



Advancing Home Visiting Through Advocacy: The Ohio Story



Our Mission

To champion high-quality early learning and healthy development strategies from the prenatal period to age five, that lay a strong foundation for Ohio kids, families and communities.



What We Do

Groundwork Ohio advances quality early childhood systems in Ohio by engaging, educating, and mobilizing diverse stakeholders to develop and promote data-driven, evidence-based early childhood policies.

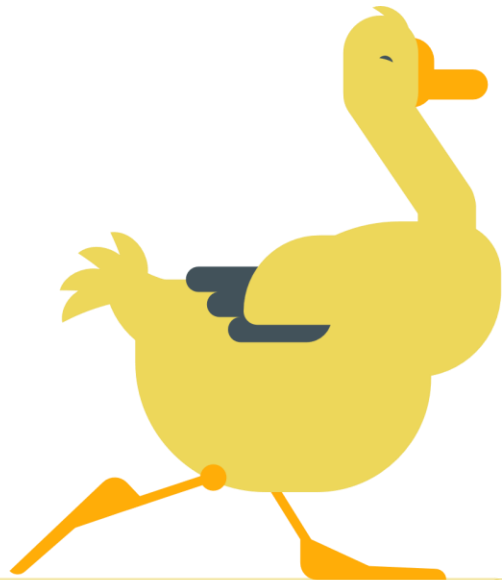


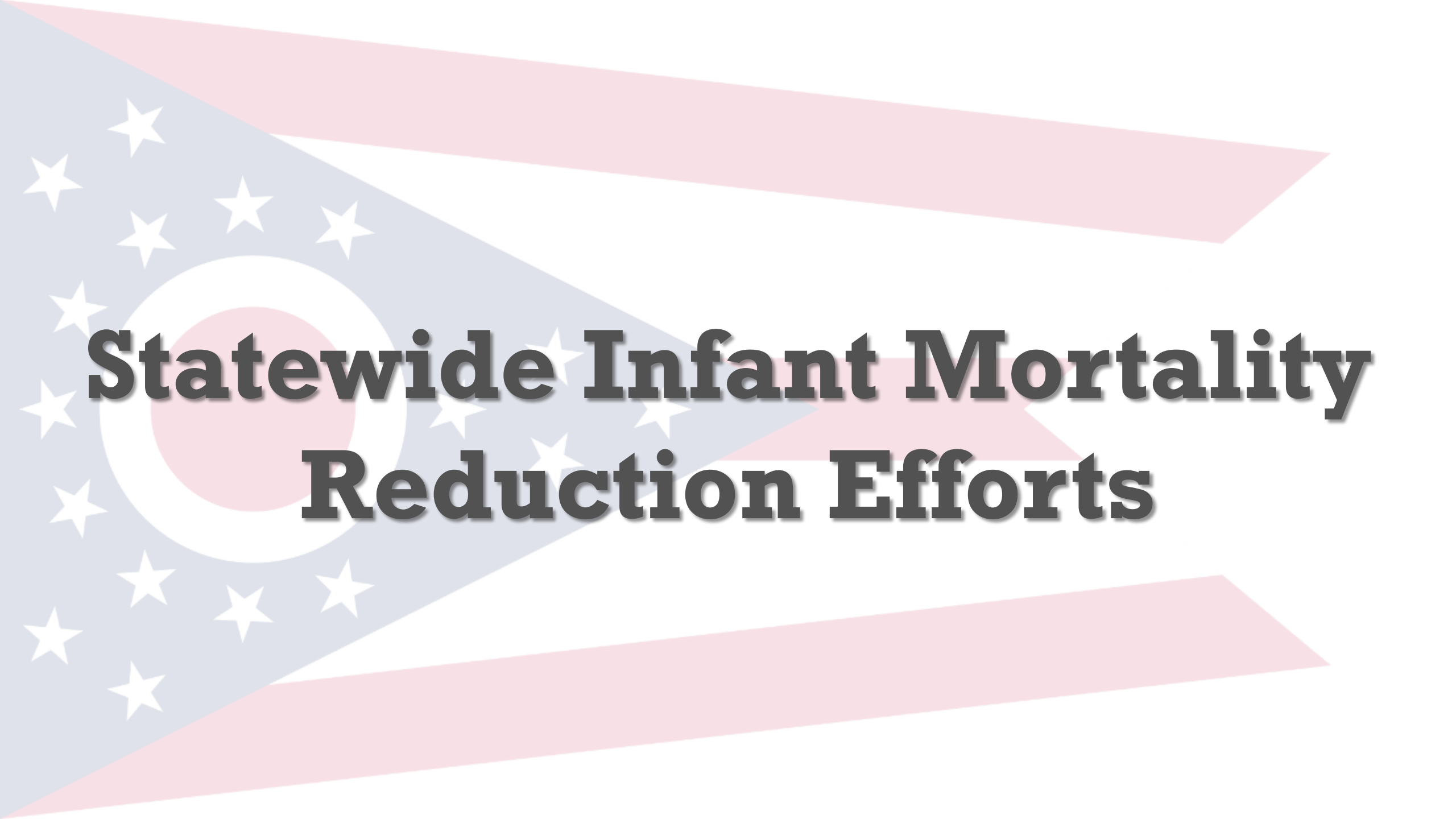
Why We Do It

We know advancing quality early learning and healthy development is the most transformative strategy to increase the life-long success of Ohio's children and lay a strong foundation for economic prosperity in our state.



Where are the ducks?





Statewide Infant Mortality Reduction Efforts

Access to Strong State (and Local) Data

Ohio Infant Mortality Rate (2013-2015) (Number of Deaths per 1,000 Live Births)

Group	2013	2014	2015
All Races	7.4	6.8	7.2
Race			
White	6.0	5.3	5.5
Black	13.8	14.3	15.1
American Indian	*	*	*
Asian/Pacific Islander	*	*	*
Ethnicity			
Hispanic	8.8	6.2	6.0
Non-Hispanic**	7.3	6.9	7.3

Source: Ohio Department Of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics.

