

## ● HEALTHY CHILDREN

- **Support the developmental health needs of birthing people, babies, toddlers and young children** to set the foundation for lifetime health.  
*AB 608 (Schiavo); AB 1202 (Lackey)*
- **Improve mental health for children, youth and families through community-defined healing** that is liberating, trauma-informed, culturally responsive and gender-affirming. *AB 665 (Carrillo); AB 289 (Holden)*
- **Ensure new Medi-Cal reforms (CalAIM) work for children** and center family, youth and community expertise in health care systems.
- **Illuminate and address health inequities in Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian American, and Pacific Islander communities** with granular data disaggregated by sub-ethnic groups.
- **Facilitate an equitable ongoing COVID-19 response** through vaccine access and health coverage.

### VISION

*All children, regardless of their race, ethnicity or place of birth, have the resources and opportunities they need to grow up healthy and thrive.*

## ● STRONG, ECONOMICALLY STABLE, CONNECTED FAMILIES

- **Provide financial support to kids and families experiencing income instability**, including cash aid, tax credits, trust and savings accounts, and other cash supports.
- **Eliminate digital inequities** blocking an inclusive online infrastructure for accessing telehealth, education, employment, housing, and public benefits.
- **Strengthen access to health, mental health, & social services**, including nutritious food, stable housing, and resources for whole-child and whole-family well-being.
- **Keep families together** by adequately resourcing families and protecting them from being torn apart by the immigration, child welfare, and carceral systems.



## ● SAFE, WELL-RESOURCED & WELCOMING COMMUNITIES

- **Increase community power by bringing health care into the community and the community into health care through a community health workforce** including community health workers, promotores, community representatives, peers, doulas, and home visitors.
- **Build strong, well-resourced schools and early learning programs that nurture the whole child** with mental health supports, cultural identity and leadership development, the arts, and dual immersion/multilingual programs.
- **Uphold the rights and dignity of immigrant families:** remove discriminatory barriers that stop families from accessing health, food, housing, mental health, income and social supports.
- **Eliminate environmental injustice** that creates excessive toxin exposure for children of color; mitigate the inequitable impacts of climate change on communities of color.
- **Support housing as a human right** by ensuring every child in California has access to a stable, affordable, and safe place to call home.

## ● FEDERAL POLICY

- **Reform the federal immigration system so that it includes a pathway to citizenship**, keeps immigrant families together, and increases access to services and programs that protect health and well-being.
- **Increase federal flexibilities and investments to improve Medicaid and child health programs** through continuous multi-year coverage, community health workers and family-centered care.
- **Prioritize a child-focused agenda across federal departments**, including the creation of the White House Office on Children and Youth.
- **Provide economic support for families** by making the Expanded Child Tax Credit permanent and removing its immigration-related restrictions.
- **Increase supports that address maternal and infant mortality** like community-based doulas and the reauthorization of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) legislation.

## APPROACH

*All of our policy priorities center the experiences of children and families who are from Black, Indigenous, Pacific Islander, Asian American, Latinx, and mixed racial and ethnic communities, including children and families of color with immigrant backgrounds, who make up over a majority of children in our state and bring a wealth of cultural and linguistic strengths.*

## ● CHILDREN'S HEALTH BACKGROUND & DATA

The Children's Partnership's A Child Is A Child campaign unites a diverse coalition to fight for the rights of every child. The data and research provide a snapshot of the health assets and needs of our children.



Explore the data: [bit.ly/ACHildIsAChild](https://bit.ly/ACHildIsAChild).

This research lays the foundation for a collective equity agenda to transform current programs and policies. We are working toward a California where:

- All children are healthy.
- All families are economically stable and well-connected to resources that support their well-being.
- All communities are well-resourced, safe and welcoming.

Our goal is to ensure that all children, no matter their background, have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and lead healthy lives.

## ● CONTACT

For questions about the 2023 Children's Health Policy Agenda, please contact **Gabriella Barbosa** at [GBarbosa@ChildrenPartnership.org](mailto:GBarbosa@ChildrenPartnership.org).

