



AMCHP 2022 Federal Policy Agenda

AMCHP acknowledges that racism is a public health crisis that directly impacts the health outcomes of our communities and those we serve. We commit to evaluating policies through the lens of dismantling racism and pursuing health equity and racial equity.

AMCHP will play a **leadership** role to advance policies that:

- **Fund the Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Services Block Grant** at \$1 billion, including robust funding for the state formula, for FY2023 to improve the health of all women, children and youth, including those with special health care needs, and families, and to strengthen state and national system capacity to assess and address the health needs of MCH populations.
- Prioritize MCH populations in the context of COVID-19 and other public health emergencies with particular emphasis on communities that are disproportionately impacted, including communities of color and children and youth with special health care needs.
- Improve maternal and infant health and eliminate racial and ethnic inequities in maternal and infant health outcomes, including policies designed to **reduce maternal and infant mortality and morbidity**.
- Reauthorize the **Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV)** Program.

AMCHP will play a **partnership** role to advance policies that:

- **Address the unmet mental health needs** of pregnant and parenting people, children, and adolescents, including those with developmental disabilities, through increasing access to the full spectrum of integrated behavioral health services.
- **Prevent and mitigate the misuse of substances** by equitably expanding access to the full continuum of services, including prevention, family-centered treatment, and harm reduction, for pregnant and parenting people and youth who use substances.
- Permanently authorize the **Children's Health Insurance Program**.





- **Promote safe communities and prevent childhood injuries**, including full funding to support core injury prevention programs in all states.
- Reauthorize the **Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act**.
- Prevent and mitigate **adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and toxic stress**.
- Ensure **medical homes** for all children, especially for those with special health care needs.
- Support family and child well-being, including through a national **paid family and medical leave** program, and reduce child poverty, including through permanent expansion of the **Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit**.
- Address **environmental threats** to children’s health, including lead poisoning prevention, and climate threats to MCH populations.
- Expand access to **preconception care and family planning services** and ensure access to comprehensive health care services and supports to promote intended pregnancies and healthy births, including through increased funding for the Title X Family Planning Program.
- Increase funding for **Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)** and promote collaboration between education and health systems supporting children from birth to age 3.
- Support comprehensive approaches to **chronic disease and obesity prevention** in MCH populations.
- Increase investment in surveillance, newborn screening follow-up, access to care, research, and treatment for **sickle cell disease and trait** and highlight this issue as a racial equity and racial justice concern.
- Increase investment in **public health infrastructure**, including workforce development, capacity building, and data modernization that centers equity.
- Increase investment in systems and supports for children and youth with special health care needs and their families, including **Family-to-Family Health Information Centers and Medicaid Home- and Community-Based Services**.
- Facilitate access to **telehealth services** for MCH populations.