*Rates based on fewer than 20 infant deaths are unstable and not reported.

**Non-Hispanic births and deaths include those of unknown ethnicity.

Bipartisan Consensus

local education outcomes
mothers life education moms
dads health
families BABIES sons disaggregated
birthday improved strong
success parents

Understanding and Attention in the Press

THE PLAIN DEALER

Ohio Senate passes infant mortality bill

(Lisa DeJong, The Plain Dealer)

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- The Ohio Senate Wednesday passed a bill that aims to decrease the state's high infant mortality rate by improving data access and reporting and by making sure providers are using only the best, evidence-based practices.

WOSU public
media WOSU Radio

Ohio Senate Bill Would Improve Data Gathering on Infant Mortality

Public health officials are applauding the Ohio House's unanimous passage of a bill that tackles infant mortality and maternal health.

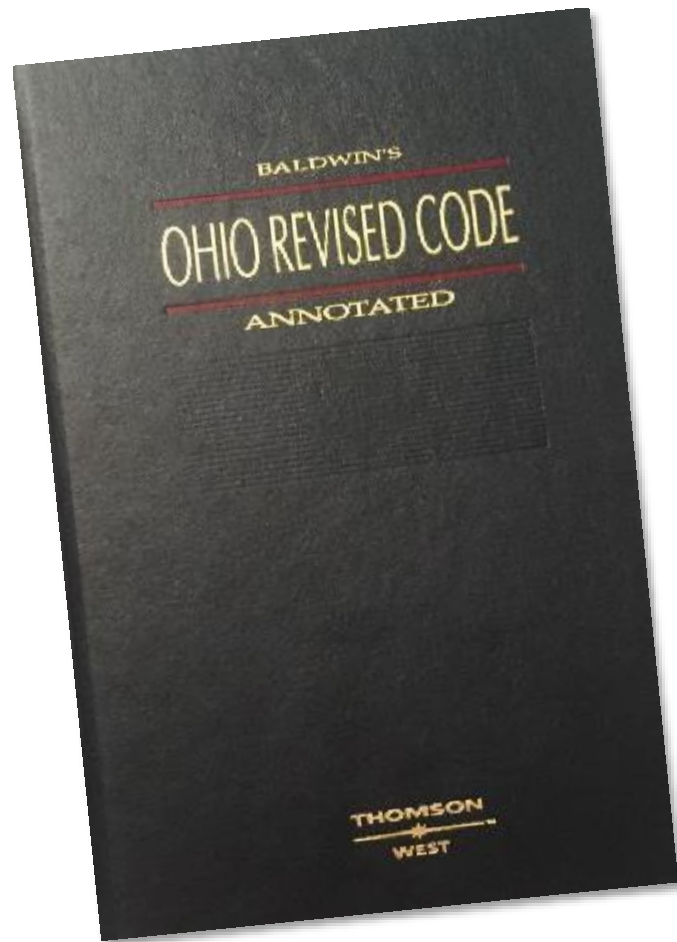
The legislation would give \$6 million to the Ohio Department of Health to start a grant program for group prenatal care services. That funding prioritizes projects in Franklin County and other areas of the state with the highest rates of infant mortality.

