



# NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE COALITION

**Weekly Update: May 30, 2017**

## **Federal Updates**

*Congress is in recess this week.*

### **House Passes Bills on Juvenile Justice and Missing and Exploited Children**

Last week the House passed on a bipartisan basis the [Improving Support for Missing and Exploited Children Act](#) (H.R. 1808), which updates the Missing Children's Assistance Act to strengthen national efforts to recover and protect missing and exploited children. A Republican fact sheet on the bill is available [here](#). The House also passed on a bipartisan basis the [Juvenile Justice Reform Act](#) (H.R. 1809), which reauthorizes the Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention Act (JJDP). A Republican fact sheet is available [here](#) and a Democratic fact sheet is available [here](#) and section-by-section summary [here](#).

### **President's Budget**

Last week the Trump Administration released the President's FY18 Budget Request, called "[A New Foundation for American Greatness](#)." John Sciamanna prepared an incredibly helpful summary of child welfare programs during our meeting, which is summarized in the attached documents.

### **Health Care**

On Wednesday, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released a cost estimate for the American Health Care Act (AHCA), which passed the House last month. The analysis showed that the bill would shrink the U.S. budget deficit by \$119 billion - \$32 billion less than the original House bill proposed in March. It also estimates that 23 million people would lose their health-care coverage by 2026 – about one million fewer people than the projection in the original bill. Majority Leader Mitch McConnell appointed a Republican working group to design a health reform bill as a replacement to the House's American Health Care Act (AHCA). The group of senators reportedly has been meeting very frequently, focusing on a wide array of issues including Medicaid, private market reforms, and affordability.

## **May 30 (TODAY): OJJDP Webinar on Commercial Sexual Exploitation**

On May 30 from 1:30 to 3:00pm ET, OJJDP, in collaboration with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) will host a webinar, “Reducing Demand for the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Minors in Your Community.” This webinar will address how reducing demand should be the focus of a community’s response to the commercial sexual exploitation of minors and strategies that have been shown to reduce CSEC. Register and learn more about this free webinar [here](#).

## **Children’s Bureau Hosts Webinar Series on Supporting Kinship Caregivers**

The Children’s Bureau recently released the first of a two-part podcast series entitled “[Supporting Kinship Caregivers](#),” which showcases successful examples of kinship navigator programs connecting kinship families with available services. A description and link to the webinar recording is available at the hyperlink above.

## **Member Updates**

### **Sign-on Letter from ABA on Proposed Elimination of Legal Services Corporation**

In response to the FY18 Trump Budget proposal to eliminate all funding for the Legal Services Corporation, the ABA is circulating an opposition letter for interested parties to sign on to and is asking for support from the children’s advocacy field. The letter explains that Elimination of LSC support will make implementation of federal child welfare laws more difficult in two primary ways: (1) by undermining direct legal services in child welfare cases, and (2) by removing the preventive role that legal aid often plays in ensuring that children do not end up in foster care unnecessarily. Elimination of LSC will also have an impact on domestic violence services. For more information or to sign-on to the letter, contact Prudence at [Prudence.BeidlerCarr@americanbar.org](mailto:Prudence.BeidlerCarr@americanbar.org). The sign-on letter is attached to this newsletter.

### **Sign-on Letter from National Respite Coalition**

The National Respite Coalition is circulating a sign-on letter to House and Senate appropriators regarding FY18 funding for Lifespan Respite and the National Family Caregiver Support Program. The letter is attached. To sign on to the letter or get more information, contact Jill Kagan by May 31st – [jkagan@archrespite.org](mailto:jkagan@archrespite.org).

