



The Education Trust–West

COVID-19 One Year Later: Results of a Birth-5 Parents Poll



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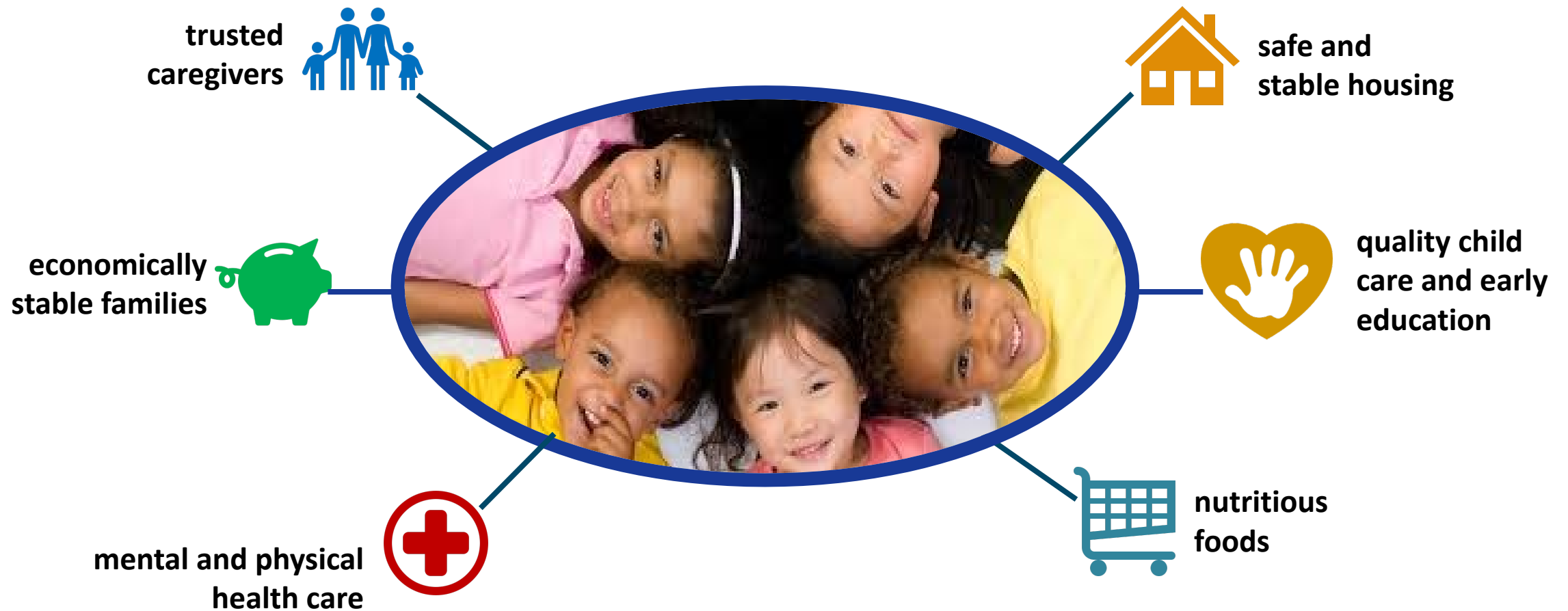
Early Childhood Policy Council
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The Children's Partnership (TCP) is a policy and advocacy organization committed to advancing child health equity.

We advocate for breakthrough solutions at the intersection of research, policy, and community engagement.



The Impacts of COVID-19 on Children: A Whole Child Perspective





A Data Snapshot from California Families with Young Children

February 2021



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Center for
District Innovation
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in Early Education



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**The Children's
Partnership**

Social, Emotional and Physical Well-Being

Survey Results: Struggles with Health Care

- 50% of unemployed parents **enrolled in state sponsored health insurance** (Medi-Cal and Covered California) after losing their job.
- Over a third of parents overall (34%) have **attempted to enroll in Medi-Cal** during the pandemic.
 - Half (50%) cited that they had problems and/or issues when applying and enrolling in Medi-Cal, the most common being **the need for a lot of follow-up** (23%).
- 26% say they **have not been able to access medical care using telehealth** during the pandemic.
 - 94% of parents agree that accessing their child's doctor via telehealth could help them, but only 48% currently access their child's doctor using telehealth.
- 32% have **missed well-child health appointments** for their child.



Survey Results: The Pandemic's Impact on Children's Development and Wellbeing



- 70% are **worried about the mental health** of the adults and/or child in their family.
- 87% of parents agree that receiving **referrals to mental health supports could help them**; only 13% **have received or currently have access** to mental health referrals.
- 73% of parents **worry about their child's ability to socialize** with other children.
- 74% are worried that their **child's education and development will suffer**.