Dayton Daily News

Senate OKs bill aimed at reducing infant deaths

COLUMBUS — The Ohio Senate on Wednesday voted 29-1 for a bill to address infant mortality by prohibiting the sale of crib bumper pads, stepping up safe sleep education for young families, offering women long-acting reversible contraceptive devices after delivery and taking other steps.

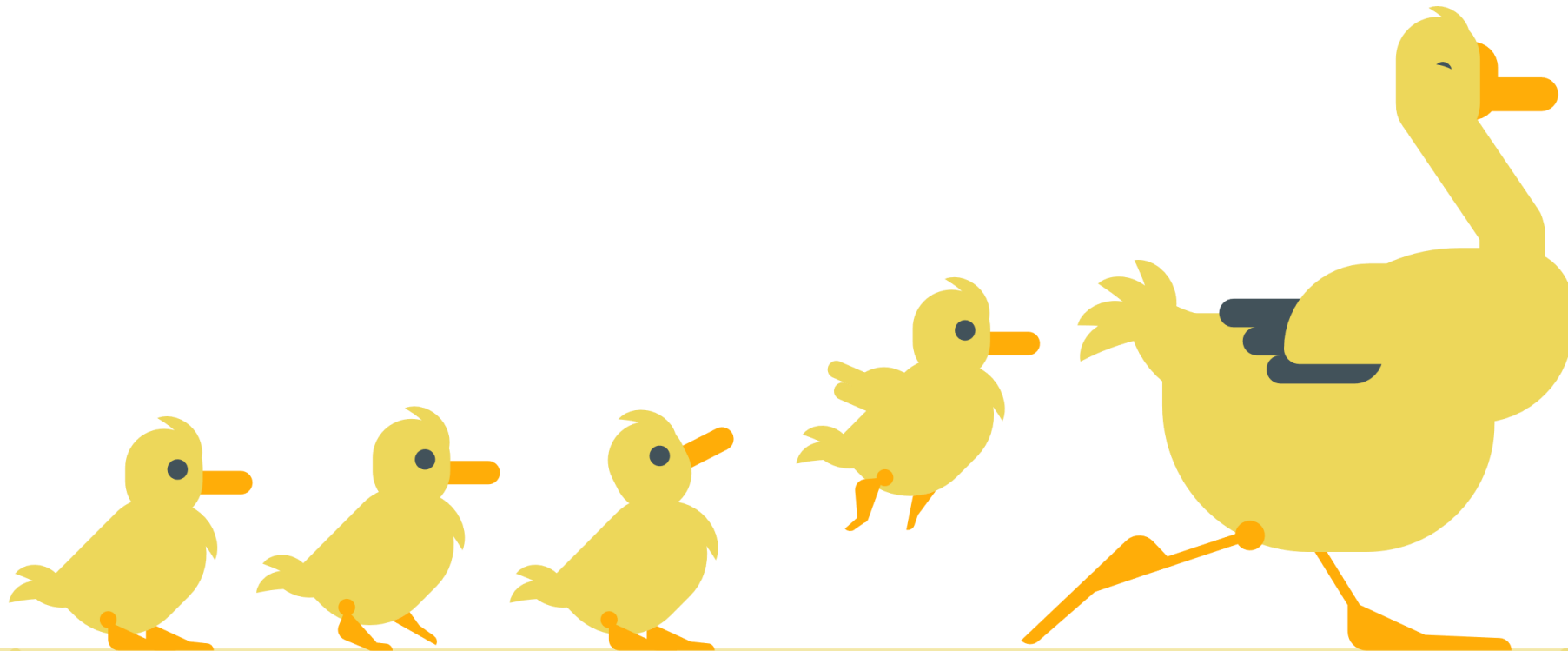
Legislative Support of Home Visiting



3701-8-05 Provision of home visiting services..

