

TheChildren'sAgenda

Smart Choices. Bold Voices.

Every child's path is unique. But all children have key turning points in becoming healthy, happy adults and productive members of society. The more opportunities we give them to learn, play, eat well, stay active, and be surrounded by encouraging, supportive role models, the more they will thrive in body, mind, and spirit—and grow up to become healthy, successful adults.



Children in our community face undeniable challenges.

IN ROCHESTER

Babies are dying before their first birthday at a rate **2 times higher** than the national average.

The child poverty rate is the highest among cities of similar size, with **1 in 2 kids** living in poverty.

40% of children are overweight or obese.

Only **11% of students** living in working families stay safe and engaged in high-quality after-school programs.

About **38% of students** were chronically absent, missing more than **10% of class days**, in the class of 2013 in Rochester city schools.

Only **21% of black males** graduate from city high schools, one of the worst rates of any large urban public school district.

IN MONROE COUNTY

41,000 residents live in poverty; most of our region's poor are white and live in the suburbs outside of the city.

Reports of **child abuse and neglect increased 22%** from 2006 to 2013.

The need for child care subsidies is growing in the suburbs, and the current subsidy model serves less than **25% of eligible families**.

13% of high school students reported they carried a weapon in the past month.

We can improve our collective future.

Over the past decade, The Children's Agenda has made progress in aligning community members, groups, and leaders around evidence-based solutions that will impact the success of our children most, from cradle to career.

PARENT EDUCATION To date, more than 1,200 local families have participated in the Nurse Family Partnership Program, which leads to healthier pregnancies and improved health and development for both mother and child. We helped bring the nationally recognized program here, and we'll continue to push for its expansion to fully meet the local need.

EARLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES In 2015, we helped win a \$1M increase in child care for low income working families. The previous year, we were part of a coalition that won an increase of \$1.74M in local funding for child care subsidies in the state budget—so 200 more children could have access to quality early learning experiences. According to the best research evidence, if all 200 receive high-quality child care for at least two years, we can expect to see the following:

- 36 fewer children needing special education
- 38 fewer teen pregnancies
- 40 more high school graduates
- 46 more students enrolled in four-year college
- Improved health, less criminal activity, and less time on welfare as adults

PREVENTIVE COGNITIVE-BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION We champion the school-based Coping Power Program, which works with children in grades four and five who have aggression issues. The program is currently in place in several Rochester City schools and has led to a decrease in violent and aggressive behavior.

EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS We provide backbone staffing for a number of efforts that coordinate collaboration across key sectors and community groups, including ROC the Future, Rochester's Leadership Council for Healthy Weight, the Children's Interfaith Collaborative, the Children's Policy Council, and others.

If we stand focused, united, and committed, we can change the entire system—for all children, over the long haul.

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You can make a tremendous difference.

With your support, we can expand what's already working in our area to a greater number of children and their families; redirect resources from initiatives that aren't leading to measurable, positive outcomes; and advocate for continued integration, alignment, and change of programs for children and youth.

Your gift to The Children's Agenda powers positive, sustainable change.



THRIVING KIDS

You help bring vital programs to Monroe County that ensure all children receive what they need for healthy growth across the entire continuum of childhood development, like quality learning experiences, physical activity and play, and the encouragement of nurturing caregivers. In doing so, you enable children to thrive in mind, body, and spirit.



SUPPORTED FAMILIES

You contribute to efforts that are improving family health and self-sufficiency. Because of you, we can continue our work to expand evidence-based home visitation to serve more at-risk parents, increase access to quality child care so parents can keep working, and promote new intergenerational strategies to fight poverty.



ACCOUNTABLE ADULTS

You keep kids at the top of the local, state, and federal agenda. Without your support, we couldn't analyze annual budgets to ensure public expenditures map to what's needed most and what does the most good. You strengthen advocacy for smart, effective investments and the systemic changes that will lead to more lasting impacts for our children.



CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

You help foster partnerships that more effectively improve outcomes for children. You make it possible for us to continue to provide staffing for a number of efforts that ensure collaboration among business, faith, health care, and education communities so that we can address issues that are highly interconnected throughout a child's development.



TRANSFORMATIONAL PROGRESS

You fund research and advocacy for the next innovative ideas and help us bring them here. Together, we can ensure a brighter future and make Monroe County an even better place to grow up and raise a family.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Visit TheChildrensAgenda.org and click the DONATE button for secure giving options. Click ADVOCATE to sign up for our Advocacy Network and stay up to date on opportunities to be a voice for Monroe County's vulnerable children and families.

Contact us at (585) 256-2620 x2600 to learn about other ways to help drive change.

The Children's Agenda does not accept any government funding. Your tax-deductible donation allows us to maintain our independence and objectively recommend solutions that are proven to enhance childhood development.

The Children's Agenda is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, founded in 2004 as an initiative of the Rochester Area Community Foundation.

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