



BRINGING UP CALIFORNIA

Racial Justice for Children,
Families, and Communities



Bringing Up California (formerly Whole Child Equity Partnership) is a coalition of advocates, community organizers, and service providers united in our commitment to transform California into the best state to have, raise, and be a child. Joining hand-in-hand with families, we can realize California's promise of a healthy, hopeful, and equitable future for birthing people, babies, toddlers, and young children.

We envision a society rooted in racial and economic justice where all children are embraced, valued, and cared for, and where every child has access to systems and services promoting their health, well-being, and the life opportunities that enable them to thrive.



California boasts the fifth largest economy in the world, yet too many families of babies and young children are denied essential resources and support, stunting their chance for an opportunity-rich childhood. This challenge is particularly prevalent in our Black, AAPI, Latine, Indigenous, and immigrant communities.

Our children's futures hinge on the health and well-being of their support network. Parents, educators, doulas, and entire communities form this crucial foundation. However, communities of color are disgracefully shortchanged by government systems and public services

Consequently, Black and Indigenous birthing individuals confront alarmingly higher risks of complications or death during childbirth, countless babies miss out on the vital care needed for healthy development, and young children are denied the early learning experiences they need. This must change. Let's rally for equitable transformation—every family, every community, deserves their rightful access to opportunity and care.

What we are doing:

Together with families and communities, we fight for policies that support children's early learning and care, families' access to health care, mental health services, and economic mobility. By centering centering family and community voices, we advocate for a California where every family has:

- **System Navigation:** Strong community support systems, with culturally affirming services that provide guidance, education, resources, and a sense of belonging.
- **Economic Opportunity:** Access to living wages, paid family leave, and financial support that alleviate the stress of poverty and allow parents to focus on their children's well-being.
- **Pregnancy and Postpartum Support:** Breastfeeding and body feeding support, developmental screenings, and postpartum and mental health services.
- **Early Learning and Child Care:** High-quality, culturally, and linguistically affirming early learning experiences that nurture children's development and prepare them for success in school and life.
- **Health Coverage and Care:** Affordable, reliable, and high-quality health coverage and care.

Find out more about our work and get involved:

It will take all of us to realize California's promise of a healthy, hopeful, and just future for children of color. Join us to transform California into the best state to have, raise, and be a child:

- ▶ Visit childrenspartnership.org/campaigns/bringing-up-california for up-to-date information
- ▶ Sign up for our newsletter
- ▶ Attend our quarterly meetings
- ▶ Contact bringingupca@childrenspartnership.org to get involved
- ▶ Follow us on:  Instagram  Bluesky  Facebook  LinkedIn

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The coalition is co-chaired by The Children's Partnership and Catalyst California. Steering Committee Members include the following organizations: **A Black Education Network, Black Californians United for ECE, California Black Women's Health Project, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network, Californians for Justice, California Pre-Term Birth Initiative, Center for District Innovation and Leadership, End Child Poverty CA/GRACE, Families in Schools, First 5 Association, First 5 LA, First 5 Center for Children's Policy, InnerCity Struggle, San Diego Community Birth Center, SEIU and Ventures.**