

2022 BEC Members **BEC Overview** 4-5 6-7 BEC Mission & Goals 8-9 Summary of Progress towards Goals 1-4 10-12 Progress towards Goal 1 13-14 Progress towards Goal 2 16-18 Progress towards Goal 3 19-20 Progress towards Goal 4 **Special Thanks** 21 **BEC Executive Committee & Staff** 22 23 **BEC Board of Directors**

Leading Together

2022 BEC Members

BEC members are connected to a community of practice and build relationships within the industry. Through opportunities to interface and collaborate with policy-makers, BEC members gain insight into USG planning and practice and make valuable contributions to the sector as a whole.





































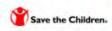


























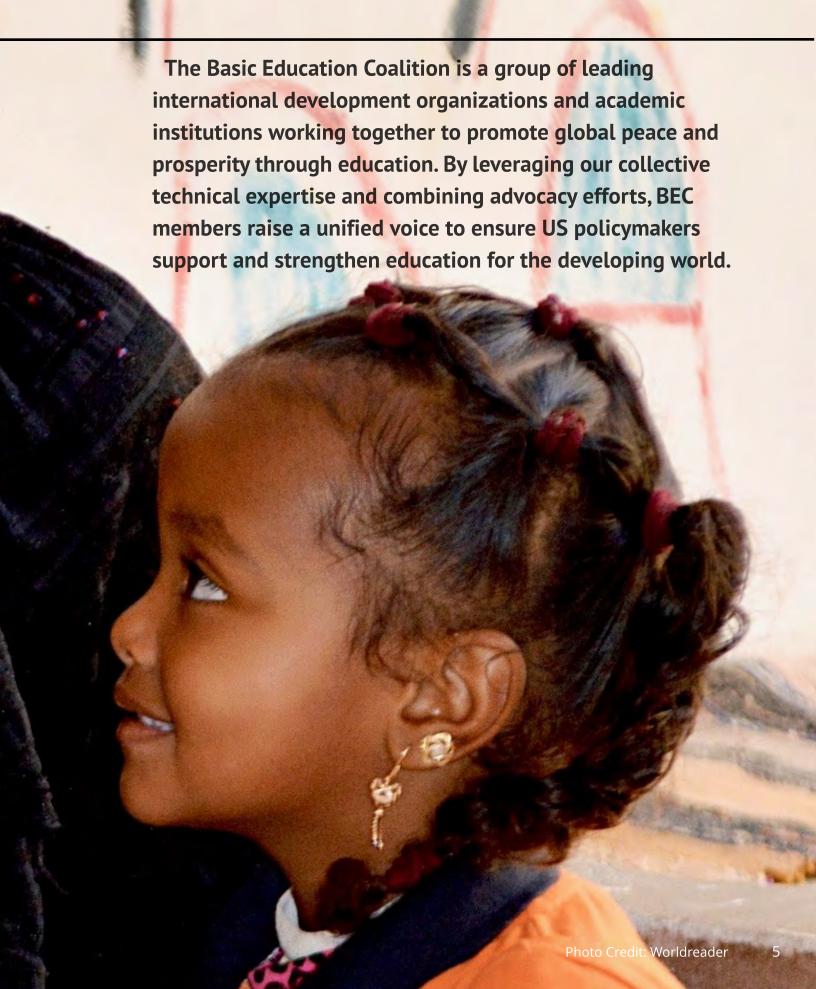












Mission

To promote expanded, equitable access to quality basic education so that a

As the leading coalition of U.S.-based organizations implementing glob diverse set of actors, unite the community around common messages arbuild upon the tremendous progress that has occurred in global basic effocusing on **four priority areas**.

1

Secure Funding for Bilateral Basic Education Programs

- **1.1.** Cultivate Congressional champions
- **1.2.** Produce advocacy materials
- **1.3.** Promote bilateral programs in joint advocacy efforts

2

Influence Policy that Governs Basic Education Programs

- **2.1.** Support implementation of the 2017 USG Strategy for International Basic Education & the 2018 USAID Education Policy
- **2.2.** Advance bipartisan legislation that strengthens basic education programs
- **2.3.** Defend against policies that threaten basic education programs

ll children have the chance to learn.

al basic education programs, BEC has the unique ability to bring together and elevate the education sector. BEC's 2020-2024 Strategic Plan looks to education and to utilize future opportunities to strengthen the sector, by

