



The Campaign to Establish a Sacramento Children's Fund

Sac Kids First has joined forces with Mayor Darrell Steinberg, Councilmember Mai Vang and Councilmember Jay Schenirer to launch a campaign to create a stable, long term funding stream for children and youth services. We have come together to place a measure on the November 2022 ballot that will create a Children's Fund in the City of Sacramento.

Through this initiative we seek to:

- a. Support the mental health and emotional wellness of children and youth.
- b. Prevent and reduce homelessness among children and youth, including youth transitioning out of foster care.
- c. Prevent and reduce youth substance abuse
- d. Prevent and reduce youth violence.
- e. Support the healthy development of young children, ages 0 to 5 years old.

The measure will require the City to invest the equivalent of 40% of revenues generated by the city's local cannabis tax from our unrestricted general fund into the Children's Fund. The measure does not increase taxes. The measure will guarantee roughly \$10 million in new investments in children and youth services in the first year. Just as we use tobacco tax revenue to support tobacco prevention and health services, we are asking the City to use cannabis revenue to fund youth substance abuse prevention, youth mental health and supports for homeless and foster youth.

Once approved by the voters, the City will establish an advisory Planning and Oversight Commission that will partner with the Sacramento Youth Commission to develop a five-year strategic plan to guide investment of Children Fund resources and a process to evaluate the impact of these investments. The plan will prioritize children and youth most impacted by poverty, violence, and trauma. The City Council will make final decisions about how to allocate funds on an annual basis.

How can you support this effort?: To volunteer with Sac Kids First please contact Monica Mares, Sac Kid First coordinator at monica@youth-forward.org.

Sac Kids First is the region's largest youth advocacy coalition, with 35 partner organizations and over 2,000 individual members. To learn more go to: <https://sackidsfirst.org/>