Core Elements:

- Descriptions of 180+ programs that benefit children
- Current appropriation levels
- Funding levels from the past five fiscal years
- Proposed funding levels for the coming fiscal year
- The change over time in funding as a percentage of growth (both in nominal and inflation adjusted terms)
There are two categories of programs that expend resources to and for children:

1) Programs that specifically target and exclusively benefit children
   *Example: Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment*

2) Programs that benefit children, but also benefit adults
   *Example: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families*

Spending on children is difficult to calculate because spending is spread out over 180 different programs in dozens of different agencies, across several different departments.
From 2006 to 2010, federal spending on children grew by 15.4 percent in real terms.
Children in the Budget:
Discretionary vs. Mandatory

MANDATORY FEDERAL SPENDING ON CHILDREN 20.9% 2006-2010

DISCRETIONARY FEDERAL SPENDING ON CHILDREN 5.7% 2006-2010
From 2006 to 2010, the share of the federal budget going to children’s programs would have declined significantly if it were not for the investments made in ARRA.
Total spending on children is up 11.8% (10.1% in real terms) over 2010 levels.
Despite President Obama’s proposed spending freeze, the percentage of federal discretionary money spent on children’s programs would increase from 18.97% in fiscal year 2010 to 20.32% in fiscal year 2011.
In order for kids to make the significant gains proposed in President Obama’s 2011 budget, Congress must pass:

• Fiscal Year 2011 Appropriations bills

• Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) reauthorization

• Child Nutrition reauthorization

• Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) reauthorization

• Legislation creating the Early Learning Challenge Fund

• Legislation creating Graduation Promise Grants
The Future Does Not Look so Bright

• National debt surpassed $13 Trillion

• The creation of the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform

• Congressional Budget and Appropriations processes in gridlock

**Gridlock:** The share of GDP spending on kids is estimated to drop from 2.4% to 1.9% of GDP by 2019 – a 20% reduction.
The Road Ahead

- **Increase Knowledge**
  - Children’s Budget 2010
  - Kids’ Share

- **Build Will**
  - Champions for Children
  - Improving our Communications

- **Take Action**
  - Children’s Budget Act
  - Creating a Long-term Agenda