

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