(A) All home visiting services shall be delivered utilizing a model **that has been determined evidence-based** by the Ohio department of health, and/or the office of planning, research, and evaluation in the administration for children and families, United States department of health and human services or its successor. Services shall be implemented to model fidelity.

Go where the ducks are!





VOTE
for **OHIO KIDS**

**A Multipronged Approach
to Electoral Advocacy**

Establishing a Diverse Coalition

VOTE for OHIO KIDS



Our Agenda

Vote for Ohio Kids is driving a powerful agenda that puts Ohio kids front and center. Ohio's next governor must invest in proven, high-quality early childhood experiences for all Ohio kids to ensure school and career success and support access to the essential health care services for all Ohio kids that are vital to successful development.

Early Childhood Education Priorities

- High-Quality Child Care
- High-Quality Preschool
- Voluntary, Evidence-based Home Visiting

Health Care Priorities

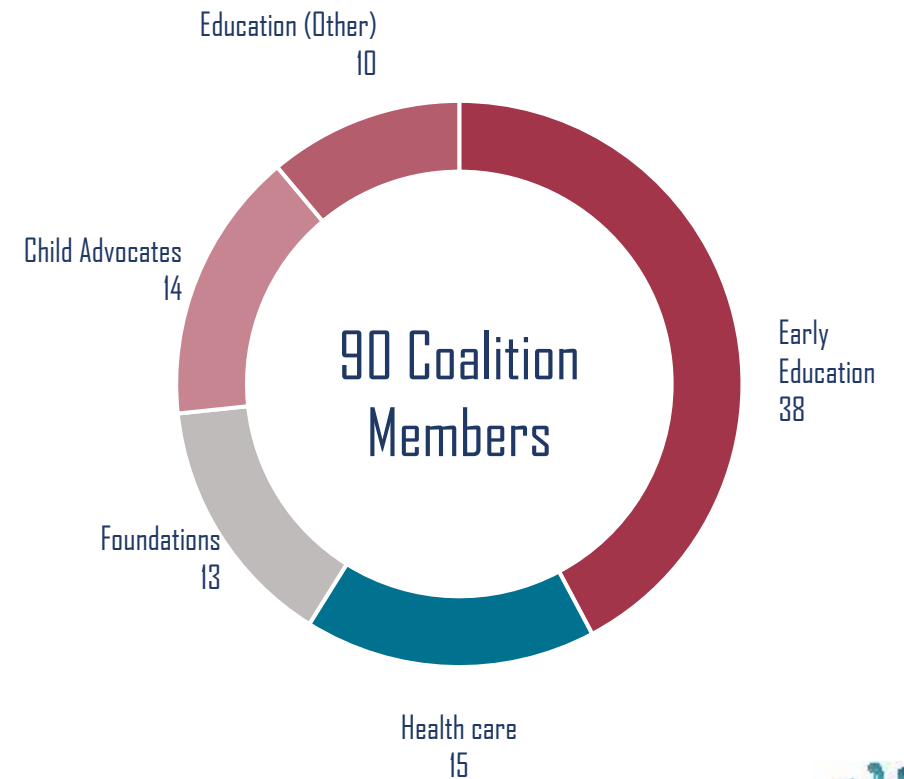
- High-Quality Health Care
- Pediatric Mental Health
- Prevention & Wellness Programs

Recruit Diverse Coalition Membership

4C for Children
 Action for Children
 Advocates for Ohio's Future
 American Academy of Pediatrics, Ohio Chapter
 Akron Children's Hospital
 Boys & Girls Clubs Ohio Alliance
 Buckeye Association of School Administrators
 Buckeye Health Plan
 Center for Community Solutions
 The Centers for Families and Children
 Children's Defense Fund
 Children's Hunger Alliance
 The Childhood League Center
 Cincinnati Early Learning Centers
 Cincinnati Preschool Promise
 Children, Inc.
 Cincinnati Children's
 Cleveland Clinic Children's
 The Cleveland Foundation
 Cleveland Hearing & Speech Center
 Child Care Resource Center
 Cleveland Transformation Alliance
 Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development
 Dayton Children's
 Early Ages Healthy Stages
 Every Child Succeeds
 Early Childhood Resource Center
 GAR Foundation
 The George Gund Foundation
 Greater Cleveland Congregations
 H.A.P.P.Y. Homes Association