3

Advance the Evidence About What Works

- **3.1.** Identify gaps in technical guidance for basic education priorities
- **3.2.** Facilitate collaboration and sharing of best-practices through BEC's technical working groups
- **3.3.** Publicize new research, evidence, and ideas to key decision-makers

4

Maintain an Organization Positioned for Leadership

- **4.1.** Maintain financial security
- **4.2.** Empower BEC members as leaders and advocates
- **4.3.** Strengthen strategic communications to inform members and amplify efforts
- **4.4.** Build partnerships within the network of other actors

Progress towards Goals 1-2 Summary

Goal 1: Secure Funding for Bilateral Basic Education Programs

On December 23, 2022, Congress appropriated \$970 million for Basic Education in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, \$277 million above the Biden Administration's request. The Act includes \$130 million for the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and \$30 million for Education Cannot Wait (ECW). It also recommends that \$150 million be allocated for girls' education in areas of conflict. The topline number for basic education (\$970 million) is a \$20 million increase over Fiscal Year 2022 enacted levels. GPE and ECW both received increases of \$5 million. BEC was happy to see its advocacy efforts result in this increase, during a time of many competing priorities for the administration and the development community.



"The global COVID-19 pandemic and international conflicts have demonstrated the ongoing need for U.S. leadership in prioritizing education access for all children and youth. As co-chair of the International Basic Education Caucus and co-chair of the Congressional Ukraine Caucus, I have seen firsthand the need to protect global access to quality education. Education is the gateway to a successful future. Together, we can protect that future for generations around the globe."

- Congressman Quigley.

Goal 2: Influence Policy that Governs Basic Education Programs

Throughout the second and into the third year that the world grappled with the COVID-19 pandemic, BEC successfully encouraged Members of Congress to express support for international education. BEC continued to advocate for key legislation, including the READ Act Reauthorization Act, the Global Learning Loss Assessment Act, and the Keeping Girls in School Act. Finally, BEC participated in multiple consultations with USAID staff on policy and guidance related to international basic education.

Progress towards Goals 3-4 **Summary**

Goal 3: Advance the Evidence About What Works

BEC advanced the evidence about what works by identifying technical gaps and publicizing new research and ideas to key decision-makers. Some illustrative (non-exhaustive) examples include: regularly holding technical exchanges in its working groups; providing substantial input on USAID's update to the USG Strategy on International Basic Education; hosting the launch of USAID's Pre-Primary Guidance; supporting BEC member CIES collaborations; and disseminating BEC-produced and BEC-member-produced resources and best practices via newsletters, meetings, and webinars;.





Goal 4: Maintain an Organization Positioned for Leadership

BEC remained positioned for leadership by maintaining financial security (adding five new members in 2022), empowering BEC members as leaders and advocates (via conferences, webinars, consultations, working group exchanges, and advocacy), strengthening strategic communications (e.g. developing a communications and advocacy strategy, linking communications content with BEC's advocacy agenda, etc.), and continuing to foster strong partnerships (e.g. the GRN, USAID, UNICEF, GCE, USGLC, and others).

Goal 1: Secure Funding for Bilateral Basic Education Programs 1.1: Cultivate Congressional Champions

BEC Statements for the Congressional Record

On September 21, 2022, the BEC Co-Chairs submitted a statement for the Congressional Record, addressed to Chairman of the Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Civilian Security, Migration and International Economic Policy, Albio Sires (D-NJ) thanking the Chairman for convening the Subcommittee hearing to examine "Learning Loss in Latin America and the Caribbean: Building Better Education Systems in the Wake of the Pandemic". The Statement encouraged the Chairman to work across the aisle and both chambers of Congress to move critical legislation across the finish line, including:

- H.R. 4134 / S. 2276, The Keeping Girls in School Act
- H.R. 1500 / S. 552, The Global Learning Loss Assessment Act
- H.R. 7240 / S. 3938, the READ Act Reauthorization Act of 2022

On September 21, 2022 the BEC Co-Chairs

submitted a statement for the Congressional Record, addressed to Chairman of the Subcommittee on International Development, International Organizations and Global Corporate Social Impact, Joaquin Castro (D-TX) thanking the Chairman for convening the Subcommittee hearing to examine The Sustainable Development Goals and Recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic: Implications for U.S. Policy". The Statement encouraged the Chairman to emphasize the importance of SDG 4 to the success of the 2030 agenda and to global COVID-19 recovery efforts in his engagements with the Biden Administration.

Congressional Events

On September 22, 2022, BEC, along with ChildFund International and UNICEF USA co-hosted an event in the House of Representatives, "Keeping Girls in School: U.S. Foreign Policy for Global Prosperity," which urged Congress to pass the Keeping Girls in School Act in the 117th Congress.



