

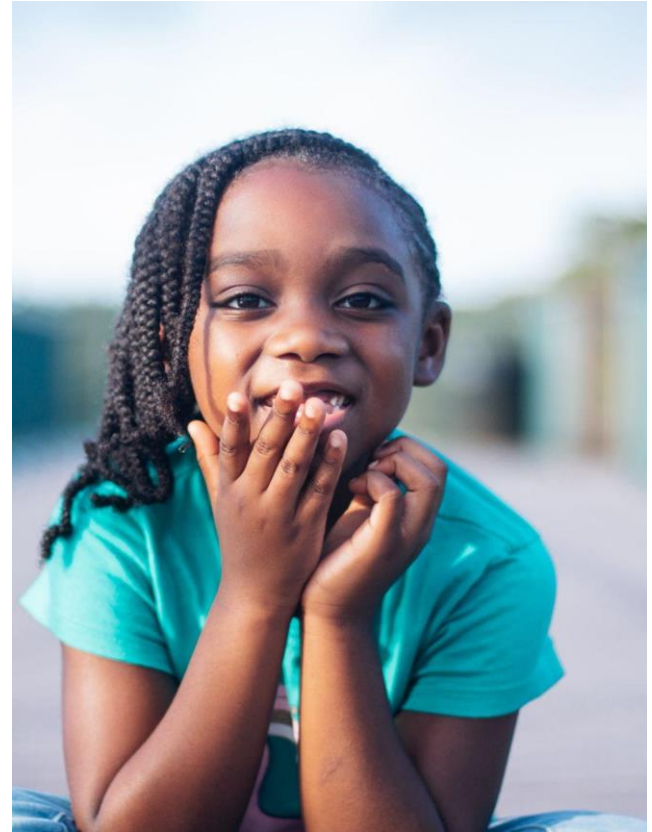
Vision

A **loving approach** to **helping children obtain what they need to live with dignity** by comprehensively supporting families through a **collaborative network of carefully selected resources and effective public and private investments**, grounded in community and culture, and a workforce fully devoted to **serving with intentional equity**.



The Children's Bureau prioritizes **building equity** in child welfare systems.

Threading equity into all elements of our priorities is crucial to increasing benefits to Black and Brown children, including families who have experienced multi-generational systemic interventions and disproportionate outcomes.



The following are our priority goals:

1

**Prevent Children from
Coming into Foster Care**

2

**Support For Kinship
Caregivers**

3

**Ensure Youth Leave Care
with Strengthened
Relationships, Holistic
Supports, and Opportunities**

4

**Invest in the Child
Welfare Workforce**



1

Prevent Children from Coming into Foster Care

Call upon jurisdictions to examine and amend their definitions of neglect; particularly definitions that conflate poverty with neglect

Expand funding for civil legal representation for families before foster care becomes necessary, and to facilitate reunification

Strengthen interagency partnerships, coordination, and collaboration

FFPSA - Utilizes the most expansive definition of candidacy



2

Support for Kinship Caregivers

**Promote equitable
licensing standards for
kinship caregivers**



**Increase the number of
kinship families by
removing inequitable
barriers to licensing and
require that any approved
IV-E eligible kinship home
receive federal support**



3 | Ensure Youth Leave Care with Strengthened Relationships, Holistic Supports, and Opportunities



Provide youth in foster care with safe, healthy, and normative experiences

Ensure youth have a successful transition into adulthood

Empower youth to chart their life's course after foster care



4

Invest in the Child Welfare Workforce

Create pathways for jurisdictions to recruit, retain, and nurture a diverse and well-equipped child welfare workforce

Partner with child welfare agencies to devise innovative strategies to support the child welfare workforce

Encourage and expand educational and training opportunities to recruit and retain child welfare professionals

