



## NCIT Five State Power Sharing Initiative

### Objective:

Every child deserves a strong start in life and the foundation we provide shapes their future and the future of our communities. The National Collaborative for Infants & Toddlers (NCIT) Five State Power Sharing Initiative seeks to advance effective prenatal-to-three (PN-3) policy advocacy by enhancing collaboration between state and local advocates and national partners. This initiative focuses on improving the conditions for effective policy advocacy in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Mississippi, and Texas—states that represent just under 20% of all children in the US under the age of three.

### Challenge:

Advancing crucial PN-3 policies, such as paid family and medical leave, access to health care, affordable child care, and healthy nutrition, is always challenging. However, passing policy in these five states is especially difficult due to systemic barriers that thwart even the savviest advocates. Consequently, these states experience disparities in health and well-being and unequal opportunities for infants and toddlers to thrive. Despite the urgency, support from nationwide advocacy movements often falls short. We want to change that.

### Solution:

The Five State Power Sharing Initiative

**Join us as we work collaboratively to improve the well-being of infants, toddlers and caregivers through policy advocacy in these five states.**



### Aims to:

- **Leverage Local Expertise:** Harness the knowledge and insights of state and local advocates who understand their communities' unique needs and political realities.
- **Enhance National Support:** Mobilize national organizations with resources and expertise to effectively support state and local efforts.
- **Facilitate Coordination:** Streamline communication and collaboration between local advocates and national partners to reduce redundancies and better meet advocates where they are in their campaigns.
- **Cultivate bipartisan political champions in all five states:** Tap into shared values and priorities among federal, state, and local decision-makers and advocates to actively pursue bipartisan support and leadership for the PN-3 population.

## Activities include:

- **Peer Leadership:** Create pathways for local and state advocates, decision-makers and national partners to communicate, share lessons learned and develop relevant strategies, tools, and convening opportunities.
- **Resource Alignment:** Ensure national organizations provide targeted support based on the specific needs identified by local and state advocates.
- **Policy Mapping:** Drive the development and implementation of impactful PN-3 policies in the five targeted states, addressing critical gaps and disparities.
- **Power-Sharing:** Participating organizations reimagine ways to share their power with PN-3 advocates in the five states.



## Impact Goals:

- **Policy Advancement:** Pass and implement PN-3 policies in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Mississippi, and Texas, improving the quality of life for nearly 20% of the nation's children under age three.
- **Reduced Disparities:** Address and mitigate significant health and well-being disparities young children and their families face in these states.
- **Strengthened Advocacy:** Empower local and state advocates with the support they need to achieve policy successes and drive meaningful change.
- **Increased investment:** Cultivate a more extensive and diversified base for long-term advocacy funding to support every phase of policy change and to build and sustain bipartisan political will for PN-3 policy advocacy.
- **Model Development:** Build an effective, scalable model that can be replicated in other states and regions.



## Take Action:

- **Community Organizations:** Join or strengthen your state-based coalition to contribute to local advocacy efforts.
- **National Organizations:** Become part of the Five State National Partner Table to provide critical resources and support.
- **Foundations and Funders:** Financially support NCIT's Power Sharing Initiative or specific policy change campaigns.
- **Advocates:** Join our grassroots network to receive updates and act when your elected officials need to hear from you.

Together, we can create a strong foundation for every child by advancing effective policies in our communities. Join us in making a difference at [ncit.org](https://ncit.org)