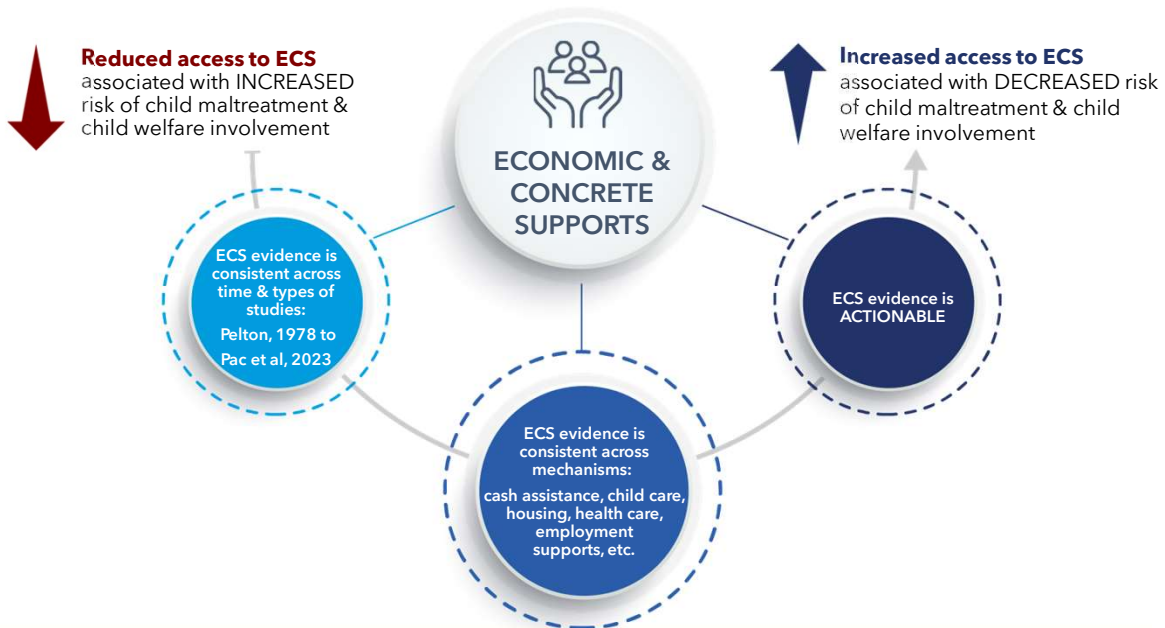


# Economic & Concrete Supports, Family Well-being, and Reducing Risk for Child Welfare Involvement

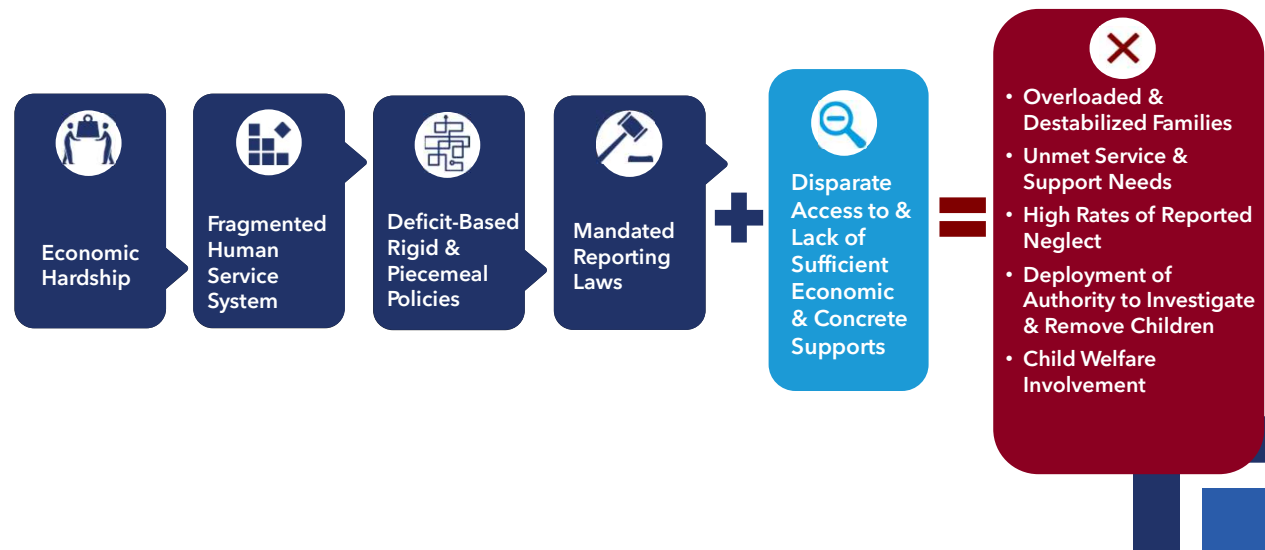
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## Economic and Concrete Supports (ECS): An Overview



2

## Context Matters: Impact of Historical & Contemporary Policy Choices



3

## New Jersey: A National Exemplar

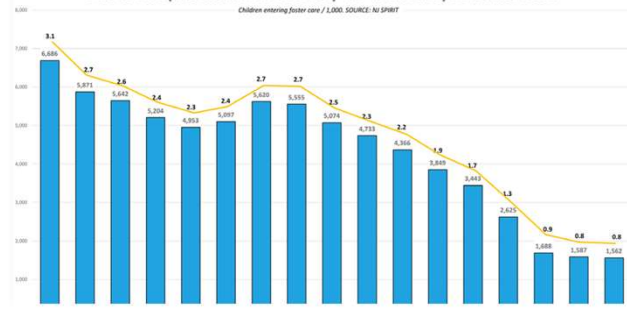


- Universal Home Visiting to Connect to Resources
- Family Success Centers
- Healthcare continuity of benefits postpartum & Cover All Kids
- Child Care Assistance Program
- Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit
- Family Leave Insurance
- Minimum Wage Increase
- Earned Income Tax Credit Expansion
- Cash Bail Reform
- State Rental Assistance Program
- Keeping Families Together
- and More!

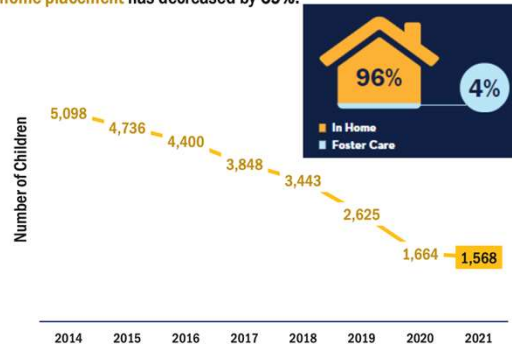
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# New Jersey: Cross-Sector Prevention Results

Foster care placement in New Jersey has declined by 77% since 2006.



Over the past 8 years, the total number of children entering out of home placement has decreased by 69%.



