

THE CHILD WELFARE AND RACIAL EQUITY (CWARE) COLLABORATIVE



The Child Welfare and Racial Equity (CWARE) Collaborative brings together more than a dozen organizations dedicated to transforming the child welfare system. Under the leadership of “lived experts” — people who have survived the system as children, youth, parents, kinship care givers, and foster parents — the Collaborative pursues the radical, anti-racist transformation of the child welfare system so that children, parents, and families are free to thrive in their homes and communities.

Composition:

The Collaborative is comprised of roughly 20 federal and state-level advocates in the fields of child welfare, early childhood and health. But its heart is the Coordinating Committee, made of five subject matter experts and nine “lived experts” — those who have personally experienced the child welfare system. The Coordinating Committee guides The Collaborative’s values, principles and goals. Federal and state-level advocates come from the following organizations:

[First Focus on Children](#)

[American Academy of Pediatrics](#)

[American Bar Association, Center on Children and the Law](#)

[Association of Children’s Residential Centers](#)

[Center for the Study of Social Policy](#)

[Child Focus](#)

[Children’s Action Alliance](#)

[Children’s Defense Fund](#)

[Children’s Trust Fund Alliance](#)

[Foster Club](#)

[Generations United](#)

[National Crittenton](#)

[National Foster Parent Association](#)

[National Indian Child Welfare Association](#)

[Youth Villages](#)

Mission:

The Collaborative works to transform the child welfare system from one that regulates families to one that takes an anti-racist approach to family integrity and child safety.

Method:

The Collaborative centers the expertise of individuals who have lived through the system to create policy recommendations, events, tools, strategic plans, and organizational connections. Our lived experts are co-leaders and co-creators of The Collaborative’s recommendations and efforts and are compensated as such.