

How Philanthropy Can Help Every Child Thrive

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Welcome! Let's get to know who's here.

Please introduce yourself in the chat:

- Your name
- Your organization + role
- What you're hoping to get out of today

We'll get started in just a minute.



Rebecca Brondfield

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Maggie Davies

Partner
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Partner
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The Bridgespan Group is a global nonprofit organization that collaborates with mission-driven leaders, organizations, and philanthropists, to make the world more equitable and just.

Friendly reminders



**After today's webinar,
we'll send you:**

- Webinar slides
- Links to all the resources we mention today



**Use Q&A feature
to submit your
questions throughout
the webinar**



**Please complete the
post-webinar survey**

We value your feedback!

Why we're here today

@BridgespanGroup



Foundations for lifelong success are set in the first five years

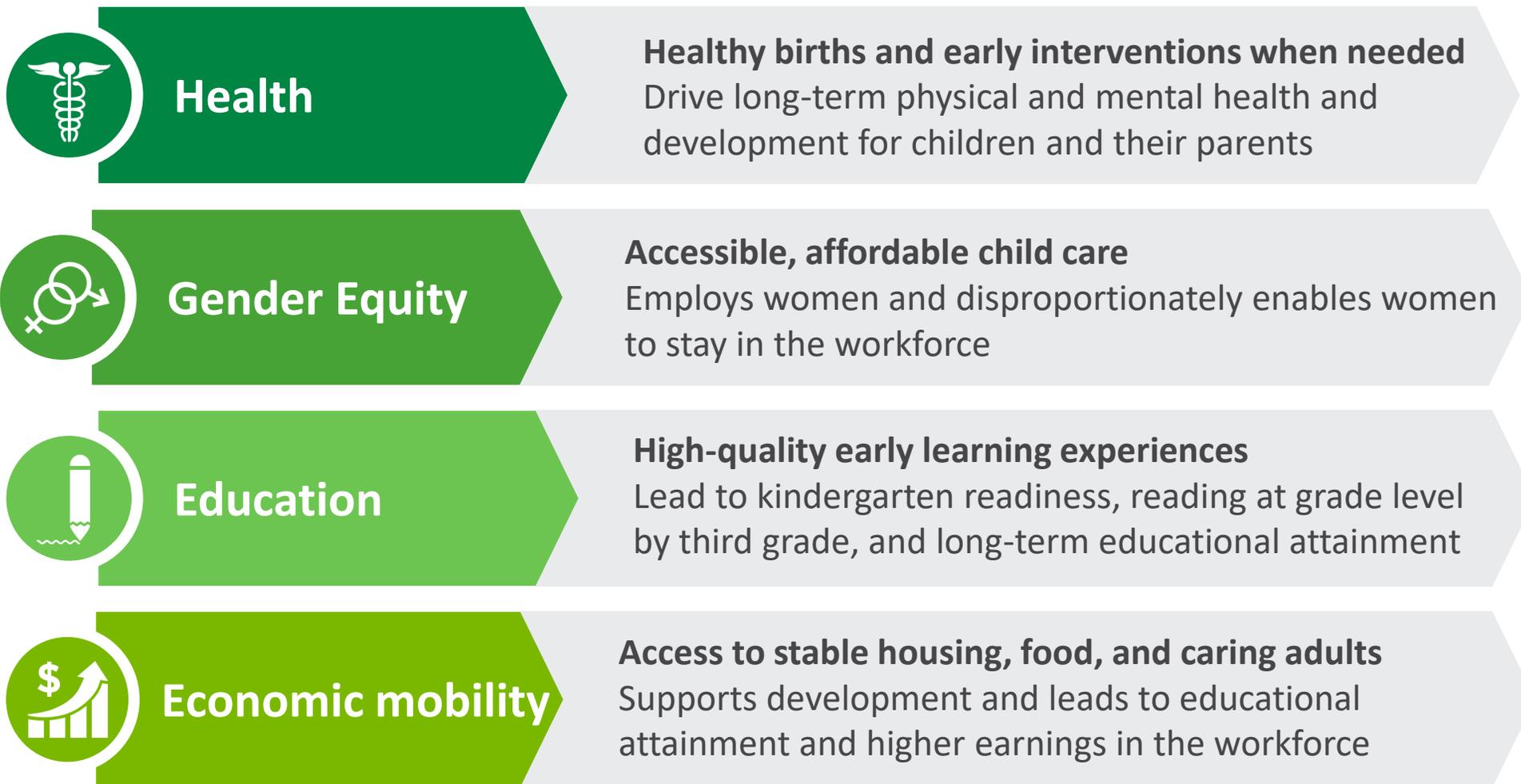
Children's brains form more than a million new neural connections per second

