

# 2022 Priorities

## A strong start #ForFloridaChildren



Imagine our future when we insist on a strong start for all Florida children... At The Children's Movement of Florida, we know what young children need to thrive: safe, stimulating, and nurturing early learning opportunities; good health care—including early identification and intervention for developmental delays and disabilities; and parents who are supported in their workplace and in society. These legislative and societal changes support young children and the adults who care for them, building toward a safer, healthier, more prosperous Florida.

### → **STRONG RESULTS IN EARLY LEARNING**

- Children only get one chance to learn the fundamentals correctly. Expand affordable early learning access—starting at birth—and hold state-funded programs to age-appropriate standards.
- Support parental choice and access by distributing pandemic recovery funds for child care responsibly and equitably across the state.
- Celebrate and support early learning educators, including additional compensation for teachers who advance their credentials.

### → **HEALTHY CHILDREN AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES**

- Expand KidCare eligibility and outreach efforts so Florida families have access to more affordable coverage, adequate preventive care, and a medical home.
- Get babies off to a strong start by supporting prenatal health care.
- Build community resilience, with supports for mental health and positive child development.

### → **FAMILIES MATTER**

- Parents are their children's first and most important teacher. Empower families with the tools, services, and resources they need.
- Encourage employers to increase access to paid parental leave for mothers and fathers.
- Help families be financially independent with policies that eliminate abrupt cuts in child care and family benefits when parents get a raise.

