West Virginia moms and dads are struggling.

More parents than ever are struggling to make ends meet and juggle the everyday demands of parenting, including caring for their children, and paying for food, rent, utilities, and clothing. It is even harder for parents with children who need some extra support.

All of these challenges can compound stress on families in a way that negatively impacts their children.

Lack of Access to Medical Care

Food Insecurity

Reliable Transportation

Affordable Housing

Economic Insecurity

Isolation

Access to Child Care

Income Loss

Rising Bill Costs

Utility Costs

Families can thrive when stresses are not wearing them down.

By ensuring parents have the tools, services, and resources they need, we can strengthen families, prevent child abuse, and improve the lives of children throughout our state.



Strengthening Families, Preventing Abuse, Helping Children Thrive



We CAN prevent child abuse.

TEAM for West Virginia Children calls on legislators to support the following plan to ensure that every child in West Virginia has what they need to thrive:

Fund child care.

Families cannot work without child care. Child care providers need consistent funding to keep their doors open.

- Increase funding to allow child care providers to be reimbursed based on enrollment and not attendance.
- Protect and ensure a quality child care workforce by providing child care subsidies for all child care workers.
- Initiate a statewide plan to address child care availability and affordability in West Virginia.

Enact paid family and medical leave.

Join Maryland and other states in enacting paid family and medical leave for all so that no worker has to choose between their job and caring for a child or loved one.

Protect and expand investments in children and families.

Expand access to local resources and programs that support child development and buffer against parental stressors by providing funding for family support programs, such as early childhood home visitation programs, local Partners in Prevention child abuse prevention teams, Family Resource Networks, and Family Support Centers.

Refocus efforts on child abuse prevention.

Refocus efforts on prevention of child abuse **BEFORE** it occurs, including providing alternative pathways of local support for families so that unwarranted calls are not directed to CPS, which diverts needed resources from children whose safety is at risk.





TEAM for West Virginia Children

Since 1986, **TEAM for West Virginia Children** has been working with communities and families to promote and advance the well-being of children, making their needs and healthy development a priority.

For more information on our partners and programs, visit: **teamwv.org**

We operate and partner with an integrated network of programs to:

- Advocate for Children
- Champion Family-Friendly Communities
- **Educate the Public**
- **Strengthen Families**

Our Programs