(NJDCF Family First Plan, 2023)

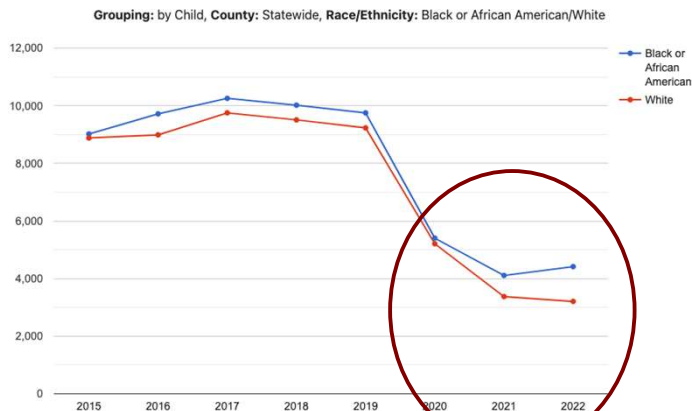
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# New Jersey: Disparity in Decision-making by Race Starts with Community Referrals to CPS



CWS REFERRALS BY CHILD

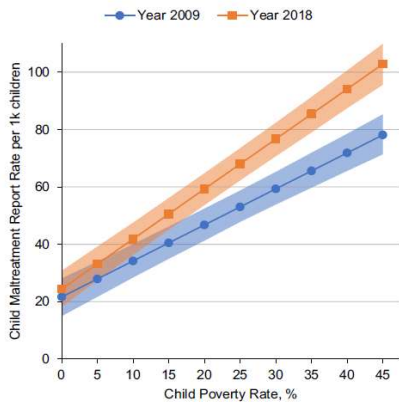
How is this defined?



6

## County-Level Relationship Between Child Poverty Rates & CPS Reporting Rates Has **Intensified**

The relationship between child poverty rates & CPS reporting rates at the county level intensified by almost 40% from 2009 to 2018 (*particularly for neglect*)



Two core approaches to reducing child maltreatment through economic means are offered:

- Build policies & practices to reduce the level of economic hardship for families in general
- Reorient human services to recognize the core & expanding importance of poverty as a fundamental threat to human functioning

“ Our findings highlight the continued, **perhaps increasing importance of poverty as a predictor** of CMR. . . . could be interpreted as supporting an increased emphasis on reducing child maltreatment incidents & reports through **poverty amelioration efforts & the provision of material family supports.** ”

(Kim & Drake, 2023)

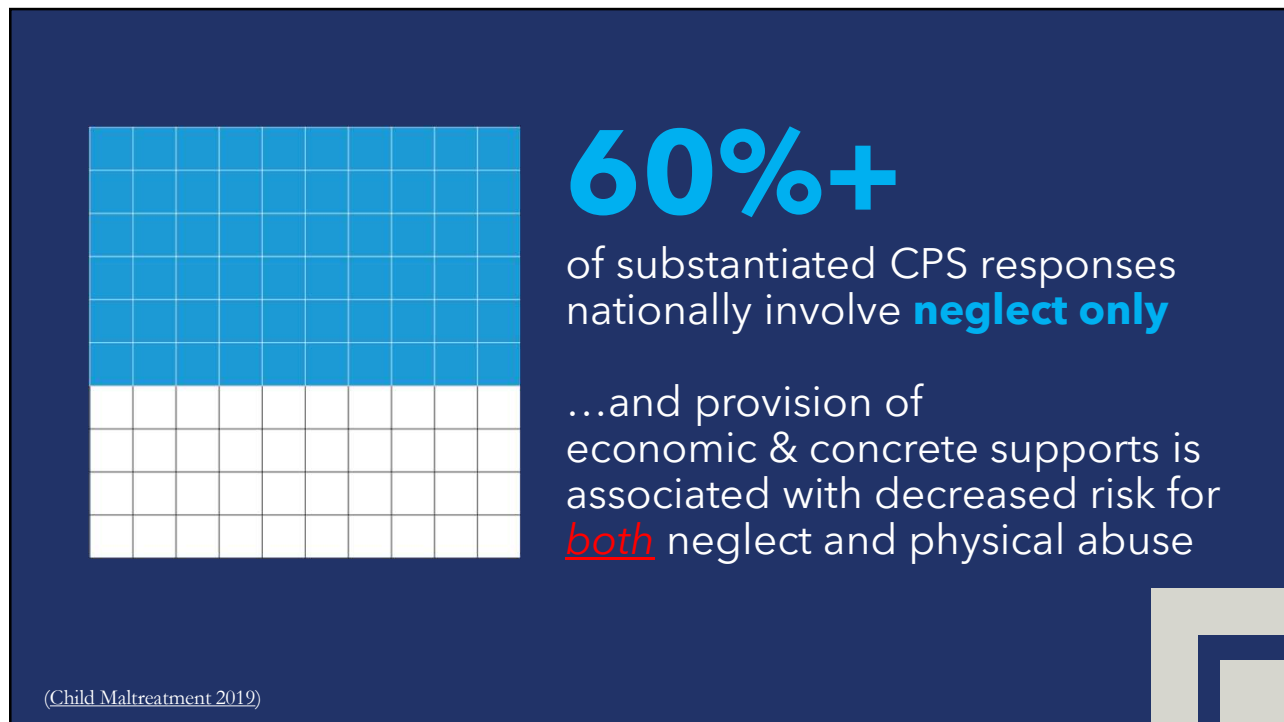
7

nearly **85%** of families investigated by child protective services have incomes below 200% of the federal poverty line

*(\$49,720 for a family of 3 in 2023)*

(Dolan, 2011 - *National Survey of Child & Adolescent Well-Being II Baseline Report*)  
(HHS Poverty Guidelines, 2023)

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## Context & Economic Factors Matter



- Economic factors are associated with neglect outcomes **above** individual-level parenting behaviors & capacities
- Material hardship is associated with CPS involvement **beyond** caregiver psychological distress & parenting factors
- The association of individual factors (such as caregiver substance abuse or mental health) with child maltreatment is **reduced after accounting for poverty** experienced by families receiving preservation services

➤ *“...when the effects of poverty are accounted for, these individual factors lose their potency...”*

(Slack, 2011)  
(Yang, 2015)  
(Escaravage, 2014)

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## Material Hardship Increases Risk for Child Welfare Involvement: Both Neglect & Abuse

If low-income families experience at least one material hardship

- ~3x higher likelihood of neglect investigation
- ~4x higher likelihood physical abuse investigation

If low-income families experience multiple types of material hardship  
(after experiencing no hardships)

- ~4x higher likelihood of CPS investigation
- ~7x higher likelihood physical abuse investigation

(Yang, 2015)

*\*Dimensions of material hardship in this study included: food, housing, utilities & medical hardship*

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## Negative Earnings Shocks Are Associated with Increased Risk for Subsequent Child Welfare Involvement (slide 1 of 2)



About **10% of low-income adults with children** have experienced a financial shock resulting in a 50% income drop over one year

For low-income families with recently closed CPS investigations:

- Experiencing a **negative earnings shock** (quarterly reduction in earnings of 30% or more):
  - Increases risk of subsequent CPS investigation by 18%
  - Increases risk of physical abuse investigation by 26%
- Each additional negative earnings shock is associated with a **15% greater likelihood** of CPS involvement

(Cai, 2021)

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## But the Association Diminishes When Earnings Shocks Are Offset by Public Benefits

(slide 2 of 2)

For low-income families with recently closed CPS investigations:

- Each consecutive quarter with stable income is associated with a **5% lower risk** of CPS investigation
- **Accessing sufficient public benefits** when negative earnings shocks occur **effectively buffers against the risk of child welfare involvement**
  - Buffer is particularly strong for families with young children (ages 0–4), who are associated with a:
    - **12% decrease** in risk for CPS involvement
    - **50% decrease** in risk for physical abuse investigation



(Cai, 2021)

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## The Intersection of Family Economic Insecurity & Child Welfare Involvement

Most reliable **economic predictors** of child welfare involvement



(Conrad-Hiebner, 2020 systematic review)

Strongest predictors of investigated neglect reports



(Slack, 2011 cross-study comparison)

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## Multiple Material & Economic Hardships Overload Families and Increase Risk for Child Welfare Involvement

Watch the **Overloaded Parents** Video by NSPCC

Visual created by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago  
Adapted from: (Conrad-Hiebner, 2020) (Slack, 2011) (Sweetland, 2021)

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## Macroeconomic Policy Context: Racial Wealth Gap Exacerbates Economic Insecurity for Families of Color

### White Families Hold 8 Times More Wealth Than Black Families, 5 Times More Than Hispanic Families

Median net worth, in 2019 U.S. dollars

Race	Median Net Worth (2019 U.S. dollars)
White, non-Hispanic	\$189,100
Black, non-Hispanic	\$24,100
Hispanic	\$36,050
Other or multiple races	\$74,500

Note: "Other or multiple races" includes all respondents who identified as Asian, American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, Pacifica Islander, other race, and those who reported more than one racial identification. Roughly 69 percent and 23 percent of respondents in this grouping reported more than one racial identification or identified as Asian, respectively.

