

ANNUAL REPORT

2021



CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE



A LETTER FROM OUR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of Children's Alliance,

Since 1983, we have worked to improve the well-being of Washington kids by advancing policies that ensure all children have what they need to grow up healthy, safe and well-prepared for school and life. And since joining the team last summer, I've marveled at the energy and expertise that our dedicated staff, board of directors and community partners bring to the task of advocating for underserved communities in the face of unprecedented challenges.

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the lives of every child in Washington state, and the world over. But it has also laid bare huge disparities — too many communities were struggling long before the pandemic and will continue to struggle long after others have rebounded. The pandemic also exacerbated the historical inequities that stem from the inherent racism and anti-blackness in most of our institutions. Data shows that children of color in Washington are less likely to attend pre-school, more likely to live in households that struggle to meet basic needs, and less likely to have access to health care — and those data have worsened since the pandemic began.

And this is why we do what we do: To change systems and policies, so that all our children can thrive.

While there is more work to be done, the historic progress we made for kids this past legislative session gives me unbridled hope. The Fair Start for Kids Act represents the largest investment in early learning in state history. This landmark legislation invests \$850 million into making child care, high-quality pre-K and other programs more affordable and accessible to families and more sustainable for providers.

Furthermore, we made considerable progress towards mitigating the racial injustice embedded in our state's upside-down tax code with the passage of the Working Families Tax Credit and the excise tax on extraordinary profits from capital gains. With the passage of these bills, 400,000 low- and middle-income Washington households and one in four Washington kids will see a boost in their family income every year.

Stop and think about that!

Children's Alliance, along with our advocates and supporters, helped to make these life-changing and racially equitable legislative advances possible. What a year it has been!

Thank you for sticking with us. I look forward to building on the momentum we have made together into the next legislative session and beyond.

Dr. Stephan Blanford



ABOUT US

Children's Alliance is Washington's statewide, nonpartisan child advocacy organization. You can count on Children's Alliance to ask the critical question: "Is it good for kids?" and to fight hard to make sure the answer is YES.

Mission

Our mission is to improve the well being of children by effecting positive changes in public policies, priorities, and programs.

Vision

Our vision is that all of Washington's children will have what they need to grow up to be the people they dream of becoming.

Racial Equity in Public Policy

We believe all public policy change concerning kids should be rooted in a commitment to undo institutional racism. Our work is guided by our internal Racial Equity Theory of Change, which includes the following core beliefs:

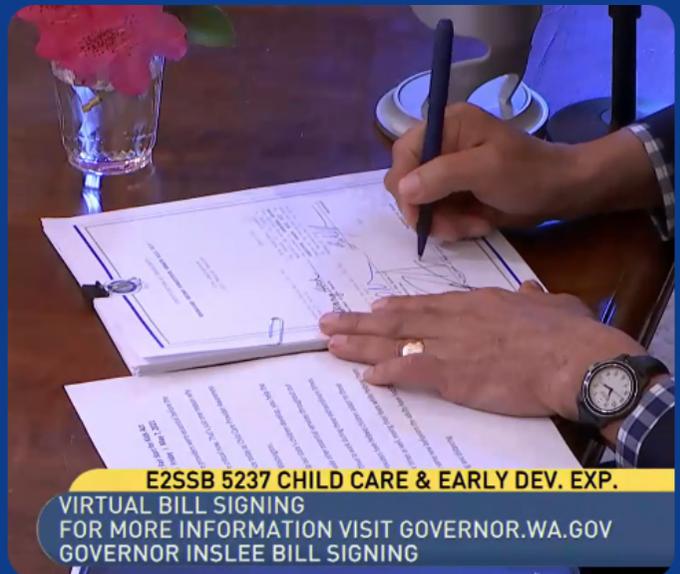
- We cannot improve the well-being of all children in our state without an explicit focus on kids of color who are being left behind.
- A rising tide will NOT raise all boats; We must act intentionally and deliberately to close racial equity gaps.
- To achieve equitable outcomes for kids, policies must be designed for equity from the start.
- Those who are most directly impacted by disparities will be the most effective in leading, advocating for, and shaping policy solutions.



Advocacy in Action

Taking place amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 legislative session was like no other. While conducting the session remotely presented many challenges, it also made participation in the legislative process more accessible than ever before. Advocates from across the state were able to make their voices heard by signing in to support bills or testifying directly from their homes.

All of that hard work and virtual advocacy paid off! Parents, community leaders and policymakers came together and made historic progress that will help to give all of Washington's children a great start.