Emotional regulation and relational capacities develop rapidly

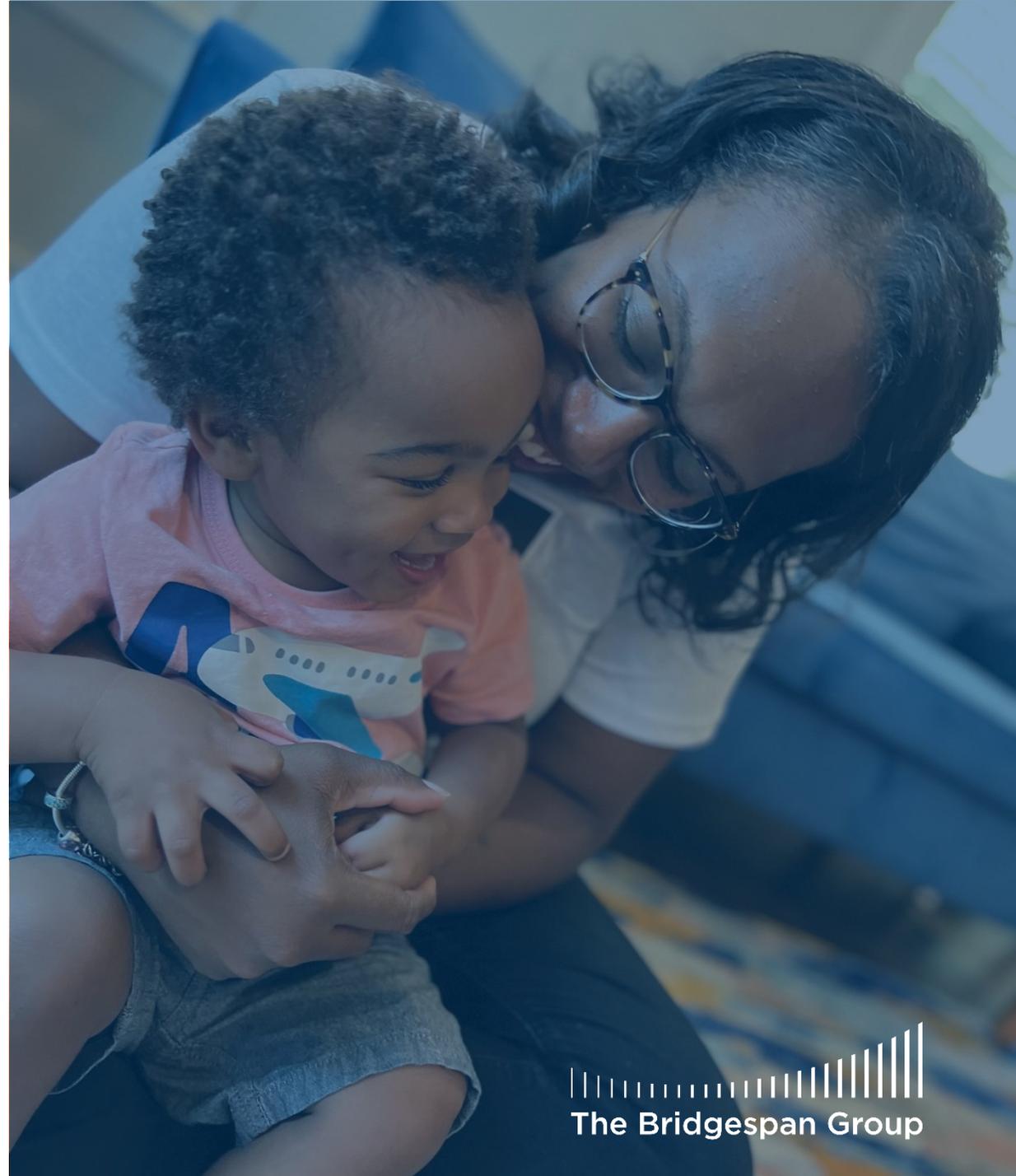
Early experiences and relationships shape long-term health, educational attainment, economic mobility, and overall well-being



Investing in very young children – and their families – is one of the most powerful ways to improve outcomes across most issue areas



According to Nobel Laureate James Heckman's research, **investments in early childhood education can drive a 13% annual return to society**—a larger return than interventions made later in life



Even in a more nascent and dispersed field, leaders and funders are demonstrating what's possible

WHAT'S WORKING



**Approaches that
work for many**



**Integrated supports
for families**



**Public awareness &
political momentum**



**Policies grounded in
what works**

Yet gaps remain in families' day-to-day experiences and the funding needed to achieve population-level outcomes