Survey Results: Other Concerns from Parents

- 88% worry about **exposing their family to COVID-19**.
- 69% of parents report that the pandemic has **significantly disrupted** their home and family life (74% in April 2020).
- 64% worry they'll have to **make sacrifices in schooling or career to care** for their child during the pandemic (+5% since April 2020).
- 31% of parents are **worried about the impact issues like substance abuse and domestic violence** will have on their family as a result of the pandemic (+8% since April 2020).



Financial and food
insecurity, and changes to
child care arrangements

Survey Results: The Pandemic's Impact on Financial and Food Insecurity



- About a third of parents (31%) say they have skipped their or their child's meals as a result of the pandemic.
- A third (33%) say they feel uneasy about their family's financial situation over the next few months (53% in April 2020).
 - 40%: parents of color
 - 59%: low-income parents
- Slightly more are employed than last poll (67% vs. 61% in April 2020).
 - Fewer parents of color (58%) and low-income parents (40%) are employed.
- 61% have taken some type of leave or time off from work or school to care for their child
 - 36% in April 2020

Survey Results: The Pandemic's Impact on Child Care Arrangements

- 50% of parents also say that their current childcare facility has limited its hours, decreasing accessibility for parents.
- For parents whose child attended a home-based or center-based program before the pandemic, 34% closed temporarily and 4% closed permanently.
 - Parents of color are more likely to experience temporary closures (41%)
 - For low-income parents, 48% reported temporary closures and 8% reported permanent closures.
- 43% of children are attending in person; 37% remotely; 20% hybrid
 - Low-income parents (54%) and parents of color (44%) are more likely to report that their child is attending remotely.



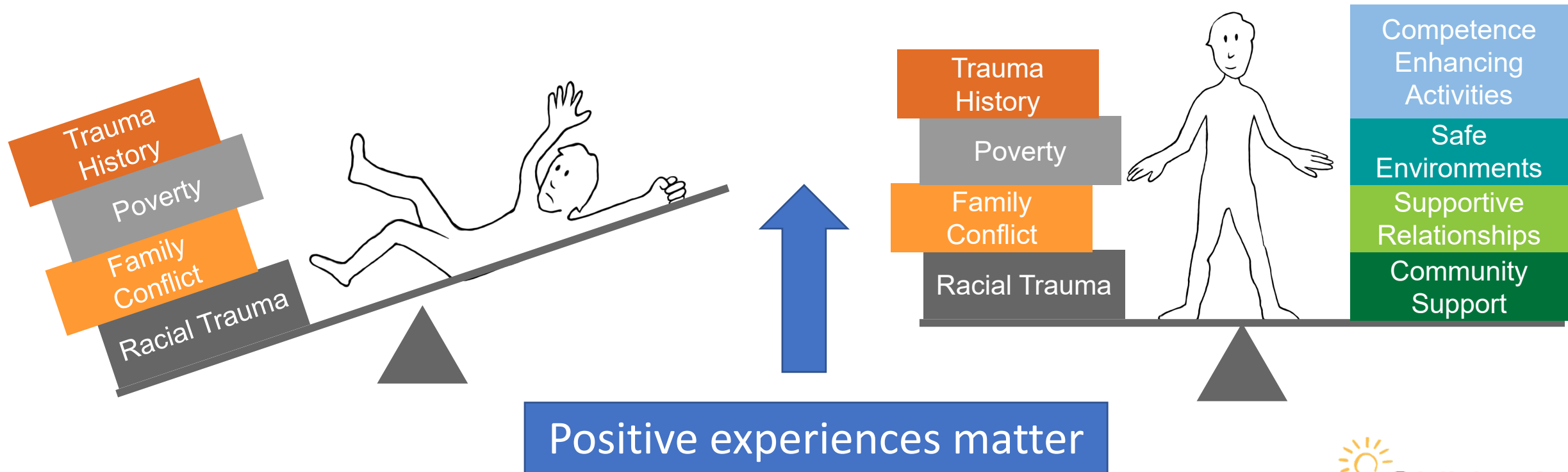
Moving Forward

Survey Results: Support for Public Investments in Early Childhood Programs

- Nearly all (96%) parents say they support investing more public funds in expanding access to quality, affordable child care and preschool.
- 90% agree that California should be doing more to ensure infants and toddlers are healthy and developmentally on track at birth and through early childhood.



Supporting Child Well-Being in COVID Recovery



Source: Ghosh Ippen, 2011

Thank you

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