Goal 1: Secure Funding for Bilateral Basic Education Programs 1.2 Produce Advocacy Materials

Appropriations Advocacy

BEC_shared its FY23 basic education appropriations requests (\$1.1 billion for Basic Education, with at least \$900 million for bilateral U.S. Government programs) with Congressional offices in the spring of 2022.

Capitol Hill Appropriations Sign-On letters

BEC co-wrote a letter led by Senator Van Hollen (D-MD) urging the Senate Appropriations State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee to provide "strong funding for Basic Education, including

funding for U.S. Government international education programs, the Global Partnership for Education, and Education Cannot Wait, in the FY2023 SFOPS Appropriations bill".

BEC worked with Congressman Mike Quigley (D-IL) and Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) to develop a letter to House State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee Chair Barbara Lee (D-CA) and Ranking Member Hal Rogers (R-KY) urging for "strong" funding for international basic education in the Fiscal Year 2023 budget.

Goal 1: Secure Funding for Bilateral Basic Education Programs 1.3 Promote Bilateral Programs in Joint Advocacy Efforts

Congressional Letter in Support of Basic Education Funding

BEC sent a letter to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees urging for robust funding for international basic education in FY 2023.

COVID-19 Supplemental Funding Advocacy

In February 2022, BEC joined a community letter representing global health, humanitarian, and development community, to President Biden urging him to "swiftly send a formal request to Congress asking for

additional emergency supplemental funding that reflects the true needs outlined by your agency experts to respond to the challenges of COVID-19 globally, as well as the increasingly alarming global hunger and humanitarian situations."

Letter to the Biden Administration on Basic Education Funding

In August and September, BEC led two letters to the Office of Management and Budget in support of robust Basic Education funding in the President's Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Request.

External Collaboration

In October 2022, BEC authored the Education Fact Sheet of InterAction's "Aid Delivers" publication, which will be published online as a resource to the general public.

In November 2022, BEC authored the Basic Education section of InterAction's "Choose to

Invest" publication, which will be shared widely among Capitol Hill offices during the 118th Congress.

In December 2022, Education Development Center presented during a steering committee meeting on their activities under USAID's Leading Through Learning Global Platform and areas of potential collaboration.



Goal 2: Influence Policy that Governs Basic Education Programs 2.1 Support implementation of the 2017 USG Strategy for International Basic Education and the 2018 USAID Education Policy

BEC inputs for updated U.S. Government Strategy on International Basic Education

The U.S. Government Strategy on International Basic Education (the Strategy) will expire in September 2023. In August 2022, BEC participated in USAID's inclusive, transparent, and evidence-based process to update the Strategy for the following five fiscal years.



Photo Credit: Chemonics International

Goal 2: Influence Policy that Governs Basic Education Programs 2.2. Advance bipartisan legislation that strengthens basic education programs

The Keeping Girls in School Act

The Keeping Girls in School Act (H.R. 4134/S.2276), led by Representatives Lois Frankel (D-FL) and Mike Waltz (R-FL) and Senators Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) was reported out of the House Foreign Affairs Committee in July 2022. It nearly made it into the FY2023 Omnibus, but hit political snags and ultimately did not progress any further in the 117th Congress. International education programs authorized under this Act will prioritize delivering tangible results and improvements in the lives of adolescent girls by holistically addressing the specific challenges that adolescent girls face in continuing their education. BEC looks forward to working with Congressional champions in the 118th Congress to incorporate components of this legislation

into a new bill to alleviate some of the political issues encountered in the 117th Congress.

The Global Learning Loss Assessment Act

BEC worked with Congresswoman Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA), Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Congressman Mike Quigley (D-IL), Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD), and Senator John Boozman (R-AR) to introduce the *Global Learning Loss Assessment Act of 2021 (H.R. 1500/S. 552)* in the House of Representatives and the Senate. The bill aims to improve the quality and reach of international education assistance by gathering critical data on learning loss, identifying gaps in access to distance learning, and outlining the needed support to increase the effectiveness of international education assistance during and after the pandemic. The bill passed the House in June 2021 and was reported out of the Senate

Foreign Relations Committee in July 2022. Because the bill did not make it over the finish line, BEC will seek to work with the Congressional leads in the 118th Congress to build additional support for the legislation and pass it into law.

