

May 30, 2025

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Labor,
Human Services, and Education
Washington, DC, 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
Health and Human Services, and Education
Washington, DC, 20510

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chair, House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member, House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services
Education, and Related Agencies
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairwoman Capito, Ranking Member Baldwin, Chairman Aderholt, and Ranking Member DeLauro,

As the 119th Congress considers their Fiscal Year 2026 Budget, we, the 206 undersigned organizations who represent and care for America's children and their parents and caregivers, are writing to urge the inclusion of language on Family Resource Centers (FRCs) within the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG). These centers provide direct assistance to families through parenting support and education, screening and navigation of care services, mental health and family counseling, early learning and afterschool activities, family financial planning, and workforce supports. Specifically, we ask for report language within the FY 2026 Labor, Health, and Human Services (LHHS) Bill under the SSBG program that supports States who invest in the responsive and effective services and support provided by Family Resource Centers to strengthen families. This language was included on a bipartisan basis in the FY 2025 Senate LHHS Report, and we urge you to include it again.

Parents are struggling with some of the most complex and stressful circumstances in decades. With rising inflation, 1 in 4 parents struggle to pay for their family's food or housing.¹ 49% of K-12 teachers are worried about their students' chronic absenteeism.² Over 75% of parents are at least somewhat concerned about their children experiencing a mental health crisis or substance use problem.³ Yet, when families need support, it is unclear where to turn.

States have invested in Family Resource Centers as a proactive solution to fill this gap, and research shows that they've been successful. By strengthening families first, FRCs reduce unnecessary child welfare involvement by 63% in surrounding communities.⁴ For every dollar invested, FRCs provide a \$4.93 total return on investment and \$3.65 savings specific to the child welfare system.^{5,6} The programs offered by FRCs are provided through the center without regard for families' ability to pay and developed to reflect the specific needs and interests of the communities served. These programs have proven to lead to positive

¹ Braga, D. (2022). One-in-four U.S. parents say they've struggled to afford food or housing in the past year. Pew Research Center.

² Lin, L., Parker, K., & Horowitz, J. (2024) Problems Students are facing at public K-12 schools. Pew Research Center.

³ Minkin, R. (2023). Parenting in America today. Pew Research Center's Social & Demographic Trends Project.

⁴ OMNI Institute (2021). Return on Investment of a Family Resource Center to the Child Welfare System: Community Partnership Family Resource Center, Teller County, CO.

⁵ Community Services Analysis LLC. (2014). Social Return on Investment Study.

⁶ OMNI Institute (2021). Return on Investment of a Family Resource Center to the Child Welfare System: Westminster Family Resource Center, Orange County, CA

outcomes across the family, including gains in economic self-sufficiency, educational success, health, social support, family functioning, resiliency, and child nurturing.⁷

However, FRCs currently lack a dedicated federal funding stream, instead patching together city, county, state, federal, and private dollars to serve millions of Americans each year. With this essential report language, Congress will encourage States and the Administration for Children and Families to prioritize Family Resource Centers in Social Services Block Grant spending. Therefore, we urge you to include the following language, which was previously included in the Senate’s Fiscal Year 2025 LHHS Report:

Family Resource Centers. —The Committee recognizes that Family Resource Centers provide direct assistance to families through parenting support and education, navigation of care and social services, mental health counseling, early learning and afterschool activities, family financial planning, and job training. The Committee notes that preliminary data shows promise in this area—with a 63 percent reduction in child abuse cases and a \$4.93 return for every tax dollar invested, according to current research. The Committee supports States that choose to use a portion of their SSBG funding to support services and programs at school and community-based Family Resource Centers to strengthen families through a localized, family-centered approach.

America’s parents and caregivers deserve the support needed to help their children thrive, and the effective Family Resource Center services funded through the Social Services Block Grant will ensure they are given this opportunity. We urge you to support this language request for SSBG.

Sincerely,

National

National Family Resource Center Coalition
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Family Support Network
Social Current

Tuscaloosa’s One Place

Alaska

Alaska Impact Alliance
Beacon Hill

Alabama

Alabama Network of Family Resource Centers
Alfred Saliba Family Services Center, *Dothan*
Child Care Resource Center, *Opelika*
Circle of Care Center for Families, *serving Chambers, Randolph, Lee, and Russell Counties*
Elmore County Family Resource Center, *serving Elmore County, the City of Tallassee, the City of Wetumpka, and the City of Millbrook*
Family Services Center, *Huntsville*
Gulf Coast Family Center, *Mobile*
Impact Family Counseling, *Birmingham*
Mary Hill Family Service Center, *Ozark/Dale County*
Troy Resilience Project, *Pike County*

Arizona

Prevent Child Abuse Arizona
Washington Resource Information Center, *Phoenix*

California

All For Kids
California Alliance of Caregivers
California Alliance of Child and Family Services, *Sacramento*
Carpinteria Children's Project, *Santa Barbara County*
Center for Family Strengthening, *San Luis Obispo*

⁷ Family Pathways & CFSA 2.0 Evaluation Report - Executive Summary 2019.