WHERE GAPS REMAIN



Families' lived experiences remain inconsistent



Supports vary dramatically by geography and income



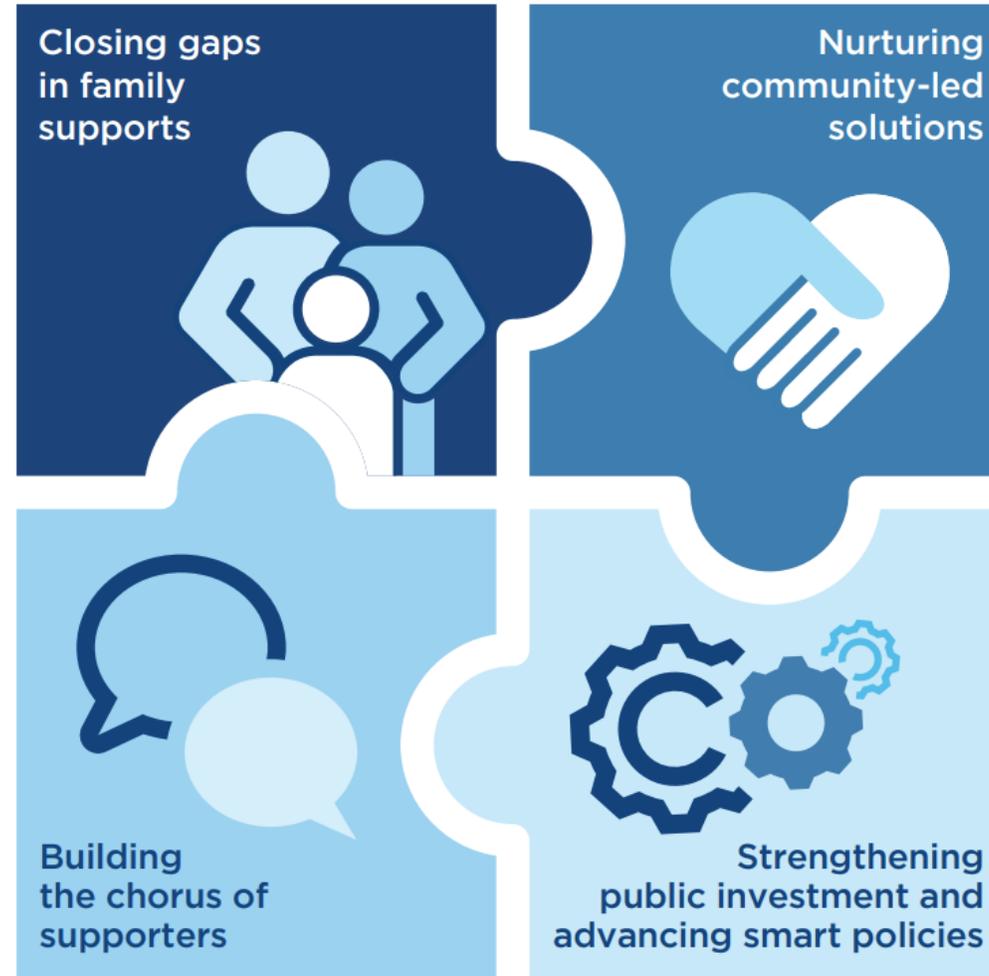
Racial disparities persist

Despite the evidence base, funding for our youngest children accounts for about

2%

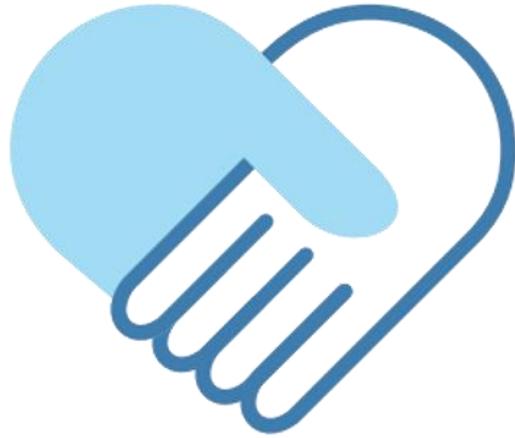
of total philanthropic investments, and has gotten relatively smaller in the past five years

Our updated funder guidance outlines specific, high-impact opportunities for greater philanthropic investment in our youngest children and their families





Philanthropy can help more families access proven supports that promote healthy development



Communities are building more connected systems, and need philanthropic support to sustain and scale them



The field needs a broader, more visible chorus of champions to elevate families of young children as a shared priority



Lasting change requires durable public funding and aligned policy, which donors can help accelerate

Reflections from fellow travelers

How do you characterize your focus?

What initially piqued your interest?

What keeps you investing?

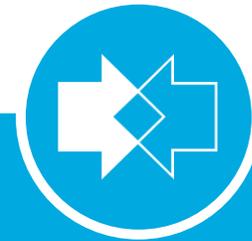
Getting started



Where to focus



Where to give



How to give

Let's continue the conversation



- Download the full guide and resources, “[Investing in Our Future: Critical Ways Philanthropy Can Help Every Young Child and Family Thrive](#)”
- Reach out to us at earlychildhood@bridgespan.org



Sharing research, insights, and practical tools is core to our theory of change



Over the last 20 years, The Bridgespan Group has become a leading producer of high-quality, social-sector content.



200+

Major articles & reports

1,000+

Short pieces & tools

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