

May 10, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden Jr.
Office of the President
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

The Honorable Kamala D. Harris
Office of the Vice President
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden and Vice President Harris:

Every year, the children's community comes together for Children's Week, to celebrate kids and center the challenges impacting children in national and political conversation. The undersigned groups are writing to you today to invite you to join in this effort by issuing a Presidential Proclamation marking Children's Week. A Presidential Proclamation would honor children and help increase awareness of the unique characteristics of this population. **We respectfully request a Presidential Proclamation marking the second Sunday of June as Children's Day and the subsequent week of June as Children's Week; June 12-18 this year.**

The mission of each of the undersigned groups is as varied as the needs of children. We are joining together in writing this request because we recognize that progress cannot be made for children without addressing each one of our missions. While our approaches may differ, providing children the supports they need and deserve in order to succeed is the driving force of all of our work.

We believe that your Administration shares this goal. Within the first year, the Biden-Harris Administration acted quickly to meet the moment and provide much needed relief to children and families. We continue to work alongside you to achieve progress for kids, whether by supporting legislation and administrative actions that prioritize children, providing direct services in community, or advancing knowledge and awareness of these issues through research and reports. The challenges facing children are great and will take all of us working together to achieve progress for kids.

The past two years of the pandemic deepened these challenges and have shown that children are one of the most vulnerable populations. Unfortunately, in politics, their needs have often been considered an afterthought or overlooked completely by even the most well-meaning elected officials. Even worse, children are frequently invoked as political pawns to generate support for policies that do not actually serve their needs, but rather seek to create more division.

Children's Week is a great opportunity to correct these narratives. Through conversations, events, and other actions, we hope to use Children's Week to uplift the needs of children and promote a positive children's agenda. A Presidential Proclamation will help signal to kids that the President of the United States sees them and is fighting to better their lives. It will also help send the message that the Biden-Harris Administration's children's agenda is one that seeks to acknowledge and serve the true needs of kids.

We hope that the White House will join in these efforts by issuing a Presidential Proclamation and we encourage other executive actions throughout the week.

The child advocacy community looks forward to continuing to work alongside the White House to better the lives of kids.

Sincerely,

NATIONAL

First Focus on Children
AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families
All Our Kin
American Academy of Pediatrics
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO)
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Catholic Health Association of the United States
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
Child Care Services Association/T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood National Center
Child Labor Coalition
Child Welfare League of America
Children's Advocacy Institute
Children's Environmental Health Network
Children's Health Fund
Children's Hospital Association
Children's Rights
Church World Service
Clerics of St. Viator
Coalition for Juvenile Justice
Center for Reflection, Education and Action, inc. (CREA)
Early Care & Education Consortium
Epilepsy Alliance North Carolina
Family Centered Treatment Foundation
Farmworker and Landscaper Advocacy Project (FLAP)
First Five Years Fund
Futures Without Violence
Global Campaign for Education-US
HEAR US Inc.
Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, USA-JPIC
Judge Baker Children's Center
Kids in Need of Defense
Leading for Kids
Mental Health America
MomsRising
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health
National Association of Counsel for Children
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Children's Campaign
National Consumers League
National Diaper Bank Network
National Immigrant Justice Center
National Indian Child Welfare Association
National League for Nursing
National Prevention Science Coalition
National WIC Association
Partners for Our Children
Prevent Blindness
Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)
RESULTS
Rural School and Community Trust

School-Based Health Alliance
Schubert Center for Child Studies, Case Western Reserve University
SocioEnergetics Foundation
The Family Focused Treatment Association
The Human Trafficking Legal Center
The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health
The Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights
Witness At The Border
World Vision US
Youth Villages
ZERO TO THREE

STATE

Arizona

Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children

California

African American Wellness Center for Children & Families
Children Now
John Burton Advocates for Youth
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley
Sycamores
The Children's Partnership

Colorado

The Consortium

Connecticut

Connecticut Voices for Children
Westville Community Nursery School

Florida

Democratic Disability Caucus of Florida
Florida Policy Institute

Illinois

Chicago Foundation for Women
Children's Home & Aid
Mano a Mano Family Resource Center

Iowa

Orchard Place

Kentucky

Northern Kentucky Children's Law Center

Maine

American Academy of Pediatrics, Maine Chapter
Maine Children's Alliance

Maryland

Maryland State Family Child Care Association

Michigan

Michigan Family Voices

Minnesota

West Central Initiative

Missouri

HappyBottoms

Kids Win Missouri

Nebraska

Nebraska Appleseed

New Jersey

Advocates for Children of New Jersey

Embralla, Embracing & Empowering Families

New York

The Children's Agenda

United Way of Buffalo and Erie County

YWCA-GCR, Inc.

North Carolina

NC Child

North Carolina AIDS Action Network

Ohio

Human Service Chamber of Franklin County

Ohio Federation for Health Equity and Social Justice

SEM Food Pantry

Oregon

Our Children Oregon

Pennsylvania

Grands As Parents

Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children

Rhode Island

Washington County Coalition for Children

South Carolina

South Carolina Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

Tennessee

Tennessee Justice Center

Texas

Texas Kids Can't Wait!

Utah

American Academy of Pediatrics, Utah Chapter (UTAAP)
Voices for Utah Children

Washington

Northwest Harvest
University of Washington

West Virginia

West Virginians for Affordable Health Care