Pritzker Children’s Initiative vision: Every child reaches kindergarten ready to learn
National Goal: At least one million low-income infants and toddlers and their families will be served by high quality programs by 2023.
New Jersey Goal: Expanded services for nearly 29,000 infants/toddlers/families by 2023 and nearly 59,000 by 2025.
### States

+ AR  + NE  + CA  + OH  + SC  
+ DC  + NV  + IL  + OR  + TX  
+ LA  + NJ  + NC  + MI  + WA  
+ MD  + NM  + NY  + PA  + WI

### Communities

- Denver, CO
- Orange County, CA
- Multnomah, OR
- Boston, MA
- Onondaga, NY
- Ventura, CA
- Kent, MI
- Guilford, NC
- Los Angeles, CA
- Volusia/Flagler Counties, FL
- Austin, TX
- Baltimore, MD
- Cleveland, OH
- Chattanooga, TN
- Denver, CO
- Minneapolis, MN
- Adirondacks, NY
- Alachua, FL
- Bridgeport, CT
- New Orleans, LA
- Tarrant, TX
- Watauga, NC
- Dauphin, PA
- Ramsey, MN
- Champaign, IL
- Washington, VA
- Pierce, WA
- Boone, MO
- Tucson, AZ
- Albuquerque, NM
- Norwalk, CT
- Salt Lake City, UT
- Memphis, TN
- Spartanburg, SC
- Dayton, OH
Early experiences form brain architecture.

Source: North Carolina Family Forward
Connections in the Brain

Source: Universe Review, StrongNation.org/ReadyNation
1. What happens during this period (prenatal to age two) can have substantial effects on both short- and long-term outcomes in learning, behavior, and both physical and mental health.
2. All of these domains are connected and the potential for learning is linked to the quality of physical and mental health.
Acute to Chronic Inflammation

Acute/Temporary Inflammation

- **Stress Response**
  - Fight or Flight

- **Immune Response**
  - Battle stations: Infection Fighting & Wound Healing

Chronic Inflammation

**Increased risk for:**
- asthma
- heart disease
- diabetes
- insulin resistance
- depression
- obesity
- arthritis
- gastrointestinal disorders
- autoimmune diseases
- types of cancer
- dementia
Adult Diseases Associated with Childhood Adversity Dominate U.S. Health Care Costs

Four of the top eight most costly diagnoses total $622 billion per year

- Asthma: $40 billion
  - #8 MOST COSTLY

- Depression: $99 billion
  - #5 MOST COSTLY

- Diabetes: $189 billion
  - #2 MOST COSTLY

- Cardiovascular Conditions: $294 billion
  - #1 MOST COSTLY

Sources: Waters, Graf (Milken Institute, 2018); Greenberg et al. (2015)
Emphasize PN-3 in Messaging and Policies!

**Messaging:**
- Call out PN-3, infants, toddlers, babies, prenatal care, needs of families over and over again in your messaging.
- Call out the brain science but connect the dots on how government can help: brain development is the “why,” but they still need the “what” of specific policy interventions.
- Connect the systemic economic challenges families face with the added pressure of new parenthood.
- Be clear this is about *empowering* parents, not replacing them. Programs are voluntary.
- Talk about ROI data and real life success stories and challenges of families.

**Policies:**
- Don’t just propose generic “early childhood” or across the board policies that are about children 0-5.
- Make policy recommendations that are specific to the impact they will have on PN-3.
- Child care example: Across the board percentage rate increases perpetuate the cost gap for infant toddler child care versus care for 3 and 4 year-olds.
- Policies that target “all” children must incorporate implementation strategies that assure reach to those children and families most likely to be left behind – particularly children and families of color.
Child Care Example: Strategic Cost Modeling + Rate-setting

Rates based on market prices often exacerbate inequity – age of child, location, quality level.

*Cost per child from Center for American Progress [https://costofchildcare.org/](https://costofchildcare.org/)*
**MIN. LICENSING-SOUTHERN CITY**

**SINGLE MOM+CHILD@POVERTY ($16,900)**

- **State Share**
- **Parent subsidy co-payment**
- **Cost Gap**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Cost* per Child</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Cost Gap</th>
<th>Likely Profit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INFANT/TODDLER</strong></td>
<td>$1,680</td>
<td>$9,876</td>
<td>$1,680</td>
<td>$3,144</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3 &amp; 4 YR OLDS</strong></td>
<td>$7,428</td>
<td>$8,892</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Market Price**

- **Total Revenue** $10,572

- **Likely Profit** $3,144

**Cost per Child from Center for American Progress** [https://costofchildcare.org/](https://costofchildcare.org/)

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**TOP QUALITY-SOUTHERN CITY**

**SINGLE MOM+CHILD@POVERTY ($16,900)**

- **State Share**
- **Parent subsidy co-payment**
- **Cost Gap**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Cost* per Child</th>
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<th>Cost Gap</th>
<th>Likely Profit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INFANT/TODDLER</strong></td>
<td>$1,680</td>
<td>$1,680</td>
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<td>$444</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3 &amp; 4 YR OLDS</strong></td>
<td>$11,976</td>
<td>$10,740</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Market Price**

- **Total Revenue** $12,420

- **Likely Profit** $444

**Cost per Child from Center for American Progress** [https://costofchildcare.org/](https://costofchildcare.org/)
What Is Racial Equity and Why Does it Matter for Early Childhood Systems Change?

It is an intentional process that focuses on how race, ethnicity, and social class influence opportunities, outcomes, treatment, power and privilege.

It is implemented to identify, remove, and replace systemic and structural factors that perpetuate inequality for children and families.

It helps early childhood systems leaders understand how inequality is structured, target disparities, create more effective programs, and improve child and family outcomes.
Disparities and Inequalities in State Systems Serving Young Children (0-5) and Families

• Access
• Availability of programs
• Affordability of programs
• Eligibility to receive programs
• Culturally respectful and responsive practices
• Programs and services with language competence that matches that of families and children for whom English is not their 1st language
• Access to a highly prepared workforce that is culturally and linguistically competent
• Comprehensive wrap around services
Leaders Intentionally Use Data

Leaders use data to drive change for racial equity and improvement in early childhood systems

Disaggregating data by race, gender, and other factors helps leaders see which children are furthest from opportunity.

• Just looking at poverty alone without looking at race and poverty obscures disparities.

Source: https://datacenter.kidscount.org/updates/show/213-child-poverty-rate-reaches-prerecession-level
Equity is at the Core of Many National and State Early Childhood Initiatives

• They are designed to meet a **universal** goal, such as high-quality early childhood education for all children.

• But are **targeted** to meet the needs of particular groups of young children who may be less likely to have access to these experiences.

• Head Start
• Early Head Start
• Home Visiting
• Maternal and Child Health
• SNAP
• Child Care
PRITZKER

Children’s Initiative