What We Did

- We met directly with elected officials, gave testimonials before legislators, and served on task forces in Olympia to help push for progressive laws and policies.
- We worked together with partner organizations across the state to research what challenges our children are facing, and what kind of laws and policies they need to improve their lives.
- We analyzed state budgets and laws to make sure that when a new policy is implemented, it's implemented in a way that is fair and equitable to all Washington's families.
- We brought together parents, grandparents, child advocates, community leaders, and concerned citizens and gave them support and opportunities to speak with their representatives through email, over the phone, or at virtual advocacy events.
- We educated the public about what's going on in state politics and how it will affect children and families – by offering training days, publishing articles in newspapers, or giving data to news sources about what we've learned.
- We led coalitions and held meetings with other organizations who work with children across the state, and worked together to present a stronger voice for kids at the state capitol.
- We centered racial equity in all of our campaigns and worked to bring justice to children who are facing racism in society.

Early Learning

The bipartisan passage of the [Fair Start for Kids Act \(SB 5237\)](#) represents the largest investment in early learning in state history. This legislation takes a comprehensive approach to affordability and access to early learning, with dramatic new investments in Working Connections Child Care, ECEAP, home visiting and other programs of support for families with young children. Designed to promote equity, the act creates additional supports for culturally and linguistically diverse early learning.



“Children’s Alliance was a critical partner in making sure lawmakers understood the urgency of the challenges facing our kids and families, both during and prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. You used your collective voices and expert advocacy this session to influence and support the passage of the historic Fair Start for Kids Act.”

– Senator Claire Wilson, 30th Legislative District

Health Care for Kids and Families

The final state budget included funds to establish the Dental Therapy Task Force, convened key stakeholders to offer recommendations on bringing the current practice of dental therapy on tribal lands to a statewide scale by examining best practices, reviewing data-driven evidence, and reporting their findings to the legislature by the end of 2021.

While dental therapists are currently working or authorized in 12 states, they are only allowed to work in tribal settings in Washington state, which limits their reach here.

“The establishment of the Dental Therapy Task Force is a win for health equity! For the past ten years, Washingtonians from BIPOC and middle and low-income households have been urging lawmakers to authorize dental therapists so they can have access to these community-based, trusted, and effective providers. The legislature has finally made a tangible step towards this reality with this development.”

– Litonya Lester, former Children's Alliance Health Policy Director

Revenue to Invest in Kids

The legislature took a huge step forward in balancing our upside-down tax code by passing a capital gains tax on extraordinary profits. Revenue from this tax on Washington's highest earners will go towards funding the Fair Start for Kids Act and other services that give all kids a great start in life.

“The passage of a capital gains tax marks a historic victory for legislative champions, advocates, and everyday Washingtonians. This victory has been 13 years in the making and arrives thanks to countless contributions from organizations and individuals over the years. We are finally asking the wealthiest to pay their share so we can invest in the future: our kids and communities.”

–Emily Parzybok, executive director of [Balance Our Tax Code Coalition](#)

STRONGER TOGETHER

We can't do this work alone. As well as working with advocates and communities, Children's Alliance convenes and participates in a number of statewide coalitions.



Children's Alliance staffs and convenes the Early Learning Action Alliance, a broad coalition of organizations representing a diverse array of Washington nonprofits, professional associations, businesses, and industries. We are united by the belief that all children in Washington state deserve to have the opportunities and support they need in their first five years of life to be prepared for school and a bright future.

[The Arc of King County](#) | [Child Care Action Council](#) | [Child Care Aware of Washington](#) | [Child Care Action Council](#) | [Child Care Resources](#) | [Child Haven](#) | [Children's Alliance](#) | [Children's Campaign Fund](#) | [Children's Home Society of Washington and Trust Foundation](#) | [Children's Therapy Center](#) | [Columbia City Consulting](#) | [Committee for Children](#) | [Community Day Center for Children, Inc](#) | [Early Care and Education Consortium](#) | [Economic Opportunity Institute](#) | [Educare Seattle](#) | [Ely Consulting](#) | [First 5 FUNdamentals](#) | [Foundation for Tacoma Students](#) | [Help Me Grow Pierce County](#) | [League of Education Voters](#) | [Mission: Readiness](#) | [MomsRising](#) | [Neighborhood House](#) | [Nurse Family Partnership](#) | [OneAmerica](#) | [Partners for Our Children](#) | [Project Child Success](#) | [Puget Sound Educational Service District](#) | [Ready Nation](#) | [Save the Children](#) | [Save the Children Action Network](#) | [School's Out Washington](#) | [Sound Child Care Solutions](#) | [Southeast Seattle Education Coalition](#) | [Start Early](#) | [Teach for America - Washington](#) | [Tiny Trees Preschool](#) | [United Way of King County](#) | [United Ways of the Pacific Northwest](#) | [Washington Association for the Education of Young Children](#) | [Washington Association for Infant Mental Health](#) | [The Washington Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics](#) | [Washington Childcare Centers Association](#) | [Washington Federation of Independent Schools](#) | [Washington Home Visiting Coalition](#) | [Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility](#) | [Washington State Alliance of YMCAs](#) | [Washington State Association of Head Start & ECEAP](#) | [Washington State Budget & Policy Center](#) | [Washington State Community Action Partnership](#) | [Washington STEM](#) | [Washington Communities for Children](#) | [Washington State Parent Ambassadors](#) | [Wellspring Family Services](#) | [WithinReach](#) | [Zeno](#)



