



## **Philanthropy Engagement Project (PEP): Partnership Expectations and Deliverables**

The Alliance for Early Success is a catalyst for bringing state, national, and funding partners together to improve advocacy and state policies for children, starting at birth and continuing through age eight. The foundation partners investing in the Alliance understand that state-based philanthropy is a critical element of advocacy success in state capitols. Partnership is a hallmark of the Alliance, and we look to our grantees and state/national foundation partners to inform and guide our work.

Many foundations support early childhood programs and direct services, but most grantmakers do not support policy and advocacy to sustain and expand them. We want to change the way more private funders think about and engage in public policy. We support PEP to provide education, training, technical assistance, and peer learning based on the successful model of the Texas Education Grantmakers Advocacy Consortium (TEGAC) in Texas.

The Alliance is excited and gratified that so many foundations and philanthropists are interested in the work of the PEP. In the interest of transparency, clarity, and partnership, following are the goals and commitments we are making to all PEP partners. These are followed by the actions expected from PEP partners.

### **The goals of PEP are clear and focused:**

1. To increase the number of philanthropies investing in state-level early childhood advocacy
2. To increase the amount of resources - both human and financial - that philanthropies invest in state-level early childhood advocacy

### **Commitments by the Alliance for Early Success:**

The Alliance is respectful of all foundations and grantmaker associations participating in the PEP. We are committed to providing leadership and supports that help philanthropic leaders understand, support, and participate in early childhood advocacy consistent with legal and foundation rules and guidelines. The Alliance will:

- Provide evidence-based policies as a guiderail for PEP partners to select and gear their advocacy towards from the Alliance for Early Success Birth through Eight State Policy Framework

- Conduct in-depth research of foundations in each state to assess and record interests, priorities, and previous advocacy-related activities
- Create and support a peer learning network of foundations across the country to provide support and the chance to share best practices
- Provide ongoing technical assistance through TEGAC and as requested by philanthropy partners
- Support the creation and start-up of affinity groups, including Health and Early Childhood Education, within PEP to help participants focus their advocacy
- Provide mini-grants to support state-level coalition-building and initial advocacy activities on a case by case basis

**Actions from PEP Partners:**

In order to reach the goals, the following actions are expected from all partners in the PEP project. Participating foundations will:

- Maintain a clear focus on advocacy in support of the early childhood policy goals included in the Birth through Eight State Policy Framework
- Partner with foundations in your state to create a joint funding collaborative that supports research and advocacy to reach state policy goals and PEP goals
- Identify and help recruit additional foundations and associations that can enhance the partnership and progress of your state PEP coalitions
- Participate in advocacy activities that can include: investing in and increasing investment in research/communication/advocacy through grantmaking; foundation trustees/board members/leaders participating in advocacy activities
- Participate in the PEP national Peer Learning Network activities and events
- Participate in Alliance research and evaluation efforts e.g. assessing philanthropic interests and priorities, monitoring progress of the PEP in achieving the goals

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