### New Jersey median net worth

White Families: \$352,000

Black Families: \$6,100

Approximately 25% of Black and Hispanic children under age 5 are living in poverty compared to 11.4% of white children

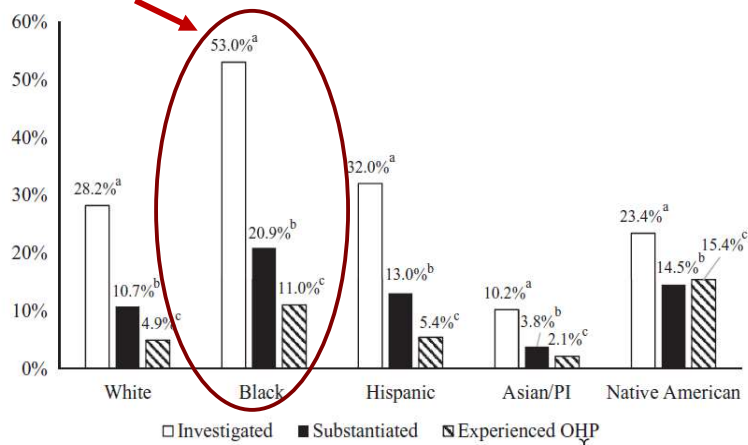
(CBPP, 2021 – graphic) (Federal Reserve, 2020) (NJISJ, 2020) (NJ DOH and 2020 American Community Survey)

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## CPS Interventions Are Pervasive: Over Half of All Black Children Experience an Investigation

Lifetime (Birth–18) Incidence of CPS Involvement in the United States by Race/Ethnicity



- **37% of all children** and 41% of children in the 20 most populous U.S. counties experience at least one CPS investigation by age 18
- **3 million children** experience a CPS investigation or alternative response each year (FFY 2021)
- From 2006-2019, there were almost **30 million** CPS-investigated reports in the US
- An estimated **1 in every 100 children** experience a termination of parental rights

(Berger, 2020 - graphic)  
 (Kim, 2017) (Edwards, 2021)  
 ([Child Maltreatment 2021](#))  
 (Wildeman, 2020) (Austin, 2023)

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## Economic & Concrete Support Packages (NAS) to Improve Context and Prevent Child Welfare Involvement

Analysis simulating the effects of increased household income under 3 anti-poverty policy packages found these could **reduce CPS investigations by 11 to 20% annually** (*386,000 to 669,000 fewer children investigated per year*)

- Reductions were **particularly large** for Black and Latinx children & those living with single parents
- Analysis suggests implementation would **substantially reduce racial disproportionality** in CPS involvement:
  - 19 to 29% reduction in investigations for Black children
  - 13 to 24% reduction in investigations for Latinx children
  - 7 to 13% reduction in investigations for white children

### National Academy of Sciences Consensus Report (2019) A Roadmap to Reducing Child Poverty

- **Anti-poverty package 2:** expansion of EITC & Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC) + universal monthly child allowance
- **Anti-poverty package 3:** expansion of EITC, CDCTC, Housing Choice Voucher Program & SNAP
- **Anti-poverty package 4:** expansion of EITC & CDCTC, increase in federal minimum wage (to \$10.25/hr) + monthly child allowance

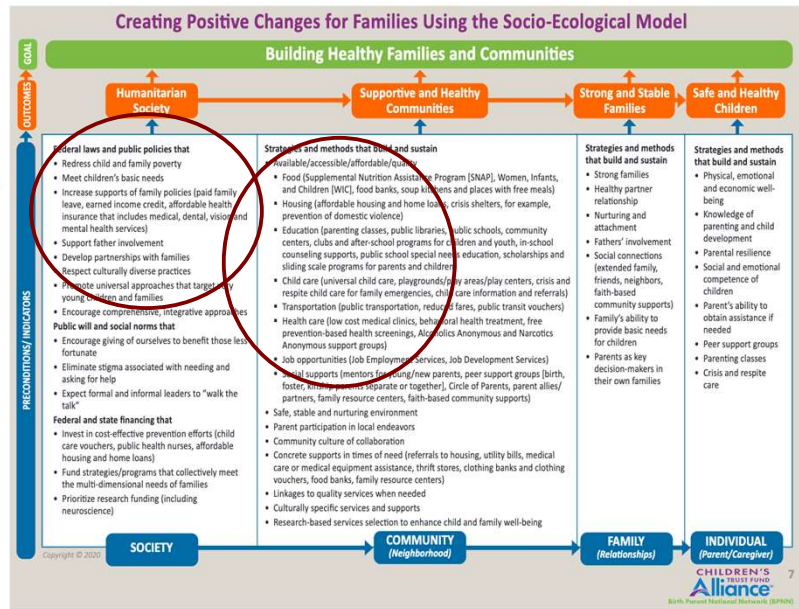
(Pac, 2023)  
 ([A Roadmap to Reducing Child Poverty](#), 2019)

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## Families who Experience Child Welfare Call for Increased Economic & Concrete Resources

We share our lived experiences and perspectives with national, state and community leaders to transform the child welfare system and to raise awareness about the need for increased prevention strategies and resources for families before serious problems occur.

- **Birth Parent National Network & Casey Family Programs Birth Parent Advisory Committee**



(CTF Alliance, 2020)

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# Evidence:

## Relationship between Economic & Concrete Supports and Child Welfare Involvement

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## Sources of Evidence

How do the following studies show the impact of programs, policies, and strategies for reducing child welfare system involvement through economic & concrete supports?



Research designed to detect the impact of a specific strategy through randomized controlled trials (RCT)



Analysis of decades of administrative data aligned with policy or other shifts



Natural experiments to assess public benefit programs



Theoretical models and studies that illustrate the processes by which material hardship leads to child maltreatment

This vast body of science and growing preponderance of evidence informs our understanding of **what has been effective and why** and hypotheses about **potential policy shifts** & new pathways.

