

July 2, 2021

**Ms. Shalanda Young
Acting Director
Office of Management and Budget
Executive Office of the President**

Dear Ms. Young

Nemours Children's Health (Nemours) thanks you for your leadership in advancing equity in our nation and for the bold vision set forth in Executive Order (EO) 13985. We believe real change

Respondent: Nemours Children's Health (Nemours)

Focal Area: RFI Section 5

Nemours Mission and Expertise: Nemours is one of the nation's largest multistate pediatric health systems, including two free-standing children's hospitals and a network of

Evidence shows that factors like trauma and stress in a mother's life prior to conception, during pregnancy, and throughout the early postnatal care period can impact the life course of her child.² Such negative impacts on a child's health can result from both severe but also more moderate levels of stress and trauma on the mother.³

individuals The Arnie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) has developed a Race Equity and Inclusion Action Guide with the goal “to provide key audiences with transferable insights and tools that can help them understand what steps to take to make sure they are creating equitable

guide, provide technical assistance, disseminate best practices, and implement waivers to

As referenced above, the Kids Impact Initiative has developed [recommendations](#) for implementation of child impact assessments that ensure that youth input has been included in the process and that the impact of the proposed policy on equity has been considered. Moreover, OMB and a Federal Children's Cabinet could share tools with states and localities to identify and assess the opportunities that exist within their respective locales to address equity. For example, the Child Opportunity Index examines the extent of racial/ethnic inequity in the distribution of children across levels of neighborhood opportunity. Increasing the use of tools to identify where the greatest inequities exist can help identify neighborhoods that are disadvantaged across multiple dimensions and that are appropriate sites for community development and other place-based interventions.¹⁶

Nemours thanks our partners at Mental Health America, First Focus on Children, the Forum for Youth Investment, the Education Redesign Lab at Harvard University and Children's Funding Project for their work in co-developing the content included in the "proposal" section above. Our joint documents can be viewed at <https://www.nemours.org/vh/office-kids>. While our organizations have co-developed joint content, this letter is solely intended to express the views of Nemours.

Nemours commends your leadership in advancing EO 13985. Achieving whole child and family well-being grounded in equity will require the whole of government approach that you are seeking to advance. We believe establishment of a federal leadership structure for children, youth, and families is a critical step.

⁵Kasman, A. M, Zhang C. A., Li, S., Stevenson, D. K., Shaw G. M., & Eisenberg M. L. (2020). Association of preconception paternal health on perinatal outcomes: analysis of U.S. claims data. *Fertility and Sterility*, 113(5), 947-954. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fertnstert.2019.12.036>

⁶Slack, Kristen S, Fort, Sarah A., & Jones, Jennifer: (2017). The Complex Interplay of Adverse Childhood Experiences, Race, and Income. *Health & Social Work*, 42(1), e24-e31. <https://doi.org/10.1093/hsw/hlw059>