

From: Alliance for Early Success <alliance@earlysuccess.org>

Subject: In case you missed it

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Hello Wendy,

It's a busy time! You may still be deep in legislative session or out meeting other advocates in your state or—hopefully—planning for a little summer downtime. For whatever the reason, you might have missed some of the interesting and useful advocacy news and resources that have come across the network in the past few weeks.

News from the States

Lots of states are making important progress on early childhood policy and advocacy development. Take a look at a few:

Virginia: [Advocates' Policy Wins Bring New Support for Virginia's Children and Kinship Caregivers](#)

New Mexico: [Coalition Wins Guaranteed Income Pilot for New Mexico's Immigrant Families](#)

Michigan: [Allies Advance Permanent Policy Solutions to Address Maternal Health Equity in Michigan](#)

Massachusetts: [Allies in Massachusetts Show the Power of a Big, Trust-Based Coalition](#)

Texas: [Communications Strategy Was Center Stage in Texas Advocates' Win of Postpartum Medicaid Extension](#)

Webinar Recording: Implementing Doula Coverage





If you missed the high-energy, information-packed webinar moderated by Elephant Circle, you missed a good one. Doulas and other maternal health experts shared a lot of important guidance on staying true to the doula model, and we heard from advocates from **Oregon, Rhode Island, and Missouri** about the implementation experience in their states. You can [get all the resources or watch the recording here](#).

Speaking of doulas, we were excited that the Alliance's own Annette Richards helped us celebrate [Black Maternal Health Week](#) by reflecting on the impact of having doulas present at the birth of her grandchildren. Check out her story: [Celebrating Black Maternal Health Week: Doulas for My Daughters—and Me!](#)

Newly Updated 50-State Child Care and Preschool Data

If you didn't see it last week, the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) released [the 2023 State of Preschool Yearbook](#). Each year, the yearbook provides critical insights into the current landscape of preschool education in America. This year's report shows that state pre-k programs have demonstrated remarkable resilience, with enrollment, spending, and quality standards reaching new highs in 2022-2023. Each state is ranked on access, funding, and quality benchmarks. [How does your state stack up?](#)

NIEER has added a new [Data Explorer](#) to the yearbook this year, which helps users of the yearbook make comparisons of state pre-k programs across states and years.

Child Care Aware of America also unveiled a [state policy dashboard](#) that was created to help state and national partners track state progress and have a better understanding of how states are building more equitable, accessible, and affordable child care systems. This resource also contains a profile for each state. CCoA is continually updating the dashboard throughout 2024.

New Early Childhood Equity Resources

Our [Equity and Advocacy Resource Center](#) has links to several new resources, including:

- Child Trends' [100-Year Review of Research on Black Families](#)
 - The Bipartisan Policy Center's [Invisible Children, Invisible Families: A Blueprint for Supporting the Child Care Needs of American Indian and Alaska Native Families](#)
 - The National Research Center on Hispanic Children & Families' [Understanding Latino Children and Families' Well-being Requires Data Disaggregated by Birth Within or Outside the United States](#)
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Has Your Organization Joined the NCIT?

The [National Collaborative for Children and Toddlers](#) (NCIT) is an education and advocacy movement made up of [state and national organizations](#) that helps them work together to improve the health and well-being of infants, toddlers, their families, and caregivers. There's no cost [to join](#), and they offer all kinds of advocacy toolkits and resources.

Next month, NCIT is marking [MAY all Babies Thrive! Month](#). May will be for coordinating to "raise the alarm" for needed investments and policies impacting infants and toddlers. Member organizations have access to a toolkit for the month and can also include their events in the *May All Babies Thrive! Month* calendar.

Day Without Child Care is May 13

Speaking of May happenings, May 13 is the annual *Day Without Child Care*—the day when some child care providers, with the support of the families they serve, shut their doors or close down early. And if you are not a provider, Childcare Changemakers has lots of ways to join in the call for equitable access to affordable child care and better pay and working conditions. [You can be a part of Day Without Child Care](#) by signing the pledge, hosting an event, finding an event in your area, or spreading the word with the toolkit resources.

Child Care Subsidies for the Child Care Workforce

Several states are following the lead of **Kentucky** to offer child care workers categorical eligibility to child care subsidies. Check out [In Effort to Entice Child Care Staff, More States Follow Kentucky's Lead](#), to learn about developments in **Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, Oklahoma,** and **Washington**.

There was also an active conversation on the Alliance listserv about providers' eligibility for subsidies to care for their own children. To see the resources shared (and get a glimpse of the Alliance listserv community springing into action), check out [this recap](#).

Meet Our New Team Members!

We're growing at the Alliance in ways that further enhance our ability to strengthen state early childhood policy advocacy.



[Courtney Lee](#) has joined the Alliance as our first-ever *Deputy Director of Staff, Equity, and Culture*. In this newly created position, she is leading the development and implementation of the Alliance's human resources strategy and further developing the organization's workplace culture of purpose, continuous learning, innovation, and belonging.



[Aaliyah Roulhac](#) has joined the Alliance as the organization's first *Community and Network Associate*. She is supporting the Alliance's community-building mission by working to strengthen relationships across state lines. (If you're a state advocate in our network, you may have already heard from her!)

And, as always, thanks for all you do for your state's young children and their families.

More soon,

Stinson

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Alliance for Early Success

Every child. Every state.

www.earlysuccess.org

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