*\*Unless otherwise noted, all findings presented are statistically significant*

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## Decreased Access to Economic & Concrete Supports Is Associated with Increased Child Welfare Involvement



Reduced TANF benefits



Reduced income & negative earnings shocks



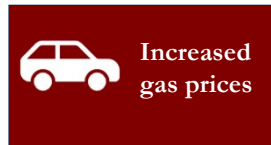
Lack of child care



Reduced employment



Lack of stable housing



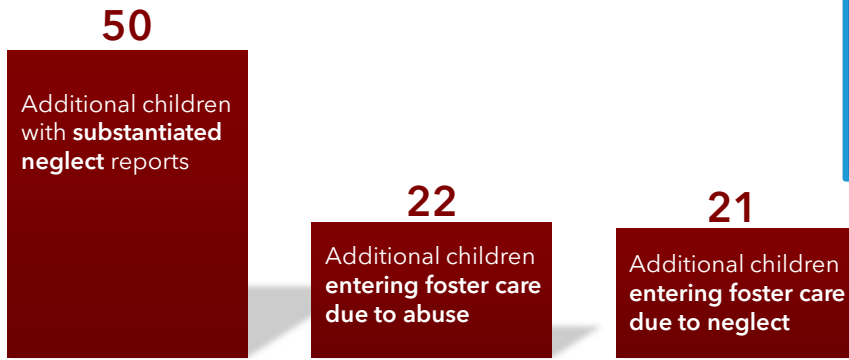
Increased gas prices

= ↑ **Increased risk for child welfare involvement**

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# Lack of Access to Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

Each additional state policy that restricts access to TANF is associated with:



- TANF policy choices reviewed in this study included:**
- Time limits of less than 60 months
  - Severe sanctions for not meeting work requirements
  - Work requirements for mothers with children < 12 months
  - Suspicion-based drug testing of applicants

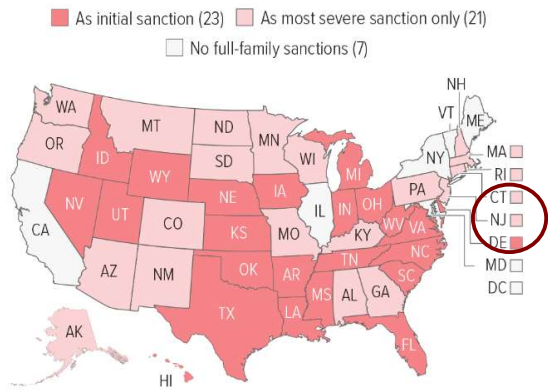
(Ginther, 2022; update of 2017 study)

(Increases observed from 2004 to 2016)

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## State Policy Option: No Full-Family Sanctions for Non-Compliance with TANF Work Requirements

**Most States Take Away Whole Family's TANF Benefits for Non-Compliance With Work Requirements**



(CBPP, 2021)

Note: TANF = Temporary Assistance for Needy Families.  
Source: CBPP state legislation tracking; Urban Institute Welfare Rules Database

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## Lack of Access to Child Care



(Yang, 2016)  
(Cash, 2003)

- For every additional child care concern reported by families receiving TANF, the **risk of supervisory child neglect increases by 20%**
- Mothers entering substance use treatment who have difficulty securing child care are **82% more likely to self-report child neglect** (*compared to mothers entering treatment who don't have this difficulty*)
  - Difficulty finding child care was a stronger predictor of maternal neglect than almost any other factor measured in this study, including mental health & severity of drug use

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## Lack of Access to Child Care Subsidies



(Klevens, 2015)  
(ASPE, 2020) (CLASP, 2019)

Waitlists to access subsidized child care are associated with an **increase in child maltreatment investigations**

### New Jersey

In 2021, 55% of children entering foster care were age 5 or younger and 27% were infants under age 1

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## Reduced Employment



During the Great Recession (2007–2009), the rate of abusive head trauma (AHT) for children < 5 years old was **considerably higher** than during the period immediately before

- AHT rate **increased** from 8.9 in 100,000 children before the recession to 14.7 in 100,000 children during the recession

(Berger, 2011)

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## Housing Insecurity - Mortgage Delinquencies & Foreclosures

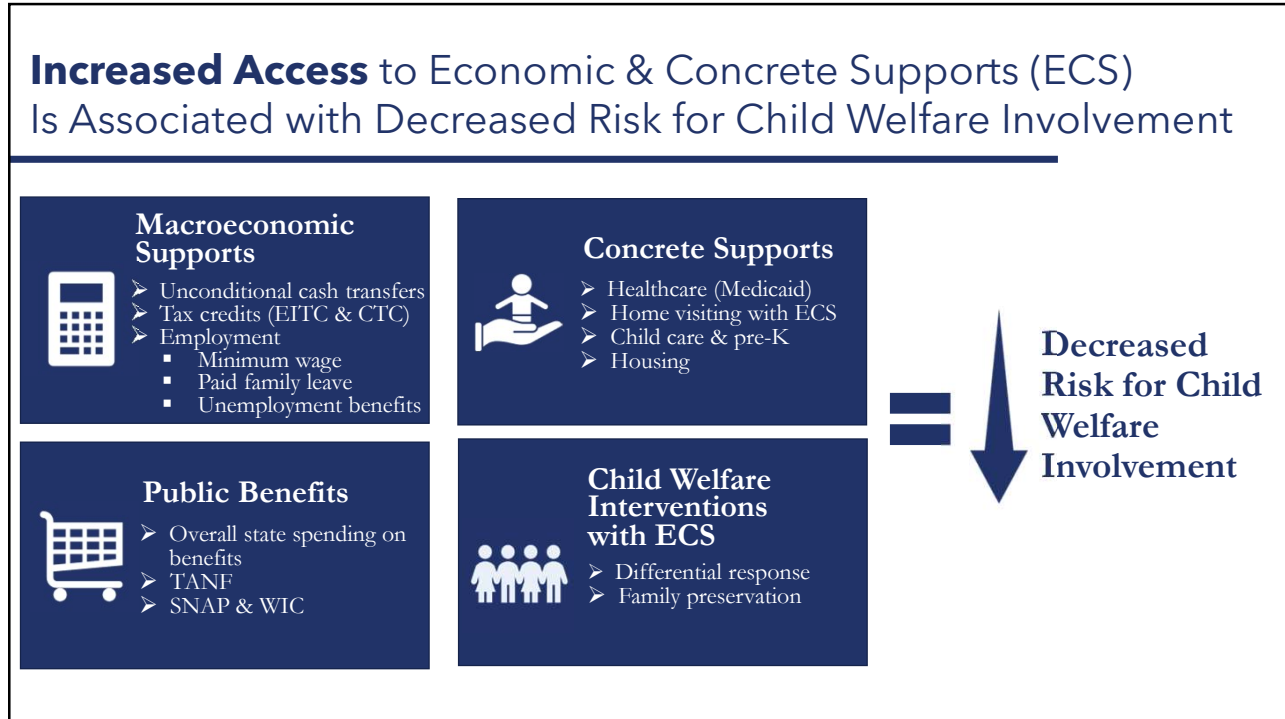


Increases in mortgage delinquency & foreclosure rates are associated with increases in hospital admissions for:

- **Physical abuse** of children < 6 years old
- **Traumatic brain injury** for infants <1 year old  
*(non-birth & non-motor vehicle crash related)*

(Wood, 2012 – using data from 38 hospitals 2000–2009)

28

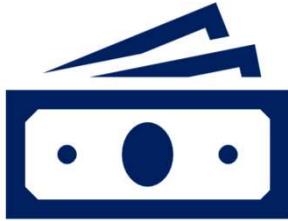


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## Unconditional Cash Payments



(Bullinger, 2023 working paper - analysis based on Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend)

An additional **\$1,000 unconditional cash payment** to families in the early months of a child's life is estimated to:

- Reduce the likelihood of a CPS referral for neglect by **10%** (*by age 3*)
- Reduce the likelihood of a CPS referral for physical abuse by **30%** (*by age 3*)
- Reduce the likelihood of a substantiated CPS referral by **15%** (*by age 3*)
- Reduce the likelihood of child mortality by **30%** (3 fewer child deaths) (*by age 5*)

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## Evidence of Causal Effect of Income on Risk for Child Welfare Involvement



(Cancian, 2013)  
(randomized controlled trial - RCT)

Mothers who participate in TANF and are eligible to receive full child support for their children (and child support is disregarded in determining welfare benefits) are **10% less likely to have a child subject to a screened-in maltreatment report**

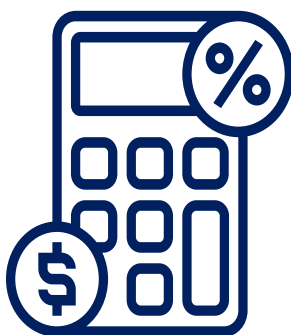
*(compared to mothers who are eligible to receive only partial child support payments)*

