

EarlyWell Initiative



2025 POLICY PRIORITIES

The EarlyWell Coalition collaborates with parents, families, health practitioners, care providers, and community leaders to promote public policies that enhance the social-emotional health of North Carolinians aged 0 to 8.

FAMILY SUPPORT IN NAVIGATING A DISABILITY INCREASES POSITIVE OUTCOMES

The Family Support Network provides tools for parents and families to support children with a disability or special healthcare needs through a peer to peer model.

POLICY PRIORITY: The Family Support Network requests \$728,000 in recurring state budget funding to expand the program, allowing for one FSN staff member in each county.

REACH OUT AND READ PROVIDES SUPPORTIVE CONNECTIONS & PROMOTES HEALTH

Reach Out and Read uses shared reading between parents and children to foster positive, language-rich interactions between families beginning at birth.

POLICY PRIORITY: Reach Out and Read requests \$500,000 in recurring state funding to support statewide outreach. This budget allocation was included within the House Budget. We are waiting to see if it would will be included in the final version.

REDUCING BARRIERS FOR FAMILIES TO GET LICENSED AS KINSHIP CARE PROVIDERS

Children in kinship foster care show overall positive behavior development, mental health, and placement stability.

POLICY PRIORITY: Educate communities across the state on Kinship Care procedures and resources through in person events, listening sessions and more.