## **May 31<sup>st</sup>: AAP Event on Using Research to Prevent Bullying: What Works, and What Can Schools Do?**

This is the third in a series of talks being presented by the American Psychological Association to mark its 125th anniversary in 2017. Bullying — both face-to-face and online — is a problem for many youths. Dorothy L. Espelage, PhD, has conducted bullying, harassment and violence research for more than 20 years. She will describe the problem, including gender-based bullying, such as sexual harassment and homophobic name calling. What prevention strategies can be used in schools? How can schools address their social climate to reduce the problem? What can bystanders do when they see someone being bullied? The speaker will discuss useful prevention strategies, including social-emotional learning approaches, and will emphasize evidence-based programs, as well as those that show promise and deserve more study. Event will be held from 6-8pm at APA Spire Conference Center 750 First Street, NE Washington D.C. 20002. [Learn more about this event and RSVP.](#) If you can't attend, you can watch a live stream of the event on [Facebook.](#)

**Casey Family Programs and Alliance for Strong Families and Communities Sponsor Report: “Balancing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) with HOPE”**

Casey Family Programs and the Alliance for Strong Families and Communities recently released a [report](#) that presents evidence for HOPE (Health Outcomes of Positive Experiences) based on newly-released, compelling data that reinforce the need to promote positive experiences for children and families to foster healthy childhood development. The report recommends that efforts by pediatricians, early childhood educators, and state and local governments move beyond screening and referral for problems, and enter into partnerships with parents to support them in raising their children.

**June 6: APA and CWLA Briefing on Family Homelessness**

On June 6 from 12:00 to 1:30pm ET, the American Psychological Association, in partnership with the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA), will host a Congressional briefing entitled “Escaping Homelessness: Helping Families Reach Their Full Potential.” Homelessness is a growing problem directly impacting families. Homeless parents often struggle with depression, PTSD, and substance abuse, which limits their ability to buffer their children from the stress and lasting impact of homelessness. Speakers at the briefing will draw on new research on improving services for homeless families and provide concrete policy recommendations that may help break the cycle of homelessness. Click [here](#) to register.

**August 7-11: Kempe Center Intensive Summer Session in Child Abuse and Neglect Research**

With support from the Walton Family Foundation, the Kempe Center is organizing an intensive summer session in child abuse and neglect research designed to educate graduate students in public health, social work and the social sciences in child abuse and neglect as a field of research. The Kempe Center will be training clinicians in this field in research with a goal of interesting graduate students in the child abuse research field and in developing clinical and academic collaborations. Please share this information and the attached flyer with your

networks, especially any graduate students and feel free to email Des Runyan at [Des.Runyan@ucdenver.edu](mailto:Des.Runyan@ucdenver.edu) with any questions.

### **FFTA Conference: July 16-19, 2017 in Chicago**

The Family-focused Treatment Association (FFTA) invites you to join over 700 family-based service professionals and foster parents at the only annual conference on treatment foster care and other family-focused treatment services. The conference features over 80 workshops highlighting the best practices being applied in the field. Click [here](#) to learn more and register.

### **APSAC Summit Registration Now Open**

APSAC's Advanced Training Summit on Investigation and Response will be held June 21-23, 2017 in Portland, Maine, and registration is now open. Information about this summit and all 10 Advanced Training Institutes offered by APSAC is available [here](#).

### **Other Updates**

#### **RAND Report: "Improving Children's Lives: Balancing Prevention and Treatment in the Child Welfare System"**

Last week the RAND Corporation issued a report describing how federal child welfare policy could be changed to improve outcomes for children and youth and save the federal government money. The report argues for a dual approach focused on both prevention and treatment – specifically, by increasing the quality and quantity of prevention strategies (such as the Nurse Family Partnership and Triple P) and by placing more children with and better supporting kinship caregivers. The findings were presented to a group of Members of Congress and their staff last week. Click [here](#) to view the report.

#### **New Video from *The Atlantic* on the Childhood Brain**

As part of its Next America: Early Childhood project, which is supported by grants from the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the Heising-Simons Foundation, *The Atlantic* has released a [new animated video](#) on the childhood brain. It explains recent research showing how critical early childhood brain development is and the effects of childhood trauma and toxic stress, as well as interventions that can reverse these negative effects.