- Even a modest increase in child support payments—averaging \$100 per year—results in a decrease in screened-in maltreatment reports

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## Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)



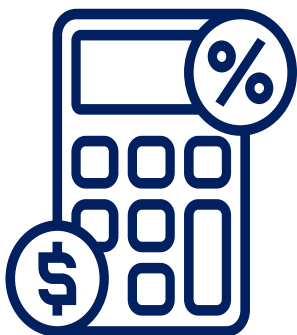
States with a state-level refundable EITC, compared to those without, are associated with an **11% decrease in foster care entries** (even after controlling for poverty, race, education & unemployment)

- If states without any EITC implemented a refundable EITC, an average of **668 fewer children would enter foster care** annually in each state

(Rostad, 2020)

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## Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)



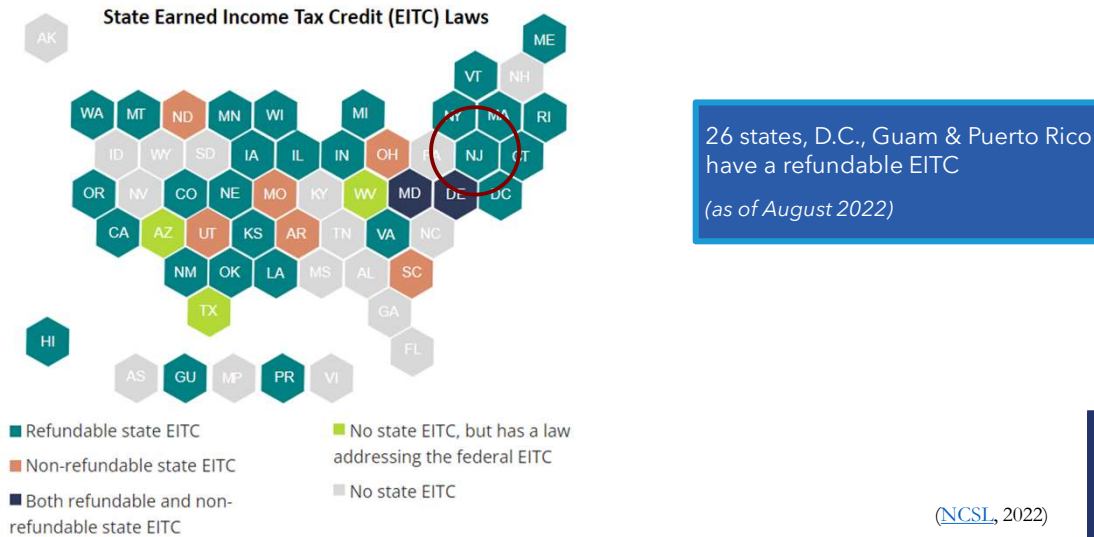
- 10% increase in the generosity of refundable state-level EITC benefits is associated with:
  - **5% decline in reported maltreatment rates**
  - **9% decline in reported neglect rates**
- Refundable state-level EITC (averaging \$400 per year) is associated with a **13% decrease in hospital admissions for abusive head trauma** for children < 2 years old\* (even after controlling for poverty, race, education & unemployment)

(Kovski, 2022)  
(Klevens, 2017)

\* Approaches statistical significance

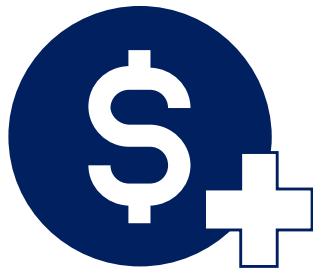
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## State Policy Option: Establish a State Earned Income Tax Credit



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## Minimum Wage



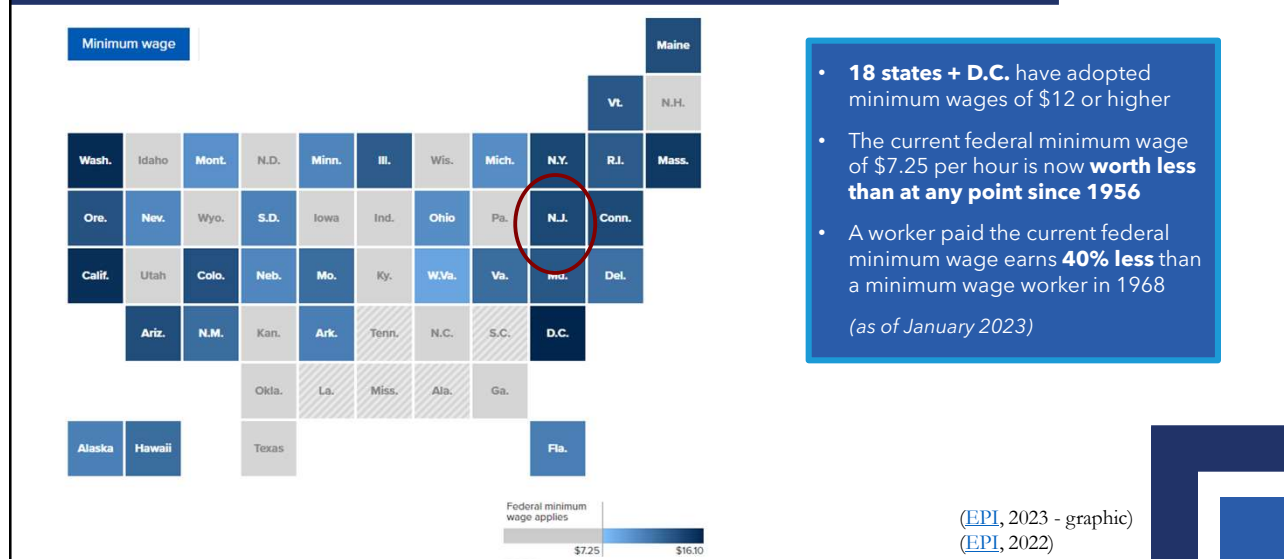
### From 2004 to 2013:

- States that increased the minimum wage beyond \$7.25 per hour experienced a **decline in child maltreatment reports**
- Every \$1 increase in minimum wage was associated with a **9.6% decline in neglect reports** (*primarily for children < 12 years*)

(Raissian, 2017)

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## State Policy Option: Establish or Increase Minimum Wage



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## Paid Family Leave (PFL)



Compared to states with no PFL policy, the implementation of California's 2004 PFL policy (*up to 12 weeks of partially paid leave*) was associated with a **decrease in hospital admissions for abusive head trauma:**

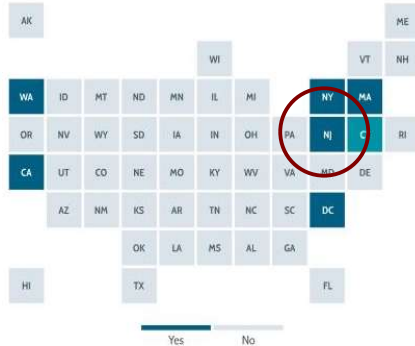
- among children <1 year old and
- among children < 2 years old

(Klevens, 2016)

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## State Policy Option: Establish Paid Family Leave Policies

**7** states have adopted and fully implemented a paid family leave program of a minimum of 6 weeks following the birth, adoption, or the placement of a child into foster care.



2021: 6 states

State has newly adopted and implemented the policy since October 1, 2021

### New Jersey

Family Leave Insurance provides workers cash benefits for up to 12 weeks to bond with a newborn or newly placed adoptive, or foster child, or to provide care for a seriously ill (including COVID-19) or injured loved one.

