

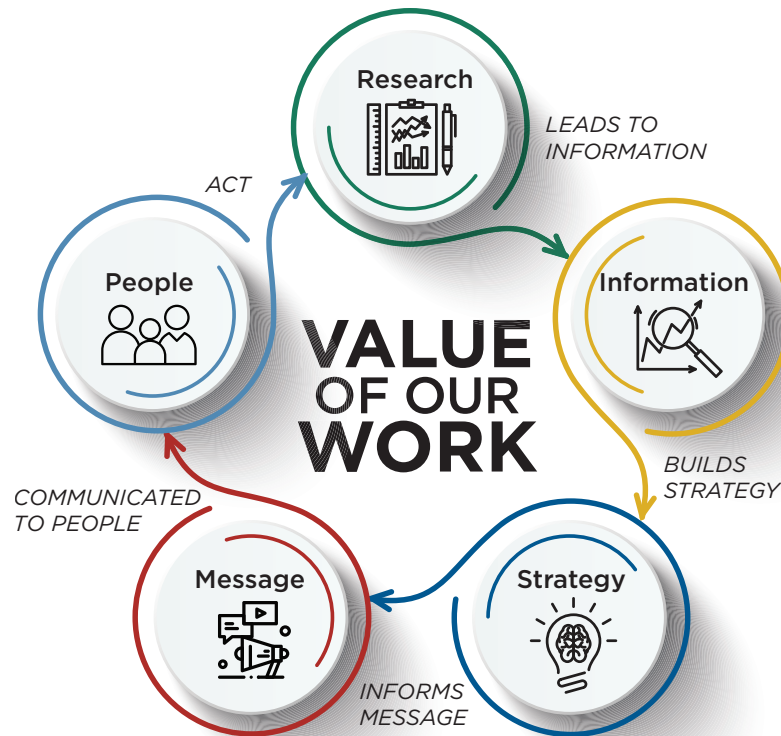
BOARD ON Children, Youth, AND Families



*The National
Academies of*

SCIENCES
ENGINEERING
MEDICINE

THE BOARD ON CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES (BCYF) at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine advances the health, learning, development, resilience, and well-being of all children, youth, and families by mobilizing expertise from multiple disciplines to analyze the best available evidence on critical issues facing children, youth, and families.



OBJECTIVES

Identify and address current needs and future developments that may advance or harm families and their children and youth from the perinatal period through young adulthood.

Identify promising opportunities for holistic, constructive and sustainable change in relevant systems, processes, environments, culture, technology and services that will support our mission.

Develop evidence-based policies, practices, evaluation approaches and research that support our mission.

CORE PRODUCTS & SERVICES



CONSENSUS REPORTS

We oversee development and dissemination of evidence-based, peer-reviewed consensus reports; including broad policy studies, such as reducing child poverty in the U.S. by 50% in ten years, as well as reports on more narrowly focused topics, such as workforce training for educators of children aged 0-8.

WORKSHOPS

We organize workshops that bring together relevant expertise and experience to consider and report on current evidence, research, insights and innovations related to specific strategic priority areas.

FORUMS

We convene on-going forums that share current issues, policy innovations, best practices and research in specific areas among interested organizations, government agencies and experts.

PRODUCT INNOVATION

We develop innovative additional products, approaches, and techniques that will enlarge our product portfolio and increase the impact of our work.

ADVISING

We respond to requests from Congress, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations such as foundations, for analyses, studies and policy recommendations.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREAS

Children, youth, and families live in complex environments with dynamic interactions among multiple agents and subsystems, including family units, educational institutions, public safety and justice systems, healthcare systems, social services, and other systems.

In conducting its activities, BCYF will use approaches that are transdisciplinary, inclusive, transparent, and evidence-based. BCYF seeks to drive improvements in several strategic priority areas:

Constructive development and resilience

across physical, cognitive, behavioral, emotional and social domains for all children, youth and young adults — at home, in school, at work and in communities.

Healthy systems, such as social, physical and built environments that support children, youth, and families.

Healthy, well-balanced lifestyles and prevention of physical, emotional, social and cognitive health issues or toxic stress, through family, healthcare, school and community programs.

Comprehensive and integrated care,

including acute and chronic care for physical, behavioral, emotional, social and cognitive health, and for life events such as pregnancy and perinatal needs.

Effective service systems, such as foster care, justice, child welfare, health, education and employment.

Equity, by advancing fair and just systems and care for all children, youth, and families, so that they have full opportunities to achieve their goals, and the resilience to deal effectively with challenges, problems and issues that arise over the life course.



PLEDGE OF EXCELLENCE

As the pace of change in knowledge, technology, media, and policy making continues to accelerate, BCYF will focus on the following operational priorities:

Product Innovation

We will serve the growing need for high-quality, evidence-based policy recommendations by exploring new and modified products that can be delivered more quickly and cost-effectively, while adhering to our values, rigor and purpose.

Communicating Our Work

Increasingly, those who seek to develop socially relevant policies and programs must communicate with a broad array of decision-makers and influencers, including the affected populations. BCYF will work to ensure that our dissemination materials include products that are concise, appealing and accessible to lay as well as technical audiences, and widely available.

Working with the National Academies' communications teams, we will continue to lead in the use of innovative presentation tools and techniques, social media and feedback mechanisms.

Increased Impact & Effectiveness

We will set target-audience and impact metrics and goals during the design phase of projects, and support funding for communications programs, usage tracking, user feedback, and product evaluation.

We will develop evaluation programs to analyze and report on our projects' impact and effectiveness.

We will encourage appropriate inclusion of the lived experience of affected populations, as well as their participation in research, policy development and policy implementation. We will also encourage the appropriate use of large scale data analyses.

Scaling Up

We will develop and implement a growth plan to achieve the above goals.





Board on Children, Youth, and Families

CONTACT US

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Through consensus studies—a meticulous process of information collection, evidence analysis, and deliberation—we provide blueprints for progress. By shining a light on subjects and facilitating dialogue across disciplines, our workshops and other convening activities advance understanding of critical issues. The needs of the nation—and therefore the topics we study—change over time, but our commitment to providing sound advice that can be put to work for the public good does not.

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