### **May 30 (TODAY): CBPP Webinar on ACA Repeal and Medicaid State of Play**

Please join the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities for a state advocates webinar on Tuesday, May 30 at 3:30pm ET to hear the latest state of play on ACA repeal. Speakers will include CBPP's Senior Vice President for Legislative Affairs, Ellen Nissenbaum, who will walk through the ever-evolving timeline on the Senate's efforts to put together a healthcare bill and provide ideas for action in the coming weeks. This webinar is closed to the press and primary for state-based advocates. To register, click [here](#).

### **May 31: Brookings Event on School-Based Social and Emotional Learning Programs**

On Wednesday, May 31 from 9:00 to 11:00am ET, Princeton University and the Brookings Institution will release the latest issue of *The Future of Children*, titled "Social and Emotional Learning." This issue focuses on the promise of school-based social and emotional learning programs to support children's success. Following a presentation of the latest journal volume and policy brief, Special Olympics Committee President Timothy Shriver will give keynote remarks and participate in a moderated discussion with Clark McKown, executive director of the Rush NeuroBehavioral Center. The event will conclude with an expert panel discussion of SEL programs. RSVP to attend in person [here](#). The event will also be webcast live [here](#).

### **June 6: Health Affairs Briefing on Health Equity**

In 2016 *Health Affairs* launched a multi-year project to examine the factors that contribute to disparities in health and health care. The results of the first phase of this work are contained in the forthcoming June 2017 issue of the journal, "Pursuing Health Equity." Please join Health Affairs on Tuesday, June 6, at a forum at the National Press Club in Washington, DC, featuring a high-level conversation on the issues covered in the journal. Topics to be covered are: Pursuing Health Equity, Addressing Social Determinants of Health, Evidence of Inequities in Health Care, and Addressing Inequities in Health Care. Click [here](#) to RSVP.

### **June 7: Webinar on Human Trafficking: Identifying and Responding to Victims in the Healthcare Setting**

The office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in partnership with the National Criminal Justice Training Center will hold a webinar on June 7<sup>th</sup> from 2pm-3:30 EST. A 2017 survey report from the Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking (CAST) found that over half of labor and sex trafficking survivors surveyed had accessed health care at least once while being trafficked. Nearly 97% indicated they had never been provided with information or resources about human trafficking while visiting the health care provider. This webinar will present strategies to equip healthcare professionals to identify and appropriately assist trafficked persons with victim-centered, trauma-informed care and services. For more information or to register for the webinar, click [here](#).

### **OPRE Report: How do acute and chronic stress impact the development of self-regulation?**

This new brief from the Office of Policy and Research Evaluation (OPRE at HHS) and Frank Porter Graham can be found [here](#).

### **News Items of Note**

[Doctors worry as Texas lawmakers OK vaccine restrictions](#)

*Associated Press*, May 19, 2017

[The big squeeze on human needs programs continues](#) (Opinion)

*The Hill*, May 19, 2017

[Parental drug abuse sent more than 85,000 kids into foster care in 2015](#)

*Daily Caller*, May 20, 2017

[Penn State launches National Center for Child Maltreatment Research](#)

*Chronicle of Social Change*, May 20, 2017

[Senate passes religious protections for child welfare agencies](#)

*Texas Tribune*, May 22, 2017

[Major child protective services reforms head to Gov. Abbott's desk](#)

*American-Statesman*, May 28, 2017

[The RAND approach to child welfare: cutting cost, improving outcomes](#)

*Chronicle of Social Change*, May 22, 2017

[Foster parent shortage dire as heroin overdoses rise](#)

*ABC News*, May 24, 2017

[70,000 students with disabilities secluded, restrained at school](#)

*Education Week*, May 17, 2017

[Golden wants commission to study child abuse prevention](#)

*Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, May 30, 2017