[\(Prenatal-to-3 Policy Impact Center \(PN3\), 2022 - graphic\)](#)  
[\(KFF, 2021\)](#)

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## Concrete Supports: Home Visiting & Child Care

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## Universal Home Visiting with Economic & Concrete Supports



**Family Connects (FC)** is a short-term, community-wide nurse home visiting program for families with newborns

- **Focuses on addressing material needs:** 1–3 home visits to assess family needs, connect families to community resources, and provide education & intervention as needed
- **Randomized clinical trials** of all families with births in select hospitals in Durham, NC over a 6-month period found that families randomly assigned to FC experienced:
  - **More positive maternal mental health** (at age 6 months)\*
  - **44% lower rate of CPS investigations** (through age 2)
  - **39% fewer CPS investigations** (through age 5)

*“The findings... suggest that, when implemented with high quality & broad reach, a brief postpartum nurse home visiting program can **reduce population rates of child maltreatment.**”*

(Goodman, 2021)(RCT)  
(Dodge, 2019)(RCT)

*(compared to families who didn't receive FC)*

*\* Approaches statistical significance*

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## State Policy Option: Fund Universal Home Visiting to Prevent Child Welfare Involvement at the Population Level



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
FOR  
Universal Home Visitation**

**Publication Date May 25, 2023**

**Response Deadline: June 28, 2023 by 12:00 P.M.**

**Funding of \$44,777,897.64 Available in State funds**

### Family Connects

- Provided at no cost, on a voluntary basis to families of all backgrounds & incomes
- Available to birth, adoptive & resource families with a newborn, and parents experiencing a stillbirth

(NJ RFP, 2023)

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## Child Care Subsidies



States with Child Care & Development Fund (CCDF) program policies that make child care subsidies more accessible to child welfare-supervised families are associated with **lower child removal rates** (*compared to other states*)

(Meloy, 2015)

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## Child Care



Child care investments\* included in [Build Back Better](#) (proposed 2020-2021) would be associated with a:

- **6.4% reduction** in CPS investigations
- **6% reduction** in substantiated child maltreatment
- **3.1% reduction** in foster care placements
- **11.6% reduction** in child fatalities due to maltreatment

(Puls, 2022)

*\*\$273 billion for child care for children up to age 5  
\$109 billion for free and universal preschool*

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## High-Quality Child Care



### Helps prevent child maltreatment

- ✓ Children who participated in Chicago Child-Parent Center preschool:
  - **52% less likely** to be victims of confirmed maltreatment by age 17
  - **Lower rates of reported neglect** (compared to non-participating peers)

### Reduces likelihood of child welfare involvement

- ✓ Children who attended Early Head Start had **fewer child welfare encounters** between ages 5 and 9 (compared to those who didn't attend)

### Reduces likelihood of foster care entry

- ✓ Children (ages 0–5) who participated in Head Start & were referred to child welfare for suspected maltreatment were **93% less likely to enter foster care** (compared to children who did not receive any early childhood education service)

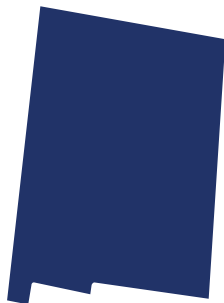
**Less than one-third** of young children under child welfare supervision who live at home receive any early childhood education services

(Reynolds, 2003) (Green, 2014) (Klein, 2017)

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## State Policy Option: Increasing Access to Child Care for Families

### New Mexico



- From 2022 to 2023, **child care will be free for most families** (family of four earning up to about \$111,000)
- Goal is to develop a **free, universal child care system**
  - In November 2022, New Mexico overwhelmingly approved a ballot measure guaranteeing a **constitutional right to early childhood education**
  - It created a **dedicated funding stream** (from the state's *Land Grant Permanent Fund*) for universal preschool and child care & to bolster home-visiting programs for new parents

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## Concrete Supports: Health

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### Medicaid Expansion



The rate of **screened-in neglect reports for children < age 6 decreased** in states that expanded Medicaid, but increased in states that did not expand Medicaid  
*(from 2013 to 2016)*

- If non-expansion states had expanded Medicaid, there would have been almost **125,000 fewer screened-in neglect referrals for children < age 6** in the U.S.  
*(from 2014 through 2016)*

(Brown, 2019)

Medicaid expansion is associated **with improved economic stability & mental health** for parents who are low income

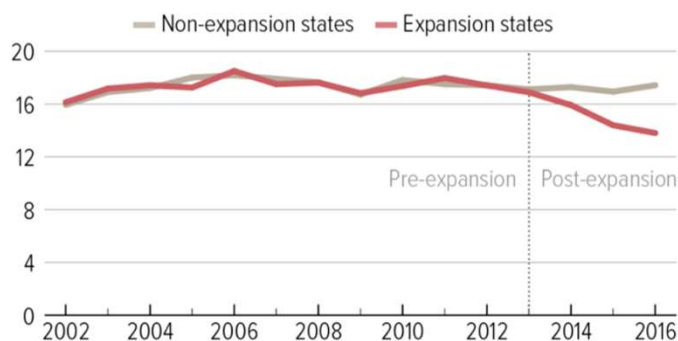
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# Policy Synergy: Medicaid Expansion & Housing Stability

## Evictions Fell Sharply in Medicaid Expansion States

Evictions per 1,000 renter-occupied households



Source: Zewde et al, "The Effect of the ACA Medicaid Expansion on Nationwide Home Evictions and Eviction-Court Initiations," 2019

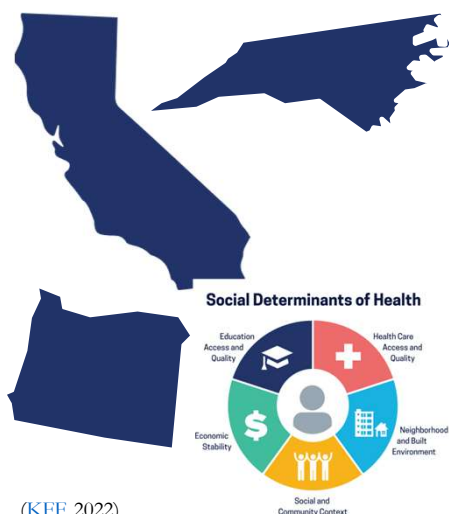
CENTER ON BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES | CBPP.ORG

- Medicaid expansion is a **key strategy** for addressing housing instability for people with low incomes
- **Evictions fell by 20%** in Medicaid expansion states compared to non-expansion states
- By providing enrollees with **financial protection from high medical bills**, Medicaid can free up income to pay rent or to avoid eviction

(Zewde, 2019) (CBPP, 2022 - graphic)

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## State Policy Option: Leverage Opportunities to Use Medicaid Funding to Address Social Determinants of Health



(KFF, 2022)

**North Carolina** – [Healthy Opportunities](#) (2022)

**California** – [CalAIM](#) (2022)

**Oregon** – [Oregon Health Plan](#) (2022)

**Medicaid waivers** shifting to a population health approach prioritize prevention & social determinants of health

- Provide non-medical supports related to **housing, food & transportation** for those with complex needs
- Improve individual & community health

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## Concrete Supports: Housing

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### Supportive Housing



Children of child welfare-involved families who face housing instability and receive a supportive housing program (housing voucher + case management) experience:

- **Fewer removals** (9% vs. 40% in business-as-usual control group after 2 years)
- **Lower prevalence of substantiated maltreatment** (8% vs. 26% in control group after 18 months)
- **Increased reunification** (30% vs. 9% in control group after 2 years)

(Farrell, 2018) (RCT)

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## Permanent Housing Subsidies

HUD's **Family Options Study** found that homeless families referred for permanent housing subsidies self-reported:



