2016 CHILDREN’S AGENDA
A legislative policy agenda for Oregon’s kids

Convened by Children First for Oregon
United for Kids has one simple goal: to make Oregon the best place to be a kid. To do that, Oregon’s children need a strong and unified voice advocating for them. United for Kids connects and amplifies the collective voice of pro-child Oregonians and organizations to promote public policy change and shared investments that benefit children’s health, safety, education and economic security. United for Kids closes the gap between the public concern for kids and meaningful support of pro-child policies.

Hosted by Children First for Oregon, United for Kids includes advocates, businesses, service providers, labor groups, funders, faith communities, and elected leaders across Oregon. Find out how to get involved and a list of supporters at www.ORUnitedforKids.org.

At Children First for Oregon, our mission is to make long-term, systemic change by advocating for policies and programs that strengthen families and support children’s health, safety and education.

Children First for Oregon is pleased to convene and coordinate the 2016 Children’s Agenda as part of our United for Kids pro-child movement. The Children First Board and staff support and appreciate the work of our advocacy colleagues who work in policy arenas impacting Oregon’s children and families. As an organization, Children First endorses the policy proposals incorporated in the 2016 Children’s Agenda.

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Making Oregon the Best Place to be a Kid

Success breeds success! When over 60 advocacy organizations brought their best thinking on children’s issues together for the first time in 2015, that alone might have indicated that the Children’s Agenda was a success. When nearly two of every three concepts on the 2015 Agenda were passed or funded, the Children’s Agenda and United for Kids showed real movement could be made toward the goal of improving the well-being of Oregon’s children and their families.

Now, as we enter the 2016 legislative session, Children’s Agenda participants have grown to over 70 organizations and coalitions. Why? Because kids need all of us working together if they are to grow up to be healthy, safe, well-educated and economically secure.

From homelessness and food insecurity, to trauma-informed care and early intervention, to safe water and basic health care, Oregon’s children have needs that defy categorization. The United for Kids community of advocates share the goal of improving their future. While no single group supports all of the priorities, the Children’s Agenda is the one place where you can find the upcoming policy proposals and investments that will benefit the health & safety, education and economic security of all of Oregon’s kids. As United for Kids, we stand together to propose solutions to the challenges our children face and encourage legislators to adopt our vision. Make Oregon the best place to be a kid.

Nearly 40,000 children lack health insurance.

60% of 3 and 4 year olds are not enrolled in preschool.

Rents are 9% higher while family income is 7% lower than before the Great Recession.
EXPAND EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT (EITC)
Raise participation rate (currently lowest rate in the nation) and target increases for families with young children.

SUBMITTED BY: Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon
SUPPORTED BY: AAUW of Oregon; Children’s Trust Fund of Oregon; Fight Crime: Invest in Kids; OregonAEYC; Oregon Center for Christian Voices; Oregon Center for Public Policy; Oregon Education Association; Oregon Head Start Association; Oregon Latino Health Coalition; Neighborhood Partnerships; Prevent Child Abuse Oregon; ReadyNation; YWCA of Greater Portland

PROTECT TENANTS
Increase protection from evictions made for no cause, and increase stability and predictability of rents by increasing notice periods and other measurements.

SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Housing Alliance
SUPPORTED BY: Bicycle Transportation Alliance; Neighborhood Partnerships; Oregon Center for Christian Voices; Oregon Environmental Council; Oregon Head Start Association; Oregon Law Center; Prevent Child Abuse Oregon; YWCA of Greater Portland

STEM THE TIDE OF HOMELESSNESS
$10 million will mean that thousands more Oregonians are safely and stably housed.

SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Housing Alliance
SUPPORTED BY: CareOregon; Neighborhood Partnerships; Oregon Center for Christian Voices; Oregon Food Bank; Oregon Law Center; Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon; Prevent Child Abuse Oregon; YWCA of Greater Portland

FULLY FUND HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
Add $60 million to the LIFT bond program for new housing, $17.5 million in Lottery Backed Bonds to preserve existing affordable housing including those in manufactured home parks, and $3 million to support foreclosure prevention.

SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Housing Alliance
SUPPORTED BY: APANO; Neighborhood Partnerships; Oregon Environmental Council; Oregon Center for Christian Voices; Oregon Law Center; Prevent Child Abuse Oregon; SEIU Local 503; YWCA of Greater Portland

INCLUSIONARY ZONING
Empower local governments to craft the best local solutions for the attainable housing shortage.

SUBMITTED BY: Inclusionary Zoning Coalition
SUPPORTED BY: APANO; CareOregon; Oregon Environmental Council; Oregon Housing Alliance; SEIU Local 503

LIFT MINIMUM WAGE PREEMPTION
Allow local governments to set minimum wages that better reflect the cost of living in their communities.

SUBMITTED BY: Raise the Wage
SUPPORTED BY: AAUW of Oregon; APANO; Basic Rights Oregon; CareOregon; Oregon Center for Christian Voices; Oregon Center for Public Policy; Oregon Education Association; Oregon Latino Health Coalition; Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon; SEIU Local 503; Somali American Council of Oregon; YWCA of Greater Portland

RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE
Raising the wage to $13.50 will put over half a million Oregonians and their families on the path to economic security.

SUBMITTED BY: Raise the Wage
SUPPORTED BY: AAUW of Oregon; APANO; Basic Rights Oregon; CareOregon; Causa; Oregon Center for Christian Voices; Oregon Center for Public Policy; Oregon Education Association; Oregon Latino Health Coalition; Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon; Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon; SEIU Local 503; Somali American Council of Oregon; YWCA of Greater Portland

PROTECT WORKERS AGAINST WAGE THEFT
Ensure workers have access to vital employment records, and give the state labor bureau new tools to enforce and prevent wage theft and prevailing wage violations.

SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Center for Public Policy
SUPPORTED BY: Basic Rights Oregon; Causa; Oregon Center for Christian Voices; Oregon Education Association; Oregon Latino Health Coalition; Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon; SEIU Local 503; Somali American Council of Oregon; YWCA of Greater Portland

GROCERY FOOD RESCUE
A one time appropriation of $130,000 to allow more than 100 grocery stores to continue to partner with the Oregon Food Bank.

SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Food Bank
SUPPORTED BY: CareOregon; Oregon Center for Christian Voices; Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon
INCREASE FUNDING FOR EARLY INTERVENTION/EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION
Add $5.4 million to keep up with the growing caseload of children diagnosed with a developmental delay as a result of increased use of developmental screenings statewide.

SUBMITTED BY: Children’s Institute
SUPPORTED BY: AAUW of Oregon; CASA of Marion County; CareOregon; Children’s Trust Fund of Oregon; Fight Crime: Invest in Kids; OregonAEYC; Oregon Center for Christian Voices; Oregon Environmental Council; Oregon Head Start Association; Prevent Child Abuse Oregon; Somali American Council of Oregon; YWCA of Greater Portland

CORRECT A BUDGET ERROR FOR HEAD START
Give children the promised access to Head Start by adding $5.26 million.

SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Head Start Association
SUPPORTED BY: AAUW of Oregon; APANO; CASA of Marion County; Children’s Institute; Fight Crime: Invest in Kids; Mission Readiness; OregonAEYC; Oregon Center for Christian Voices; Oregon Latino Health Coalition; Prevent Child Abuse Oregon; ReadyNation; YWCA of Greater Portland

ADD CHILDREN’S DISTRICTS TO SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICTS
Allow creation of districts that can fund after-school and summer programs to improve children’s recreational, health, educational, and cultural opportunities.

SUBMITTED BY: Washington County Kids Fund
SUPPORTED BY: Fight Crime: Invest in Kids; Mission Readiness; Oregon Public Health Association; Oregon Women’s Rights Coalition; ReadyNation; YWCA of Greater Portland

PHYSICAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS
Invest in basic support for school districts to meet Oregon’s PE standards.

SUBMITTED BY: American Heart Association
SUPPORTED BY: AAUW of Oregon; Bicycle Transportation Alliance; Mission: Readiness; Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials; Oregon Public Health Association; Oregon School-Based Health Alliance; Oregon Women’s Rights Coalition; Prevent Child Abuse Oregon; Upstream Public Health

TRAUMA INFORMED STRATEGIES IN SCHOOLS
Address chronic absenteeism and low graduation rates.