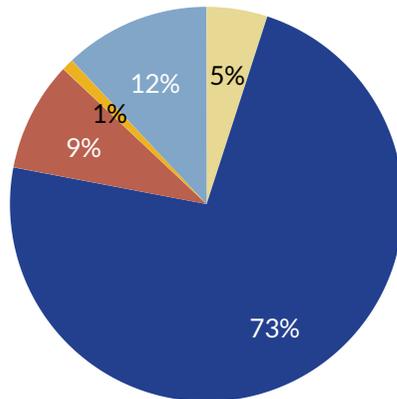
Children's Alliance co-convenes the Washington Dental Access Campaign with our partners at Statewide Poverty Action Network. The coalition includes over 40 organizations, including health care associations, consumer advocates, dentists, dental hygienists, senior groups, Tribal governments and educational institutions, who have come together in support of authorizing dental therapy in Washington.

[Alliance for a Healthy Washington](#) | [American Friends Service Committee](#) | [American Indian Health Commission](#) | [Asian Pacific Americans for Civic Empowerment](#) | [Center for Multicultural Health](#) | [Children's Alliance](#) | [Eastern WA Voters](#) | [Elder Care Alliance](#) | [Equity in Education Coalition](#) | [Faith Action Network](#) | [Health Coalition for Children and Youth](#) | [Health Care is a Human Right WA](#) | [Healthy King County Coalition](#) | [League of Women Voters](#) | [LGBTQ Allyship](#) | [MomsRising](#) | [National Association of Social Workers—Washington](#) | [Northwest Harvest](#) | [Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board](#) | [OneAmerica](#) | [Para Los Niños](#) | [Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii](#) | [Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action](#) | [Real Change Homeless Empowerment Project](#) | [Retired Public Employees Council](#) | [School Nurse Organization of Washington](#) | [Sea Mar Community Health Centers](#) | [Seattle Central College](#) | [Seattle & King County Public Health](#) | [Seattle NAACP](#) | [SEIU Healthcare 775NW](#) | [SEIU Healthcare 1199NW](#) | [SEIU Local 6](#) | [Solid Ground](#) | [Statewide Poverty Action Network](#) | [SW Washington Communities United for Change](#) | [UFCW Local 21](#) | [Washington Community Action Network](#) | [Washington Dental Hygienists' Association](#) | [Washington Low Income Housing Alliance](#) | [Washington Rural Health Association](#) | [Washington State Budget & Policy Center](#) | [Washington State Hospital Association](#) | [Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO](#) | [Washington State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program](#) | [Washington State Public Health Association](#) | [Washington State Senior Citizens' Lobby](#) | [YWCA Clark County](#)

FINANCIALS

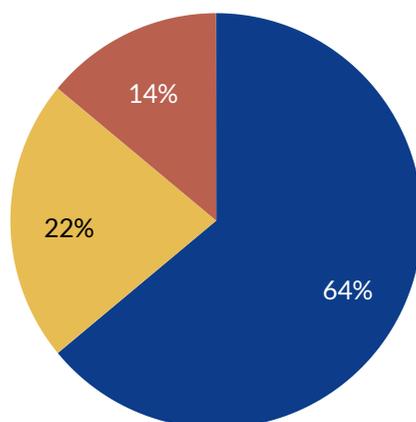
Fiscal Year 2021 runs from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

Fiscal Year 2021 Income: \$1,684,860



Events (5%) Grants, Foundations, Corporations (73%) Contributions (9%)
Organizational Membership Dues (1%) PPP Forgiveness (12%)

Fiscal Year 2021 Expenses: \$1,271,332



Program Services (64%)
Administration (22%) Fundraising (14%)

Fiscal Year 2021 Ending Net Assets: \$1,297,479

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Our supporters make it possible for us to advocate for policies that advance equity, dismantle racism, and ensure that all kids in Washington can grow up healthy, safe and well-prepared for school and life. Thank you to the following for their investment in our mission from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. If you have a correction, please contact us at (206) 324-0340 or funddevelopment@childrensalliance.org.