Child Guidance & Development Co., *Humboldt*
 Community Bridges, *serving Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Benito*
 Community Child Care Council (4Cs) of Alameda County
 Compass Family Services, *San Francisco*
 East County First 5 Center, *Contra Costa County*
 Edgewood Center, *serving San Francisco and San Mateo Counties*
 Exhilaration Station Family Resource Center, *El Dorado County*
 Family Connections Centers, *San Francisco*
 Family Resource Center Network of Mendocino County
 Family Service Agency of Santa Barbara County
 Family Services Alliance, *San Francisco*
 First 5 Mendocino, *Mendocino County*
 Glide Foundation, *San Francisco*
 Instituto Familiar de la Raza, *San Francisco*
 Kern River Valley Family Resource Center
 La Raza Community Resource Center, *San Francisco*
 Lincoln Families, *Alameda*
 Lincoln Families, *Bay Area*
 Lincoln Families, *Contra Costa*
 Lincoln Families, *Oakland*
 Lincoln Families, *Pittsburg*
 Mendocino Coast Children's Fund, *Mendocino Coast*
 North Coast Opportunities, Inc., *Ukiah*
 Nuestra Alianza de Willits (NAW), *Willits/Mendocino County*
 Raíces y Cariño, *serving Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Benito Counties*
 Redwood Community Services
 Safe & Sound, *San Francisco*
 San Francisco Family Services Alliance
 Shields for Families, *Los Angeles*
 SisterWb, *San Francisco*
 Soledad Unified School District
 Sunset Youth Services, *San Francisco*
 The California Family Resource Association
 The Child Abuse Prevention Center
 UpValley Family Centers of Napa County
 Valley Oak Children's Services, *Butte County*

Colorado

Family Resource Center Association

Connecticut

Branford Family Resource Center
 Bristol Family Resource Centers
 Connecticut Family Resource Center Alliance
 Connecticut Family Resource Centers
 East Hartford Family Resource Centers, *Mayberry*
 East Windsor Family Resource Center
 Family Resource Center Norwich Public Schools
 Family Resource Center, *Meriden*
 Family Resource Center, *New Haven*
 Laurel Family Resource Center, *Bloomfield*
 Meriden Family Resource Center
 New Britain Family Resource Center
 NHPS Family Resource Centers, *New Haven*
 Norwich Public Schools Family Resource Center
 Plainfield Family Resource Center
 Plymouth Family Resource Center
 Putnam Family Resource Center
 Roscco Inc., *Stamford*
 Stratford Parents' Place
 Tolland Family Resource Center
 Torrington Family Resource Center
 West Haven Family Resource Center

Delaware

Children & Families First

Florida

Champion for Children Foundation of Highlands County
 Children's Home Society of Florida

Georgia

Ser Familia, Inc., *Cobb*

Hawaii

Hawai'i 'Ohana Support Network

Iowa

Iowa Family Resource Collaborative

Illinois

Spanish Community Center, *serving Will and Kankakee Counties*

Kentucky

Division of Family Resource and Youth Services Centers

Family Resource & Youth Services Coalition of Kentucky

Louisiana

Louisiana Family Resource Centers Network

Maine

Maine Children's Trust

Michigan

CAN Council, *Bay County*

CAN Council, *Huron County*

CAN Council, *Saginaw County*

Family Enrichment Center, *Tuscola County*

The Children's Center of *Wayne County*

North Carolina

Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse of NC, Inc. (The Parenting PATH), *Forsyth*

Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse of NC, Inc. (The Parenting PATH), *Stokes*

Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse of NC, Inc. (The Parenting PATH), *Surry*

Fairgrove Family Resource Center, Davidson
Family Service of the Piedmont

Fiesta Family Services, Inc., *serving Wake, Montgomery, Moore, and Richmond Counties*