READ Act Reauthorization Act

BEC worked with Reps. Karen Bass (D-CA) and Chris Smith (R-NJ) in the House of Representatives and Senators Richard Durbin (D-IL) and Marco Rubio (R-FL) in the Senate to introduce the READ Act Reauthorization Act (H.R. 7240/S. 3938). The legislation reauthorizes the Reinforcing Education Accountability in Development Act for an additional five years. The bill passed the House in September 2022 and was reported out of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in November 2022 before ultimately stalling at the end of the 117th Congress. BEC will work with the Congressional leads in the 118th Congress to ensure the legislation is enacted into law as soon as possible. The original authorities expired at the end of FY 2022 (September 30, 2022).

The Keeping Girls in School Act

BEC partnered with Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Rep. Lois Frankel (R-FL), and Rep. Michael Waltz (R-FL) to reintroduce the Keeping girls in School Act, a bill that directs U.S. foreign assistance to address the barriers that prevent adolescent girls from staying in and completing secondary school, in the 117th Congress in the summer of 2021. The bill has

garnered 60 bipartisan cosponsors in the House and 4 cosponsors in the Senate in 2021, and BEC will continue to advocate for this bill to be passed into law in 2022.

The Global Learning Loss Assessment Act

In spring 2021, BEC worked with Congresswoman Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA), Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Congressman Mike Quigley (D-IL), Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD), and Senator John Boozman (R-AR) to reintroduce the Global Learning Loss Assessment Act in the House of Representatives and the Senate in the 117th Congress. The bill (which highlights the harmful effects COVID-19 has had on children's education) was passed by the House of Representatives in June 2021 and BEC continues to push for progress in the Senate.





Goal 3: Advance the Evidence About What Works

3.1 Identify Gaps in Technical Guidance for Basic Education Priorities

Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion Working Group

In 2020, BEC responded to this technical gap by establishing a task force of passionate and knowledgeable BEC members who are working together to determine how the international education community can confront racism and legacies of colonization in development, better empower local communities, and make the industry more inclusive in general. By the end of 2021, this task force had evolved into a longer-standing, Board-approved working group and co-chairs were elected in January, 2022.

BEC Launch of USAID's Guidance for How To Develop High-Quality Pre-Primary Programs

USAID identified the gap in pre-primary guidance and worked to fill these gaps by developing this How-To Note. BEC supported the dissemination of this guidance by hosting a virtual launch event for the guidance that was widely attended by practitioners, donors, local NGOs, and more.

Pre-Primary Case Studies in Support of USAID's Guidance for How To Develop High-Quality Pre-Primary Programs

The BEC Early Childhood Education identified a need for more examples of high quality pre-primary programs within USAID's guidance. In consultation with USAID, the working group pulled together dozens of case studies, structured based on the existing guidance. These case studies, which were well-received by USAID, bolstered the guidance by providing additional examples for users to reference.

Universal Design for Learning Video

The BEC Gender and Social Inclusion working group identified a gap in understanding across the international education community around the concept of Universal Design for Learning. This gap, in conjunction with USAID's new commitment to include UDL in all new education programs by 2026, motivated the working group to produce a UDL video with Brooklyn Story Labs to be published in 2023.

Goal 3: Advance the Evidence About What Works

3.2 Facilitate Collaboration and Sharing of Best Practices in Technical Working Groups

Anti-Racism, Diversity, & inclusion (ARDI) Working Group

2022 was the ARDI working group's first year as an official working group (rather than a task force, which was established in 2020). The

group held regular meetings to take the work forward from the task force, focusing on deep dives into policy and issues, as well as strategizing ways to include perspectives from the global south and marginalized populations in member workplaces and programming. In a joint meeting with the Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning (MERL) working group, the ARDI working group brainstormed ways to make MERL more anti-racist, localized, and less extractive. The working group reviewed and provided feedback on USAID's Guidance for Promoting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in Educational Materials. The group then met with USAID to discuss their reflections and questions. In November, the group hosted a BEC event to educate members about the new USAID localization approach where several USAID officials presented the new policy and answered questions from BEC members.

Early Childhood Education (ECE) Working Group

The ECE working group had a busy year, full of regular meetings to exchange technical best practices and confront similar challenges together. Additionally, the ECE working group:

- Hosted a launch event for the new USAID pre-primary guidance with USAID and UNICEF.
- Collected pre-primary case studies in support of the USAID pre-primary guidance.
- Rallied support for the Keeping Girls in School Act.

