



2016 Children’s Agenda – Outcome Report

The United for Kids Children’s Agenda allows advocates to organize efforts and emphasize the needs of Oregon’s children during each legislative session. The Agenda presents a compilation of legislative policy and budget priorities from leading Oregon advocacy organizations that address the health & safety, education, and economic security of children. In addition, Children’s Agenda Participants may identify shared priorities in the Children’s Agenda indicating their collective support to select policy and/or budget items.

More than 60% of the items in the 2016 Children’s Agenda passed, with funding allocations benefitting the economic security, education and health & safety of children and their families **totaling nearly \$40 million for our kids.**

Below is an overview of progress for kids in 2016, including the submitting Children’s Agenda partner.

ECONOMIC SECURITY	
Expand Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC): Raise participation rate (currently lowest rate in the nation) and target increases for families with young children.	Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon
Protect Tenants: Increase protection from evictions made for no cause, and increase stability and predictability of rents by increasing notice periods and other measurements.	Oregon Housing Alliance
Stem the tide of homelessness: \$10 million will mean that thousands more Oregonians are safely and stably housed.	Oregon Housing Alliance
Fully Fund Housing Development: Guidance for the LIFT bond program for new housing, lottery backed bonds to preserve existing affordable housing, and foreclosure prevention through counseling.	Oregon Housing Alliance
Inclusionary Zoning: Empower local governments to craft the best local solutions for the attainable housing shortage.	Inclusionary Zoning Coalition
Raise the minimum wage: Three-tiered minimum wage incrementally increasing until 2022.	Raise the Wage
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.	Oregon Center for Public Policy
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	Oregon Food Bank

EDUCATION

Increase funding for Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education: allocate funds to manage the growing caseload of children diagnosed with a developmental delays through increased use of screenings.	Children’s Institute
Correct a budget error for Head Start: Give children the promised access to Head Start by restoring allocation.	Oregon Head Start Association
Trauma Informed Strategies in Schools: Address chronic absenteeism and low graduation rates.	Oregon School-Based Health Alliance

HEALTH & SAFETY

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.	Oregon Health Equity Alliance
Premium Assistance for COFA Oregonians: Provide Medicaid benefits for COFA islanders, creates premium assistance plan for private insurance for the eligible residents.	Oregon Health Equity Alliance
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.	Oregon Environmental Council
Children's Safety and Dignity: Ensure the state fulfills its responsibility to the youth in foster care by increasing accountability and communications among agencies.	Catholic Community Services
Extension of Law Enforcement Profiling Workgroup: Tremendous progress has been made but additional time is needed to develop recommendations to identify and stop profiling.	Oregon Health Equity Alliance

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 individual Oregonians and organizations to promote public policy change and shared investments that benefit children’s health & safety, education, and economic security.



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. To learn more visit www.ORUnitedforKids.org