Kellin Foundation, *Guilford*

Positive Childhood Alliance North Carolina

Smart Start of Mecklenburg County

Swain County Family Resource Center,
Cherokee

New Hampshire

Children Unlimited, *Carroll County*

New Hampshire Children's Trust

New Jersey

Acenda Integrated Health

Nevada

No To Abuse - Nevada Outreach Training Organization, *Pahrump/Nye County*

Ron Wood Family Resource Center, *Carson City*

Ohio

East End Neighborhood House Association,
Cleveland

Oklahoma

Center for Children and Families, Inc., *Norman*

Great Plains Youth & Families Inc., *Hobart*

Handle With Care Oklahoma

LIFT Community Action Agency, Inc., *serving Choctaw, McCurtain, and Pushmataha*

Northern Oklahoma Youth Services, *Ponca City*

Oklahoma Public Health Association

Parent Promise, *Oklahoma County*

Potts Family Foundation

The Parent Child Center, *serving Tulsa, Creek, Okmulgee, Osage, Rogers, and Wagoner*

Western Plains Youth and Family Services,
Woodward

Oregon

Prevent Child Abuse Oregon

South Carolina

South Carolina Infant Mental Health Association (SCIMHA), *Greenville*

Sumter Nonprofit Network, *Sumter*

Texas

American Indians in Texas at the Spanish Colonial Missions, *San Antonio*

Engaging Voice, *Bexar County*

Engaging Voice, *San Antonio*

SAFE Alliance, *Austin*

Shades of Blue Project

Texas A&M San Antonio Institute for School and Community Partnerships

United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County

Utah

Utah Family Strengthening Network

Virginia

Child Development Resources

Connections Family Resource Center, *Manassas City*

Families Forward Virginia

Washington

Akin, *Kent*

Akin, *Seattle*

Akin, *Spokane*

Akin, *Vancouver*
 Akin, *Walla Walla*
 Akin, *Washougal*
 Akin, *Wenatchee*
 Amara, *Seattle*
 Amara, *Tacoma*
 Amber Empowering Resilience, *Aberdeen*
 Amber Empowering Resilience, *Grays Harbor*
 Amber Empowering Resilience, *Hoquiam*
 Benton Franklin Community Action Committee
 Byrd Barr Place, *Seattle*
 Children's Council of Skagit County
 Chinese Information and Service Center, *King County*
 Community Action Council of Lewis, Mason, & Thurston Counties
 Community Action of Skagit County
 Community Resource Center of Stanwood Camano
 Encompass Northwest, *King County*
 Family Education and Support Services
 Regional Resilience Center, *serving Thurston, Mason, and Lewis Counties*
 FamilyWorks, *Seattle*
 Ferndale Community Services
 Ferndale School District
 First Step Family Support Center, *serving Clallam and Jefferson Counties*
 Foster First, *Yakima*
 Hopelink
 Joyce L. Sobel Family Resource Center, *serving Friday Harbor and San Juan Counties*
 Korean Community Service Center (KCSC), *serving Edmonds and Snohomish Counties*
 Korean Community Service Center, *serving Snohomish and King Counties*
 LINC NW, *Marysville/Snohomish County*
 Lutheran Community Services NW
 Mary's Place, *Seattle/King County*
 Metropolitan Development Council, *Tacoma/Pierce County*
 Mullen-Polk Foundation, *Vancouver*
 Multi-Service Center, *South King County*
 Neighborhood House, *Seattle/King County*
 North Counties' Family Services, *Snohomish*
 Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC) of Washington, *serving Grant, Adams, Benton, Franklin, Klickitat, Skamania, Skagit, Okanogan, and Chelan*
 Representative Carolyn Eslick, District 39
 RISE Network, *serving Ferry, Stevens, and*

Pend Oreille
 Snohomish County Human Services Department
 Southwest Youth and Family Services,
Seattle/King County
 Take the Next Step, *Monroe/Snohomish County*
 The ZONE, Northeast Community Center,
Spokane
 Volunteers of America Western Washington,
Snohomish County
 Washington Family Support Network
 Washington Gorge Action Programs, *serving Skamania and Klickitat Counties*
 Washington State Community Action Partnership
 YWCA Seattle

Wisconsin

4-C, Community Coordinated Child Care,
Madison
 Bay View Community Center, *Milwaukee*
 Burnett County Family Resource Center
 Child Care Resource and Referral Inc.,
Outagamie County
 Children's Wisconsin
 Chippewa County Department of Public Health
 Family Connections Inc., *Sheboygan*
 Family Resource Center of Sheboygan County
 Family Resource Center, *Dunn County*
 Family Resource Center, *Eau Claire*
 Lakeland Family Resource Center (LFRC),
Spooner
 Northwest Connection Family Resources,
serving Sawyer and Washburn Counties
including the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Community
 River Source Family Center/Family Support Center, *Chippewa County*
 The Parenting Network Inc., *Milwaukee*
 The Parenting Place
 Thriving Wisconsin
 United Way St. Croix and Red Cedar Valleys, Inc.