EdTech Working Group

The EdTech working group accomplished a lot during 2022, including:

 Holding regular working group meetings to exchange technical best

- practices and share updates
- Collaborating on conference presentations and panels, including mEducation Alliance Symposium
- Organizing and sharing at a Fail Fest alongside the MERL working group

Gender & Social Inclusion (GSI) Working Group

The GSI working group held regular meetings to share best practices. Additionally, GSI:

- In collaboration with MERL, reviewed/ prepared feedback on the USAID Education Disability Measurement Toolkit.
- Participated in a focus group discussion as a part of a USAID gender and education landscape review. The focus of the discussion was to find out from Implementing Partners what is working in gender equality programming, what is not, and why.
- In collaboration with the Anti-Racism,
 Diversity, & Inclusion and EdTech
 working groups, reviewed the Guidance
 for Promoting Diversity, Equity,
 Inclusion, and Accessibility in
 Educational Materials.
- Developed a script and video on Universal Design for Learning (UDL).

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, & Learning (MERL) Working Group

The BEC MERL Working Group brought together MERL practitioners from BEC members to connect, discuss, and provide input on the latest advancements in MERL relevant to supporting basic education. This past year,

the BEC MERL working group convened discussions and provided technical recommendations to each other and USAID's Office of Education on the following topics:

- Held a session with USAID on its Education Disability Measurement Toolkit with the Center for Education present.
- Provided feedback on USAID's Guidance for Promoting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in Educational Materials.
- Collaborating with the ARDI working group, the MERL working group held a joint discussion on the implications of

- power, privilege, and equity in research in international education settings.
- The working group provided feedback to the Center for Education on best practices related to indicator CBLD-9, and how activities have monitored local capacity building to help foster resilient institutions.
- Held our first failfest with the EdTech working group, highlighting lessons learned in reporting, student social and emotional learning measurement, among other lessons.
- Encouraged collaborations among BEC members for CIES 2022.

Goal 3: Advance the Evidence About What Works 3.3 Publicize New Research, Evidence, and Ideas to Key Decision-Makers

Donor Consultations

BEC provided consultations on a number of USAID's new policies, guidance, and toolkits, including but not limited to:

- The USG Strategy on International Basic Education 2023 Update
- USAID's Guidance for Promoting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in Educational Materials
- Education Disability Measurement Toolkit
- USAID Education Disability
 Measurement Toolkit

Supporting USAID's Education Data Initiatives

BEC's MERL Working Group supported many of USAID's data initiatives including reviewing its

new education indicators, CBLD-9 indicator, and Education Disability Measurement Toolkit. These reviews allowed BEC membership to contribute to improved evidence at USAID.

Conferences, Webinars, and Virtual Events

BEC continued to extend its global reach through virtual events throughout 2022. BEC hosted a launch event for the new USAID pre-primary guidance with USAID and UNICEF as well as an internal dialogue with USAID on their new localization approach. BEC facilitated collaborations on CIES panels and presentations, published BEC-member CIES brochures, highlighted member panels on social media, and hosted a very successful member reception at the conference.

Goal 4: Maintain an Organization Positioned for Leadership 4.1 Maintain Financial Security

In 2022, Sightsavers, Global Childhood Academy, Link Education International, Winrock International, and British Council joined BEC as new members. BEC experienced a ten percent increase in BEC's overall revenue. BEC will continue to prioritize recruiting and sustaining members in 2023 to preserve the financial viability of the Coalition.

Goal 4: Maintain an Organization Positioned for Leadership 4.2 Empower BEC Members as Leaders and Advocates

Consultations

BEC provided consultations, input, and feedback for various technical teams at USAID (see section 3.3).

Presentations within Working Groups

BEC's working groups held monthly or bimonthly meetings to exchange best practices via member presentations and discussions (see section 3.2).

Working Group, Communications, & Advocacy Plan

In 2022, BEC focused its efforts on developing a working group, communications, and advocacy plan, not only to continue to contribute to collaboration and coordination across working groups, but also to tie all working group and communications efforts to its advocacy goals.

BEC at CIES

BEC members shared their expertise through hundreds of CIES presentations in 2022. BEC BEC facilitated collaborations on CIES panels and presentations, published BEC-member CIES brochures, highlighted member panels on social media, and hosted a very successful member reception at the conference.



Goal 4: Maintain an Organization Positioned for Leadership 4.3 Strengthen Strategic Communications to Inform Members and Amplify Efforts

Working Group, Communications, & Advocacy Plan

In early 2022, BEC worked on reducing silos between working groups by holding its first ever joint work planning event. Later in the year, BEC focused its efforts on developing a working group, communications, and advocacy plan, not only to continue to contribute to collaboration and coordination across working groups, but also to tie all working group and communications efforts to its advocacy goals. The plan will be piloted throughout 2023.

