



## Investing in children, families, and community in our First 100 Days

Within the first 100 days of the Biden-Harris Administration, ACF has taken action to stabilize the child care industry, support children and families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, provide desperately needed economic relief, restore a child welfare focus at the border, and advance racial equity and supporting underserved communities.

### Key accomplishments include:

- Awarded over \$72.2 billion to state, territories, and tribes to support the wellbeing of children and families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes over \$39.5 billion out of the \$47.5 billion appropriated in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.
- Hosted more than 30 webinars, published 26 agency reports and issued 7 program instructions to support grantees so they can leverage historic funding to best serve the people who need it the most.
- Participated in more than 29 interagency collaboration and 12 public-private partnerships to leverage cross-program relationships to improve outcomes for children and families.
- Supported the Biden-Harris Administration's plan to vaccinate 200 million Americans by ensuring essential early childhood workers were prioritized for vaccinations and by providing guidance on how Community Action Agencies can strengthen and advance COVID-19 vaccination efforts and increase community awareness.

These accomplishments are a down payment on ACF's commitment to provide federal leadership, partnership, and resources for the compassionate and effective delivery of human services.

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**Making historic investments to stabilize and support child care industry**

- The Office of Child Care (OCC) [released \\$39 billion](#) for child care, including \$24 billion for a new Child Care Stabilization Fund and \$15 billion in additional funding for the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) grants to states, territories, and tribes. These funds will support child care providers while revenue is down and help families afford child care during this difficult time.
- OCC awarded [nearly \\$10 billion](#) in supplemental CCDF program funding to states, territories, and tribes to address the needs of child care providers and families resulting from COVID-19 and released guidance to support Lead Agencies in implementing the funds.
- [ACF implemented a directive to](#) prioritize COVID-19 vaccines for people who work in child care, Head Start and Early Head Start, preschool, and home visiting programs.

**Providing critical supports to children and families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic**

- The Children's Bureau released \$344 million in additional funding for the John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood. As noted on our [new portal](#), the additional Chafee funding and flexibilities will allow child welfare agencies to address the critical financial needs of youth and young adults up to age 27 who are or were formerly in foster care.
- The Office of Head Start began awarding \$250 million in Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA) funds to all 1,600 Head Start grantees to respond to COVID-19.
- The Children's Bureau expanded the prevention-focused public-private partnership *Thriving Families, Safer Children* by launching a [second round](#) with national leaders, parents, youth, caregivers, community partners, and the philanthropic sector to assist jurisdictions to create a more just and equitable child and family system of services.
- The Office of Head Start issued a [Program Instruction](#) to promote school readiness of young children from low-income families and enhance their cognitive, social, and emotional development and hosted a webinar about the allowable uses of the \$1 billion in new grants forthcoming from American Rescue Plan funds.
- In February and March, ACF led workgroups focused on economic relief related to the COVID-19 pandemic resulting in 87 new vaccine-related COVID-19 resource links, including four national and 83 state and territory specific resource links. Nearly 14,000 website visitors accessed the COVID-19 resource and information page.

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**Increasing family economic mobility and striving to reduce intergenerational poverty**

- ACF [announced its intent to prioritize Energy Communities](#) in its upcoming solicitation for the [Community Economic Development](#) discretionary grants program, a \$13.6 million grant program for non-profit community development corporations in disinvested communities for purposes of creating new jobs for low-income individuals.
- The Office of Family Assistance released \$945.5 million of the \$1 billion available under the [Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund](#), established through the American Rescue Plan, to assist needy families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ACF has worked with all 50 states, five territories, and 200 tribes to design the new Low-Income Household Drinking Water and Wastewater Emergency Assistance Program which will provide funds to assist low-income households with water and wastewater bills through payments to water systems and treatment companies.

**Restoring a child welfare focus for unaccompanied children**

- The Office of Refugee Resettlement has added more than 17,000 beds to serve unaccompanied children in state-licensed facilities, influx care facilities, and emergency intake sites.
- The Office of Refugee Resettlement has united more than 19,000 unaccompanied children with their family member or sponsor and served more than 38,500 unaccompanied children through its care provider network.
- HHS and DHS bilaterally rescinded a 2018 information sharing Memorandum of Agreement as part of its efforts to connect children with sponsors in a timely and safe manner. Coordinated efforts have continued to further strengthen and streamline policies and processes to safely unify UC with sponsors.

**Advancing racial equity and supporting underserved communities**

- ACF created of a new Racial Equity Task Force led by the Administration for Children, Youth, and Families Associate Commissioner Aysha Schomburg. The Task Force will coordinate ACF's implementation of the [Executive Order](#) on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities through the Federal Government.
- The Office of Regional Operations stood up a Racial Equity working group under the U.S. Council on Economic Mobility to provide levers for closing the wealth gaps persisting among families of color and is preparing to convene regional state chief equity, diversity, and inclusion for peer-to-peer learning and discussions of best practices.
- The Administration for Native Americans held two virtual Tribal Consultations on the \$20 million in the American Rescue Plan for Emergency Grants for Native American Language Preservation and Maintenance.
- The Children's Bureau recognized National Child Abuse Prevention Month by hosting a special webinar on *Race Equity within Our Prevention Work*.