- **50% fewer foster care placements**  
*(1.9% vs. 5% in the control group experienced at least 1 placement in the last 6 months)*
- Lower rates of psychological distress
- Less intimate partner violence
- Fewer child behavior problems
- Greater housing stability & food security

*(compared to a business-as-usual control group of homeless families at the 20-month follow-up)*

(Gubits, 2015) (RCT)

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## *State Policy Option:* Connect Head Start Families to Housing Supports



### Connecticut

[Head Start on Housing Program](#) (2022)

Cross-agency collaboration that provides **federal housing vouchers** to families with young children participating in Head Start programs

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## *State Policy Option:* Provide Short-Term Housing Support to Families Involved with Child Welfare



### **Wisconsin** – [Family Keys Pilot Program](#) (2022)

Provides **short-term housing funds** to families with children at risk of removal due to housing insecurity & to families unable to reunify due to inadequate housing

- Short-term housing funds will be used for **hotel costs, short-term rentals & expenses related to finding and maintaining housing** (*security deposits, housing application fees, utility costs*)

55

## Public Benefits

56

## Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

Easing TANF restrictions is associated with:

- Fewer children with substantiated neglect
- Fewer children placed into foster care



➤ An estimated **29,112 fewer children** would have entered foster care nationally from 2004 to 2016 if states had eased TANF restrictions to increase access for families

(Ginther, 2022)

### TANF policy choices reviewed in this study included:

- Time limits of less than 60 months
- Severe sanctions for not meeting work requirements
- Work requirements for mothers with children < 12 months
- Suspicion-based drug testing of applicants

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## State Policy Option: Provide Concrete Supports through TANF Home Visiting Program



**California** – [SB 187](#) (effective 2022)

Increases the amount from \$500 to **\$1,000 for a one-time payment** for the purchase of material goods to families participating in the TANF home visiting program

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# Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)



States with **more generous SNAP policies** experienced:

- Large reductions in CPS reports  
*(reduction of 352 reports per 100,000 children\*)*
- Fewer substantiated reports, particularly for neglect
- Fewer foster care placements

*(from 2004 to 2016, compared to states with less generous SNAP policies)*

(Johnson-Motoyama, 2022)

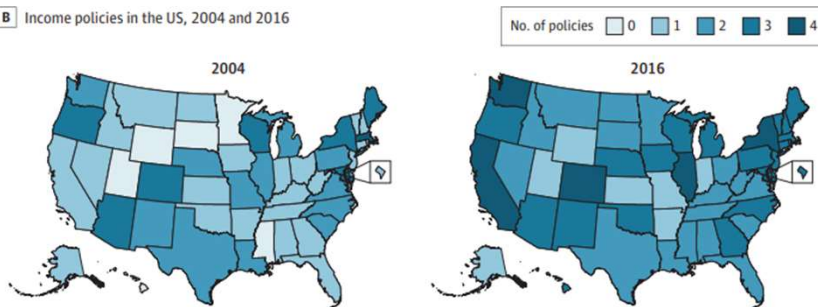
\*(95% CI, -557.1 to -148.2)

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## State Policy Option: Implement More Generous SNAP Policies

### Adoption of More Generous SNAP Policies Over Time

B Income policies in the US, 2004 and 2016



#### SNAP policy choices reviewed in this study:

- Increasing income limits under broad-based categorical eligibility (BBCE)
- Excluding legally obligated child support payments from total income
- Providing transitional SNAP benefits to families leaving TANF
- Using simplified reporting option for changes in household circumstances

(Johnson-Motoyama, 2022 - graphic)

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## *State Policy Option:* Guaranteed Minimum SNAP Benefit

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New Jersey is first in nation to provide a guaranteed minimum SNAP benefit.

The SNAP benefit is paired with at least \$95 a month.

This amount can increase based on household composition and other factors.

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## **Child Welfare Programs with Economic & Concrete Supports**

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## Family Preservation with Concrete Supports



Families with open child welfare cases (mostly neglect) who receive a home-based services program with concrete supports are **17% less likely to experience a subsequent child maltreatment report** (during the first year)

*(compared to families who receive the program without any concrete supports)*

(Rostad, 2017)

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## State Policy Option: Provide Concrete Supports through Family Preservation Program



From 2019 to 2023



Prevention investment of **\$11.4 million**



Out-of-home care costs reduced by **\$79.1 million**

### Kentucky

Two policies make available either \$1000 or \$4000 for concrete supports to meet needs to reduce involvement with child welfare.

For families receiving preservation services, up to \$5000 is available.

*(decline in out-of-home costs includes significant decrease in number of children in foster care & reductions in congregate care placements)*

[\(Kentucky Interim Joint Committee on Health, Welfare & Family Services, July 21, 2021\)](#)

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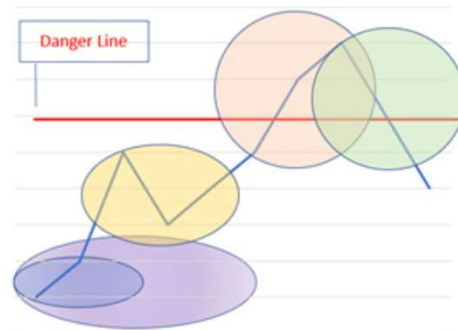
# Cross-Sector Considerations for Shared Responsibility & Accountability

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## Cross-Sector Shared Responsibility & Accountability for Family Strengthening and Prevention

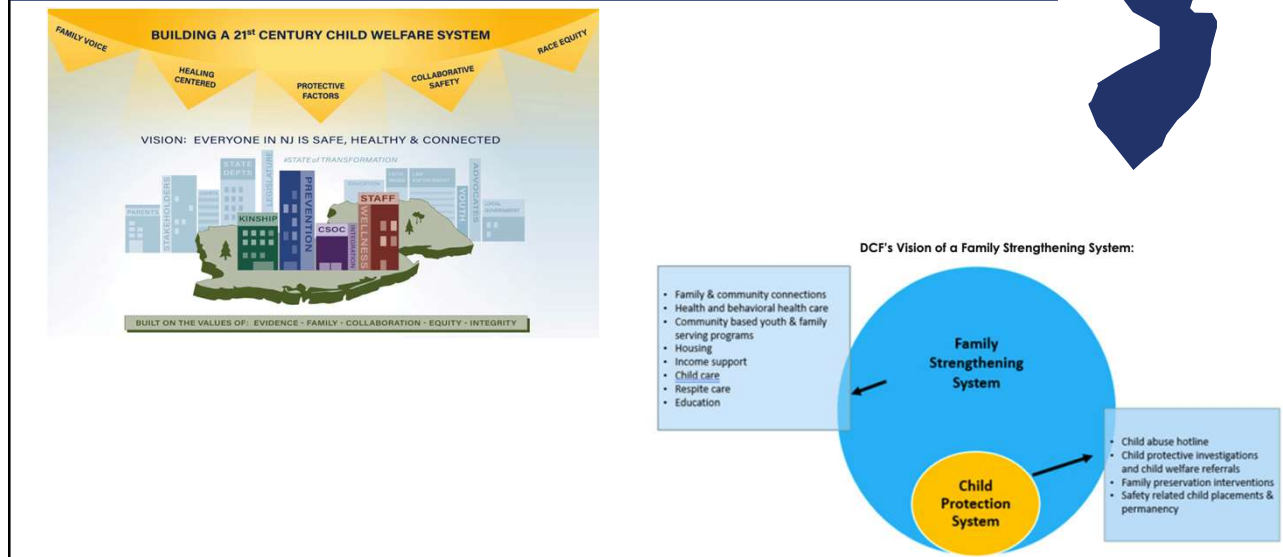


- Population level prevention
- Removal of family stressors
- Support for family's ability to cope with stressors
- Intervention in high risk or unsafe situations
- Help for families to repair and heal



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# Operationalizing Cross-Sector Shared Responsibility & Accountability for Family Strengthening and Prevention



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## Economic & Concrete Supports As a Population-Level Strategy for Prevention of Child Maltreatment

**In 2017, if all states had increased investment in public benefit programs by 13.3% there would have been an estimated:**

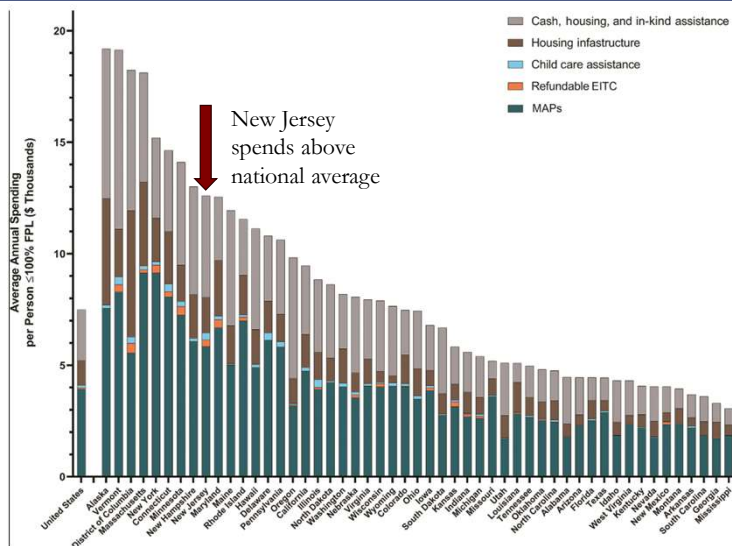
- 181,850 fewer child maltreatment reports
- 28,575 fewer substantiations
- 4,168 fewer foster care placements
- 130 fewer child fatalities due to maltreatment

**Long-term cost savings:**  
 Each additional **13.3%** that states invest annually in public benefit programs (which would total \$46.5 billion nationally) would **save up to \$153 billion** due to reduced maltreatment-related costs

(Puls, 2021, state-level data FFY 2010-2017)

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## State Policy Option: Level & Mix of State Spending on Public Benefits Per Person Living in Poverty



States' total annualized spending on public benefit programs per person living in poverty (FFY 2010 - 2017)

(Puls, 2021 - graphic)

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## Benefits to Society of Increasing Household Income

Translating benefits of \$1,000 increase in household income to aggregate benefits to society

<p><b>Future earnings of children</b></p> <p><b>\$5.2 billion</b> in benefits to society</p>	<p><b>Involvement with child protections</b></p> <p><b>\$90 million</b> in benefits to society</p>	<p><b>Crime</b></p> <p><b>\$3.3 billion</b> in benefits to society</p>
<p><b>Children's health and longevity</b></p> <p>Neonatal mortality, health in childhood, health in adulthood, longevity, and decreased spending on health</p> <p><b>\$10.0 billion</b> in benefits to society</p>	<p><b>Parent health</b></p> <p>Health, longevity, and decreased spending on health</p> <p><b>\$381 million</b> in benefits to society</p>	

(Garfinkel, 2023)

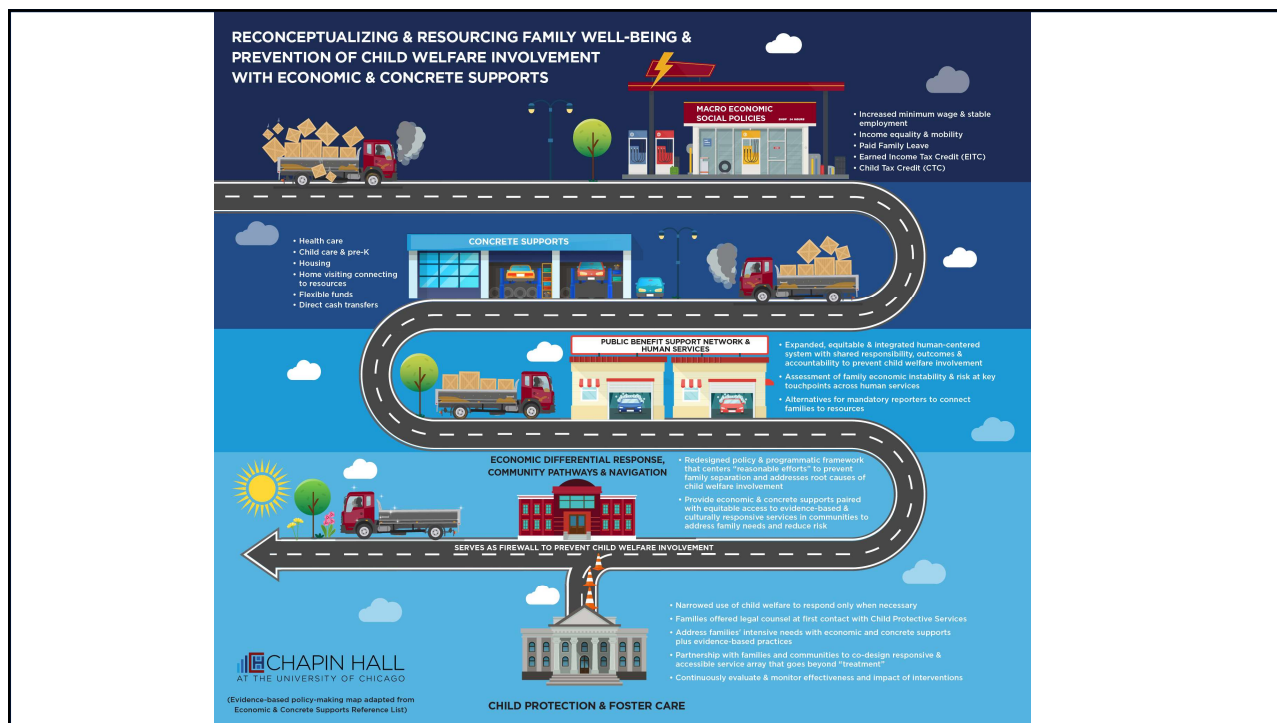
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# New Jersey: Economic Burden of Child Maltreatment

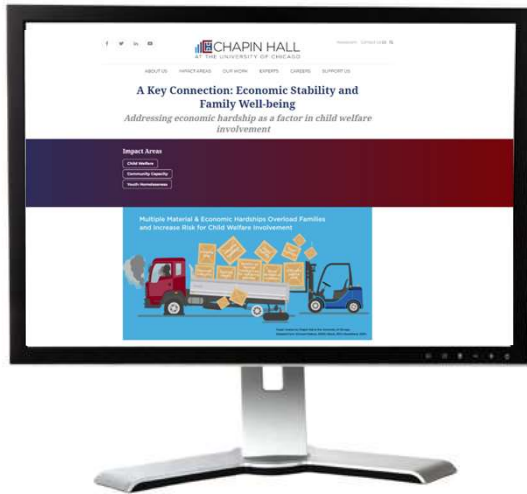


- **\$5 billion** = lifetime economic burden, substantiated cases in 2018
- **\$299 million** = lifetime economic burden, child deaths in 2018
- **\$64.5 billion** = lifetime economic burden, investigated cases in 2018

(Klika, 2020)



# Chapin Hall Resources



[Chapinhall.org/ecspjroject](http://Chapinhall.org/ecspjroject)

(Weiner, Anderson & Thomas, 2021)  
(Anderson, Grewal-Kök, Cusick, Weiner & Thomas, 2021)