BEC at CIES

BEC BEC facilitated collaborations on CIES panels, published BEC-member CIES brochures, highlighted member panels on social media, and hosted a very successful member reception at the conference.

More Member Content Shared

BEC continued to disseminate newsletters, host webinars, facilitate the exchange of best practices, and highlight members on the BEC website and social media platforms..

Goal 4: Maintain an Organization Positioned for Leadership 4.4 Build Partnerships within the Network of Other Actors

The Global Reading Network Steering Group

BEC continues to collaborate with the GRN under the new leadership of the Leading through Learning (LTL) project, managed by BEC member Education Development Center. BEC's Director of Outreach and Communications holds a seat on the GRN steering group to ensure coordination and collaboration across both networks.

Donors and Multilateral Agencies

BEC maintained healthy and productive relationships with donors in the international basic education space. BEC took on leadership roles in key consultations on a number of

USAID's new policies, guidance, and toolkits, including but not limited to:

- The USG Strategy on International Basic Education 2023 Update
- USAID's Guidance for Promoting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in Educational Materials
- Education Disability Measurement Toolkit
- USAID Education Disability Measurement Toolkit

BEC hosted a launch event for the new USAID pre-primary guidance with USAID and UNICEF as well as an internal dialogue with USAID on their new localization approach.

Special Thanks

Departing Staff & Board Co-Chair

Kirby Henslee

Kirby spent four incredible years as BEC's Director of Government Relations. He fearlessly led us towards our policy and advocacy goals and was an absolute joy to work with. We are happy to continue our collaboration with him in his new role at USAID!

Nancy Devine

Nancy dedicated three years to BEC as Co-Chair of the Board, on top of so many other responsibilities, we don't even know how she did it! She was always the steadiest of sounding boards and staunch supporter of the BEC community and staff. Thank you, Nancy!

BEC Working Group Co-Chairs

Abigail Spangler (Room to Read), Audrey Spencer (Chemonics), Carmen Strigel (RTI), Carrie Lewis (EDC), Chris Cummiskey (RTI), Kate Thomas (Cambridge Education), Rebecca Stone (Creative Associates), Renee Chandonnet (Cambridge Education), Robbie Dean (Teach for All), Victoria Neff (World Education)

We have tremendous gratitude for the service of our working group co-chairs. They are a team of exceptional technical leaders and gifted advocates for global education. They have helped the Coalition reach new levels of productivity and influence, while acting as supportive and inspirational leaders for our working group members.

USAID

United States Agency for International Development

The Basic Education Coalition thanks the dedicated staff at USAID, particularly within the Office of Education/Center for Education, whose steadfast work and partnership with BEC organizations is helping expand access to quality basic education so that every child around the world has the chance to learn.

Leading Together

2022 Executive Committee

Per the BEC Bylaws, elections for Coalition leadership were held in Fall of 2018. With unanimous support from the BEC Board of Directors, the following leaders were appointed to the BEC 2018-2021 Executive Committee. This dynamic team provide strategic guidance on the Coalition's activities and policy advocacy.



Nancy Devine

Co-Chair



Candace Debnam

Co-Chair



Heather Simpson *Vice-Chair/Treasurer*



Kevin Hardy

Treasurer



Eric Eversmann
Secretary

Working Together
2022 BEC Staff



Kirby Henslee

Director of Government Relations (through March 2022)



Kitty Close

Director of Government Relations (from July 2022)



Paige Morency-Notario

Director of Outreach & Communications

Collaborating Together

2022 Board of Directors

Organizations with Full membership in BEC are entitiled to representation on the BEC Board of Directors. Representatives to the BEC Board are senior staff at their respective organizations. They determine the policies and manage the affairs of the Coalition. The following individuals represented their organizations on the BEC Board of Directors in 2022:

Jeff Davis	Julee Allen	Eric Eversmann
American Institutes of Research	FHI 360	Save the Children
Karta Hamba	Noom Hagor	Condens Balances
Kevin Hardy	Noam Unger	Candace Debnam
Cambridge Education	InterAction	School to School International
Vicki Cooper Chemonics International	Amy Bernath IREX	Anna Molero Teach for All
Cory Heyman Creative Associates International	Heather Simpson Room to Read	Dr. James MacNeil World Education
Nancy Devine	Melinda Taylor	Craig Geddes
Education Development Center	RTI International	World Learning