SUBMITTED BY: Oregon School-Based Health Alliance
SUPPORTED BY: AAUW of Oregon; APANO; CareOregon; CASA of Marion County; Fight Crime: Invest in Kids; Mission: Readiness; Oregon Education Association; Prevent Child Abuse Oregon; Somali American Council of Oregon; ReadyNation; YWCA of Greater Portland

EXPAND SUMMER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
Create a policy advisory council to develop recommendations so that all students have access to summer learning opportunities by 2022.

SUBMITTED BY: OregonASK
SUPPORTED BY: APANO; AAUW of Oregon; OregonAEYC; Oregon Education Association; Oregon Women’s Rights Coalition; Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon; YWCA of Greater Portland
BASIC HEALTH PLAN
Require OHA to request a blueprint from the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) to allow affordable marketplace coverage to 86,700 low income Oregonians.
SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Health Equity Alliance
SUPPORTED BY: AAUW of Oregon; APANO; Basic Rights Oregon; CareOregon; Oregon Coalition for Christian Voices; Oregon Center for Public Policy; Oregon Food Bank; Oregon Head Start Association; Oregon Latino Health Coalition; Oregon Law Center; Oregon Primary Care Association; Oregon School-Based Health Alliance; Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon; Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon; Prevent Child Abuse Oregon; SEIU Local 503; Upstream Public Health; YWCA of Greater Portland

PREMIUM ASSISTANCE FOR COFA OREGONIANS
Oregon can provide Medicaid benefits for COFA islanders at a 9 to 1 matching rate from the federal government. Creates a premium assistance plan for private insurance for the eligible residents.
SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Health Equity Alliance
SUPPORTED BY: AAUW of Oregon; APANO; CareOregon; Oregon Center for Public Policy; Oregon Latino Health Coalition; Oregon Law Center; Oregon Primary Care Association; Oregon School-Based Health Alliance; Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon; Prevent Child Abuse Oregon; SEIU Local 503; Upstream Public Health; YWCA of Greater Portland

HEALTHY CLIMATE BILL
Cap climate pollution and require the state to develop and implement a plan with clean energy strategies that protect children from the health impacts of air pollution and climate change.
SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Environmental Council
SUPPORTED BY: APANO; Bicycle Transportation Alliance; Oregon Center for Christian Voices; Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials; Oregon Public Health Association; Oregon Women’s Rights Coalition

SAFE WELL WATER
Increase well testing and outreach about well water contamination to protect infants from a potentially fatal blood disorder caused by nitrate pollution, and to protect children from water contaminated by bacteria, arsenic, pesticides and nitrates.
SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Environmental Council
SUPPORTED BY: Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials; Oregon Public Health Association; Oregon Women’s Rights Coalition

CHILDREN’S RESIDENTIAL LICENSING
Establish a licensing program that ensures foster youth will receive safe, nurturing care.
SUBMITTED BY: Catholic Community Services

CHILDREN’S SAFETY AND DIGNITY
Ensure the state fulfills its responsibility to the youth in foster care by increasing accountability and communications among agencies.
SUBMITTED BY: Catholic Community Services
SUPPORTED BY: Fight Crime: Invest in Kids

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL
Double funding by ODOT from $500k per biennium to at least $1M.
SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Safe Routes to School Network
SUPPORTED BY: AAUW of Oregon; American Heart Association; Bicycle Transportation Alliance; CASA of Marion County; Mission: Readiness; Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials; Oregon Environmental Council; Oregon Public Health Association; Oregon School-Based Health Alliance; Oregon Women’s Rights Coalition; Upstream Public Health; YWCA of Greater Portland

RAISE THE MINIMUM TOBACCO SALES AGE TO 21
Prevent youth from beginning a dangerous habit and save lives.
SUBMITTED BY: American Heart Association
SUPPORTED BY: APANO; CareOregon; Children’s Health Alliance; Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials; Oregon Public Health Association; Oregon School-Based Health Alliance; Oregon Women’s Rights Coalition; Preventing Tobacco Addiction Foundation; Tobacco 21; Upstream Public Health

