plus NJ Caring for Kids Center for Autism and Early Childhood Mental Health Center For Family Services / Healthy Families Central Jersey Family Healthy Consortium **Child Care Resources** Child Wellness Institute Children On the Green Children's Day Preschool and Family Center Children's Home Society of NJ **Community Child Care Solutions** Cumberland County Health Department **Destiny Family Child Care** embrella. Embracing & Empowering Families Family Based Services Association of NJ Family Connections Inc. Gateway C.A.P. Early Head Start - Head Start **Georgian Court University** Gilmore Memorial Preschool, Inc. **Glassboro Child Development Centers** Hannah Preschool Happy Today & Bright Tomorrow

Harmony FSC Healthy Families Cape May, NJ HOPES CAP Inc. Kiddie World Daycare Longbeach Island Community Center Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ) Mercer Street Friends Montclair Child Development Centers, Inc. New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies, Inc. (NJAMHAA) New Jersey Citizen Action New Jersey Department of Children and Families New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute New Life Child Care Learning Center Newark Trust for Education NJ Coalition on Oral Health Access for Special Needs Groups New Jersey Society of Public Health Education (NJSOPHE) Parents as Teachers Passaic County Parents As Teachers Union County NJ Partnership for Maternal & Child Health of Northern New Jersey Paterson Alliance Paterson Education Fund Preferred Behavioral Health Group Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey Project Self-Sufficiency Puerto Rican Action Board (PRAB) Quality Care Services, Inc. Ruby's Vision, Inc. Scribbles Learning Center Second Street Youth Center Southern New Jersey Perinatal Cooperative St. Francis Community Center The Gloucester Learning Academy The Honey Bee Foundation Union City Day Care Program United Way of Central Jersey Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey, Children & Family Health Institute Wish U Was A Child WTCARES YCS Nurse-Family Partnership **YCS** Parents as Teachers

## **New Mexico**

Early Childhood Center of Excellence First Born Program of Los Alamos, NM La Clinica de Familia Early Head Start LANL Foundation New Mexico Pediatric Society New Mexico Voices for Children Northwest New Mexico First Born University of New Mexico Center for Development and Disability

#### **New York**

**Blue Skies Consultation** Bronxworks **Buffalo Prenatal Perinatal Network** Child & Family Resources, Inc. Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. **Child Development Council Comprehensive Interdisciplinary Development Services Dutchess County Healthy Families** Early Childhood Alliance Onondaga Friends of New York City Nurse-Family Partnership Healthy Families Jefferson County Morris Heights Health Center New York State Citizen Review Panels for Child Protective Services Society for the Protection & Care of Children (SPCC) Postpartum Resource Center of New York Prevent Child Abuse New York **Public Health Solutions** Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy The Children's Agenda United Way of Greater Rochester and the Finger Lakes Westchester Children's Association

## North Carolina

Blue Ridge Healthy Families Catawba Valley Healthy Families Child Care Services Association Family Resource Center South Atlantic Goldsboro Pediatrics Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina Think Babies NC Alliance

#### North Dakota

Foundation for a Healthy North Dakota Prevent Child Abuse North Dakota

#### Ohio

Butler County Educational Service Center Every Child Succeeds Friendly Inn Settlement Groundwork Ohio Healthy Families Wayne and Ashland County Help Me Grow Help Me Grow Brighter Futures Pike Board of DD PrimaryOne Health Public Children Services Association of Ohio Integrated Services for Behavioral Health

#### Oklahoma

CAP Tulsa Frontline Family Solutions Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Parent Promise/Prevent Child Abuse Oklahoma The Parent Child Center of Tulsa (PCCT)

## Oregon

Children's Institute Community Action Team, Northwest Oregon Healthy Families Healthy Families – Community Action Impact NW Insights Healthy Families Metropolitan Family Services Multnomah County Health Department Our Children Oregon UCAN Healthy Families UMHS, Inc.

#### Pennsylvania

Children's Advocacy Center of Lawrence Co., Inc. CHOP PolicyLab Community Action Partnership of Lancaster – Parents as Teachers Erie County Department of Health Greene County Family Center Healthy Family Partnership Maternity Care Coalition OCCCDA Pennsylvania Council of Churches Pennsylvania Head Start Association Pennsylvania Parents as Teachers State Office Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children PHMC and Philadelphia Nurse-Family Partnership The Guidance Center, Parents as Teachers Trying Together

#### **Puerto Rico**

Grupo Nexos Healthy Families of Puerto Rico Puerto Rico Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics

## **Rhode Island**

Blackstone Valley Community Action Program Children's Friend

Comprehensive Community Action Program (CCAP) Connecting for Children and Families East Bay Community Action Program Family Service of Rhode Island Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Rhode Island American Academy of Pediatrics Right from the Start Campaign South County Home Health

## **South Carolina**

Carolina Health Centers, Inc. Children's Trust of South Carolina Fact Forward Family Connection of South Carolina Medical University of South Carolina / Healthy Families Charleston, Berkeley, and Dorchester Counties McLeod Nurse-Family Partnership South Carolina Infant Mental Health Association

## South Dakota

South Dakota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

## Tennessee

Centerstone Early Childhood Services Consilience Group Early Matters Chattanooga Nurture the Next The Stephens Center The Center for Family Development

### Texas

Lumin Education Madonna Center, Inc. Texans Care for Children Texas Pediatric Society TexProtects United Way of Metropolitan Dallas United Way of the Coastal Bend

## Utah

American Academy of Pediatrics, Utah Chapter (UTAAP) Children's Service Society of Utah Early Childhood Alliance

### Vermont

American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter Building Bright Futures State Advisory Council Early Care and Learning Partnership, Inc. Lamoille Family Center Vermont Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance Vermont Family Network Vermont Parent/Child Center Network

### Virginia

**Child Development Resources Child Health Partnership** CHIP of the New River Valley Department of Human Services - City of Newport News Early Impact Virginia Families Forward Virginia **Family Lifeline** Healthy Families Danville - Pittsylvania **Healthy Families Page County Healthy Families Virginia Newport News Healthy Families** NNDHS Nurse-Family Partnership Western Tidewater NVFS (Healthy Family Arlington) People Incorporated of Virginia Smart Beginnings Danville Pittsylvania Smart Beginnings Virginia Peninsula Social Action Linking Together (SALT) Thrive Peninsula Virginia Head Start Association, Inc.

### Washington

Barnard Center Children's Alliance Parent Child Relationship Programs, University of Washington School of Nursing Partners for Our Children Rebuilding Independence My Style Start Early Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

#### West Virginia

Allegheny Highlands PAT Amplify Empathy Mountain State Healthy Families Partners in Community Outreach REACHH - Family Resource Center TEAM for West Virginia Children, Inc.

### Wisconsin

Children's Wisconsin Fond du Lac Area United Way Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. Healthy Families of Burnett County Healthy Families Northwoods - Children's WI Supporting Families Together Association United Way of Door County United Way of Northern Ozaukee, Inc. United Way of Portage County United Way of Portage County United Way of Wisconsin Wisconsin Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (WIAAP) Wisconsin Early Childhood Association

# Wyoming

Wyoming Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics