



The **National Collaborative for Infants & Toddlers (NCIT)** is an education and advocacy movement of more than 500 member organizations across the U.S. that want to improve the health and well-being of infants, toddlers, and their families.

NCIT urges Congress to protect and strengthen FY27 appropriations for programs that help infants, toddlers, and their families thrive.

While many PN-3 programs need congressional support, Congress can make the greatest impact right now by acting on these five priorities:



Fully Fund WIC

Fully fund the **Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)** to serve all eligible participants, without any compromises to the fruit and vegetable benefit or science-based food package that promote healthy pregnancies and early development.



Increase Head Start Funding

Increase funding for **Head Start and Early Head Start** to support cost-of-living adjustments, strengthen program quality, and help local providers continue the work that sets children up for long-term success.



Expand Child Care Access

Expand funding for the **Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)** to improve child care access and affordability, adequately support the provider workforce, and promote quality early learning.



Strengthen Maternal and Infant Health

Strengthen the **Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Services Block Grant** to support state health departments deliver essential health care services to reduce maternal and infant mortality and morbidity.



Invest in Early Intervention

Invest in Part C of the **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)** to support states in delivering timely early intervention and family-centered services that help infants and toddlers with developmental delays reach their full potential.

The decisions Congress makes in FY27 appropriations will affect the health and well-being of infants, toddlers, and families for years to come. NCIT welcomes the opportunity to provide expertise and support as decisions on these critical investments move forward.