



# Strengthening Connections and Staying Purpose Driven

**Preschool Promise**

16<sup>th</sup> Annual Readiness Summit

March 2025



**Safe Babies**

A Program of ZERO TO THREE



# RESILIENCE



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Fostering resilience in children means investing in the adults who support them.

**DR. SUFNA JOHN**



# The landscape

## *Poverty Rate Soared in 2022 as Aid Ended and Prices Rose*

The increase in poverty reversed two years of large declines. Median income, adjusted for inflation, fell 2.3 percent to \$74,580.

**The New York Times**

## *With Pandemic Money Gone, Child Care Is an Industry on the Brink*

Five months after the expiration of federal funds, running a child care business is more precarious than ever, and many parents struggle to pay tuition, surveys show.

## **Who's Looking Out for the Mental Health of Infants and Toddlers?**

By Emily Tate Sullivan Feb 28, 2023

**The US child care system is in crisis. It's hardest on moms without degrees.**

## **Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Often Go Untreated for Parents on Medicaid**

Among those with substance use disorders who have been referred to child welfare, less than half received medication or counseling.

By EMILY BAUMGAERTNER

## **New postpartum depression drug gets almost \$16,000 price tag, raising questions about access**

By Meg Tirrell, CNN


## **There's a Mental-Health Crisis Among American Children. Why?**


The pandemic is not the only reason.




# Strengthening Our Connections

Exploring  
the use of  
prevention  
services

 Reframing help-seeking  
behavior

 Creating collaborative  
strategies  
to meet family stressors

 Scaffolding relationships and  
partnerships to nurture  
long-range outputs

Partnering with  
Community-based  
supports to promote  
strengthening  
families

# Early childhood systems







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Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. –

*Margaret Mead*

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# Thank you – stay connected



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Early connections last a lifetime