Institutional Supporters & Organizational Members

Alliance for Early Success | Amara | AmazonSmile Foundation | Amerigroup Washington | Annie E. Casey Foundation | Arcora Foundation | Asian Counseling and Referral Service | Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation | The Boeing Company | Boys & Girls Club of King County | Brighton Jones | Briotech Inc. | Casey Family Programs | Child Care Aware | Childhaven | College Spark | Community Catalyst | F5 Networks | Food Lifeline | Friends of the Children Seattle | Global Rewards Solutions | Harborview Abuse and Trauma Center | Hutton Settlement | Inspire Development Centers | Jan Glick Associates LLC | Khaund Family Foundation | Kirkpatrick Family Foundation | Kresge Foundation | Launch | Microsoft Philanthropies | Nordstrom | Northwest Children's Foundation | Nutrition First | Otoupal Generational Wealth Management and Planning | Peg and Rick Young Foundation | Perigee Fund | Satterberg Foundation | Save the Children Action Network | School's Out Washington | Sea Mar Community Health Centers | Seattle Children's | SEIU Washington State Council | Sisters of Providence | Treehouse | UFCW Local 21 | United Way of King County | Washington Association for Community Health | Washington Association for the Education of Young Children | Washington Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics | Washington Childcare Centers Association | Washington Federation of State Employees | Washington State Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics | Washington State Association of Head Start & ECEAP | Washington State Community Action Partnership | Washington State Dental Hygienists' Association | Washington State Hospital Association | Washington State Labor Council AFL-CIO

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24 Anonymous Donors | Jess Agi | Sadikifu Akina-James | Sarah Alexander | Nancy Amidei | Barbara Anderson | Melinda Andrews | Lydia Andris | Emily Anthony and David Maymudes | Nancy Ashley | Emiko Atherton | Janis Avery and Mary Kabrich | Nancy and Chuck Bagley | Kristen Ballinger *in honor of William A. Reynolds* | Liahann Bannerman | HongMei Bao | Mark Barbieri | Irene Basloe Saraf and Tal Saraf | Hillary Behrman and Steve Johnson | Mary Lou Bennington | Marcella Benson-Quaziana Paul Benz | Peter Berliner and Melinda Leonard | Norm and Lisa Bontje | David Bosnak *in memory of Suzanne Patmore Gibbs* | Deborah Bowler *in memory of Jim Legaz* | Bobbe and Jonathan Bridge | Jennifer Bright and Eric Espenhorst | Fae Brooks | J. Brown | Caryn Buck and Andrew Thomas | David Burman | Chelsea Byers | Kathleen Cannon *in memory of Jim Legaz* | Cathleen Carney *in honor of Jim Legaz* | Katherine Carson | Barry Chapman and Jessie Norris | Judy and Brad Chase | Marissa Chávez | Kathy Ko Chin | Frank Chopp and Nancy Long | Marilyn Chotem *in memory of Alice Siegal* | Donna Christensen | Jean Christensen *in memory of Patti Hooper* | Lisa Christensen and Jackie McGuire | Bruce Clausen | Danya Clevenger | Sarah Cody Roth | Jolenta Coleman-Bush | Cleo Corcoran | Karen Dahlbeck | Suzanne Dale Estey | Steve Daschle | Janice Deguchi *in honor of Stephan Blanford* | Mark Del Beccaro | Jeff Deluca | Kathryn Diamond | Christine Dine | Alice Doyel | Leslie Dozono | Leslie Dozono *in honor of Paola Maranan* | Pamela and Kenneth Eakes | Julie Edsforth | Ginny English and Stephen Holt | Bretnie Eschenbach | Palmira Figueroa | Katharine Fitzgerald | Jamie Flaxman | Andrew Forray | Tisha Frank and Moe Garcia | Laila Friddell | Diana Gale and Jerry Hillis |

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Your Legacy for Future Generations

One of the most meaningful ways you can make an impact for Washington kids is by including Children's Alliance in your will or trust. When you make a commitment of a future gift to Children's Alliance, you ensure that the next generation of child advocates will be able to carry on our shared vision of a better future for kids.

We invite you to join the Children's Alliance Legacy Society and become part of a circle of champions whose legacy will be a future where all kids have the opportunity to reach their vast potential.

For more information on how you can include Children's Alliance in your estate plans, please contact Christine Loredo, Donor Relations Director at christine.loredo@childrensalliance.org or (206) 324-0340. If you decide to include Children's Alliance in your estate plans, please let us know. We value the opportunity to express our gratitude.

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