ACROSS THE UNITED STATES[*2]

3,016,000 CHILDREN
received either a child protective services investigation or alternative response

588,229 CHILDREN
were victims of abuse or neglect

- **3 out of 4 victims** were neglected
- **1 out of 6 victims** were physically abused
- **1 out of 10 victims** were either sexually abused or sex-trafficked
- **1,750 children** died from abuse and neglect

*Data include the period of COVID-19

POLICIES AND PROGRAMS THAT PUT FAMILIES FIRST



Working in partnership allows us to **relieve some of the overload** experienced by parents and caregivers.

Implementing proactive policies and programs now is **far more effective** than addressing consequences later. Voluntary home visiting programs, such as Healthy Families America (HFA), promote **positive parenting**, **enhance child health and development**, and **prevent child abuse and neglect**.

Every $1.00 invested in HFA produces an estimated $1.43 in benefits for families and communities[3]

Healthy Families America

Building STRONG FAMILIES[4]



Positive Parenting Practices

- **Increased** parental confidence
- **Increased** positive parent-child interactions
- **Increased** home quality and safety



Child Maltreatment Prevention

- **Improves** child safety
- **Prevents** maltreatment
- HFA parents use **more positive discipline** and less physical punishment and yelling
- Recurrence of maltreatment was **reduced by ⅓**



Economic Self-Sufficiency

- HFA moms were **5x more likely** to enroll and participate in school and training programs
- Teen HFA moms were **twice as likely** to complete at least one year of college compared to those not receiving HFA
- **27% fewer** families were homeless



Maternal Health & Well-being

- HFA moms show **lowered parenting stress**
- **Improved** mothers' mental health
- **Increased** avoidance of risky behaviors



Child Health & Development

- **48% decrease** in low-birth-weight birth rates among moms who enrolled prenatally
- **26% fewer** children receive special education services



Family Violence Prevention

- **30% fewer** intimate partner violence incidents leading to injury

WE CAN'T BUILD STRONG Communities ON FAULTY FOUNDATIONS

Everyone benefits when we focus on addressing underlying causes that lead to health and social inequities.

PREVENTION IS:

- **Access to affordable healthcare**
- **Employment and economic self-sufficiency**
- **Family-friendly policies like paid family leave**
- **Access to mental health supports**
- **Violence-free communities**
- **Food security and access to affordable, healthy foods**
- **Affordable, quality housing**
- **Dependable, affordable childcare and education**
- **Economic and concrete community-based supports**

BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES **TAKES WORK.**

The building blocks for better tomorrows can start today.
Take action at: **PreventChildAbuse.org/buildingtogether2023**





References

1. Child Welfare Information Gateway. (2019). Long-term consequences of child abuse and neglect. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau. Available from https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/long-term-consequences/
2. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Available from https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/data-research/child-maltreatment
3. Healthy Families America. Evidence of Effectiveness. (2022). Available from https://www.healthyfamiliesamerica.org/our-impact/evidence-of-effectiveness/
4. Healthy Families America. Evidence of Effectiveness. (2022). Available from https://www.healthyfamiliesamerica.org/our-impact/evidence-of-effectiveness/