

# 2023 Priorities

## A strong start #ForFloridaChildren

We work to make Florida the best place for young children to live and to thrive. Here's what it takes to get there: 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.** Ensure that the funding of Florida's early learning programs is determined by the actual cost of care and distributed according to the needs of each county.

**Increase options for parents** by removing zoning and insurance barriers for family child care homes.

**Celebrate and support early learning educators**, including teacher preparation and development aimed at maximizing children's potential.

### ● 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 and strong relationships.

**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.

**Help families gain financial independence** with policies that eliminate abrupt cuts in child care and family benefits when parents get a raise.

**Encourage employers to enhance family-friendly policies**, such as paid parental leave for mothers and fathers, child care subsidies, breastfeeding supports, and flexibility.

