

## **Advocacy Corner**





The All For Kids Advocacy Program provides trusted input to policymakers and connects communities with resources to inspire local engagement. Our collaborative efforts transform the policy landscape to build momentum around more prevention and increased child well-being. Speaking out together we are creating a world where every child is safe to grow.

## **Advocacy Successes in the California Budget**

In April, All For Kids released its first-ever <u>Policy Agenda</u> designed to prevent abuse and nurture child well-being. Unfortunately, with a \$45 billion state budget deficit, success isn't counted by *increasing new supports* for the most vulnerable, but by *rejecting billions of dollars in proposed cuts* for those same families.

Lifting our voices with allies, our agency protected vital programs we provide such as:

- Expanding state preschool eligibility
- Rejecting cuts to Family Stabilization and Home Visiting
- Securing concessions for new Foster Family Agency rates coming in a few years

We also successfully fought for services outside our direct scope, including:

- · Maintaining the state's commitment to increased childcare
- Implementing continuous Medi-Cal health coverage for children aged zero to five
- Protecting the **FURS** hotline relied on by foster families in times of crisis

More details on budget implications for California's children can be found here.

## Make a Plan to Vote

Every two years, voters get a chance to choose who will lead our local, state, and national governments, and to directly impact specific issues through the ballot initiative process. All For Kids has no position about the candidates people vote for or the decisions they make on ballot measures. But we do ask everyone to get out and vote!

Any day October 8 through November 5 you can return your ballot in the mail or at an Official Ballot Drop Box. And October 26, early in-person voting becomes available at official Vote Centers. You need to be registered to vote, so verify your status or register online today. And if you miss the October 21 deadline, you can still register when you vote in-person. You can find your polling place here, get more information in the California Official Voter Information Guide, and get ballot measure explanations here.

Think you know everything about voting? **Test your skills in our short** <u>Plan-to-Vote Trivia Challenge</u>. Then share your score with others to help spread a little democracy at election time.



Adam Seiden, All For Kids Director of Policy Advocacy & External Engagement If you need more info or have questions about the All For Kids Advocacy Program, please visit allforkids.org/advocacy or email advocacy@allforkids.org.