



# BEST BEGINNINGS

## Alaska's Early Childhood Investment

### Best Beginnings Racial Equity Statement

Too often, African-Americans, Alaska Natives, and people of color are not treated with the same dignity and respect as white members of society. In light of the social justice issues faced by communities of color, the board and staff of Best Beginnings have been searching for ways to incorporate racial equity into all aspects of our work. We recognize that systemic racism and discrimination have led to inadequate investments in communities of color and propagate the racial inequities that exist today.

We acknowledge that incorporating racial equity, diversity, and inclusion into what we do will have an impact on generations to come. Abandoning the responsibility to break down racial barriers is not an option. It is work that needs to be intentional and that must be done now.

Best Beginnings values the diversity, inclusiveness, and cultural experiences of every child and family and commits to fostering equity and inclusion in accessing all program services.

We consider this racial equity statement and our plan of action to be a living document, and we welcome feedback. We dream of a day when the world will be a safe place for all people regardless of the color of their skin. A day when people who live in our country and community will not need to have conversations with our children about being cautious or taking extra measures because the world is not always a safe place for them to grow up in, work, or simply be.

Adopted by Board of Directors November 11, 2020