ELECTRONIC CIGARETTE TAX
A 50% point of sale tax on e-cigarettes and nicotine solutions with 10% of generated revenue to go to tobacco prevention.
SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials
SUPPORTED BY: Oregon Education Association; Oregon Latino Health Coalition; Oregon Nurses Association; Oregon School-Based Health Alliance; Preventing Tobacco Addiction Foundation; Upstream Public Health

TOBACCO RETAIL LICENSURE
Require merchants have a license to sell tobacco.
SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Nurses Association
SUPPORTED BY: American Heart Association; APANO; CareOregon; Children’s Health Alliance; Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials; Oregon Latino Health Coalition; Preventing Tobacco Addiction Foundation

EXTENSION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFILING WORKGROUP
Tremendous progress has been made but additional time is needed to develop recommendations to identify and stop profiling.
SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Health Equity Alliance
SUPPORTED BY: APANO; Bicycle Transportation Alliance; CareOregon; Oregon Education Association; Oregon Latino Health Coalition; Partnership for Safety and Justice; Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon; SEIU Local 503; YWCA of Greater Portland
Here are just a few of the many policy proposals already being developed for 2017.

**ECONOMIC SECURITY**
- Family Leave
- Predictable Work Scheduling
- Fair Pay
- Expand ERDC
- TANF Investment
- Children’s Savings Accounts

**EDUCATION**
- After School Programs
- Home Visiting Expansion

**HEALTH & SAFETY**
- Cover All Kids
- Healthy Food Incentives/SNAP Match
**CHILDREN’S AGENDA PARTICIPANTS**

- All Born (In)
- American Association of University Women Oregon
- American Heart Association
- American Lung Association in Oregon
- American Society for the Positive Care of Children
- Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon
- Basic Rights Oregon
- Bicycle Transportation Alliance
- CareOregon
- CASA of Marion County
- Catholic Community Services
- Causa
- Center for Intercultural Organizing
- Children’s Health Alliance
- Children’s Institute
- Children’s Trust Fund of Oregon
- Children First for Oregon
- Family Forward Oregon
- Fight Crime: Invest In Kids, Oregon
- Healthy Kids Learn Better
- Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization
- Impact Northwest
- Inclusionary Zoning Coalition
- Institute for Youth Success
- Latino Network
- Mission: Readiness
- Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense, Oregon Chapter
- Native American Youth and Family Center
- Neighborhood Partnerships
- Neighbors for Clean Air
- New Avenues for Youth
- Northwest Down Syndrome Association
- OregonASK
- Oregon Alliance for Gun Safety
- Oregon Alliance to End Violence Against Women
- Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children
- Oregon CASA Network
- Oregon Center for Christian Voices
- Oregon Center for Public Policy
- Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials
- Oregon Education Association
- Oregon Environmental Council
- Oregon Food Bank
- Oregon Foster Youth Connection
- Oregon Foundation for Reproductive Health
- Oregon Head Start Association
- Oregon Health Equity Alliance
- Oregon Housing Alliance
- Oregon Hunger Task Force
- Oregon Latino Health Coalition
- Oregon Law Center
- Oregon Montessori Association
- Oregon Network of Child Abuse Intervention Centers
- Oregon Nurses Association
- Oregon Outdoor Education Coalition
- Oregon Pediatric Society
- Oregon Primary Care Association
- Oregon Public Health Association
- Oregon Safe Routes to School Network
- Oregon School-Based Health Alliance
- Oregon School Nurses Association
- Oregon Women’s Rights Coalition
- Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon
- Partnership for Safety and Justice
- Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon
- Prevent Child Abuse Oregon
- Preventing Tobacco Addiction Foundation
- Raise the Wage
- ReadyNation
- Sable House
- SEIU Local 503, OPEU
- Somali American Council Of Oregon
- Summer Learning Partnership
- Tax Fairness Oregon
- Tobacco 21
- UFCW Local 555
- Upstream Public Health
- Urban League of Portland
- Washington County Kids Fund
- Youth, Rights & Justice
- YWCA of Greater Portland

Thanks to UFCW555 for printing the 2016 Children’s Agenda.