Healthy Families America
 Horizon Education Centers
 Human Service Chamber
 Invest in Children Cuyahoga County
 Juvenile Justice Coalition
 KLiCWOV
 Learn to Earn Dayton
 The Literacy Cooperative
 Mental Health & Addiction Advocacy Coalition
 Montgomery County and Dayton Preschool Promise
 Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation
 National Association of Social Workers, Ohio Chapter
 Nationwide Children's
 No Small Matter
 Nurse-Family Partnership
 Ohio Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
 Ohio School Boards Association
 Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies
 Ohio Association of Child Care Providers
 Ohio Association of Community Health Centers
 Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children
 Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators
 Ohio Association of Foodbanks
 Ohio Association of School Business Officials
 Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators
 The Ohio Council of Behavioral Health & Family Service Providers
 Ohio Child Care Resource & Referral Association
 Ohio Federation of Teachers
 Ohio Head Start Association

Ohio Healthy Homes Network
 Ohio PTA
 Ohio School Boards Association
 The Ohio State University Crane Center for Early Childhood Research and Policy
 Philanthropy Ohio
 Policy Matters Ohio
 PNC Grow Up Great
 PRE4CLE
 ProMedica Toledo Children's Hospital
 Reach Out and Read Ohio
 ReadyNation
 Santa Maria Community Services
 Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland
 Starting Point
 Summit Education Initiative
 Southwest Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children
 United Way of Central Ohio
 United Way of Greater Cincinnati
 United Way of Greater Cleveland
 United Way of the Greater Dayton Area
 United Way of Summit County
 United Way of Warren County
 Universal Health Care Action Network Ohio
 Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital
 Voices for Ohio's Children
 Waterford UPSTART
 The Women's Fund of Central Ohio
 YWCA



Secure “Unlikely” Community Allies

VOTE 
for **OHIO KIDS**

May 16, 2018

The Honorable Mike DeWine
124 E. Long Street
Columbus, OH 43260

Dear Attorney General DeWine:

On behalf of the Vote for Ohio Kids campaign and its founding partners, Groundwork Ohio and the O. to C. Children's Hospital Association, I congratulate you on being selected as the Republican candidate for Governor of Ohio.

As you plan your next several months of engagement with Ohio voters, please include the vote for Ohio Kids Leadership Forum on September 27, 2018 from 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM. This unprecedented event held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center will bring together a coalition of over 500 business, healthcare, and education leaders, as well as child advocates from across the state, to dialogue with you and Sen. Rob Portman on your plans for improving early education and healthcare for Ohio kids.

As you know, Vote for Ohio Kids is a statewide effort dedicated to ensuring Ohio's next Governor will make early education and child health a top priority. Our robust coalition is driving a powerful agenda that puts Ohio kids front and center. We believe that Ohio's next governor must invest to prevent, high quality early childhood experiences for all Ohio kids to ensure school and career success and support access to the essential health care services for all kids that are vital to successful living and learning.

With only 40% of Ohio's kids entering kindergarten ready to learn, it's no surprise that 45% of Ohio's workforce has a degree or credential for available jobs today. Compounding this problem no doubt is the fact that in 2017, Ohio ranks 40th in the nation for kids experiencing childhood trauma, which directly impacts their ability to learn. To change this reality, Ohio must focus on the interventions that we know prepare kids for academic and career success: voluntary, evidence-based home visiting, high quality child care and preschool, and the mental and behavioral health services that support social and emotional learning.

Further, the evidence is clear that access to health care ranges from birth through childhood directly impacts educational outcomes and leads to improvements in overall health during adulthood - including lower rates of high blood pressure, diabetes after age 40, heart disease or heart attack, and obesity. Today just 42% of kids have access to a regular medical home, and Ohio ranks 48th in compliance with childhood immunization. Sadly, Ohio's health outcomes for kids are discouraging, not to mention, costly for our communities and taxpayers.

With your leadership, we can ensure your administration's first 100 days of impact is accessibility and quality of early education and health care for every Ohio child. Additionally, we believe in a coalition of stakeholders that provides the support and resources to outline your priorities and objectives on a variety of early childhood issues. We hope these questions will serve as a starting point for your discussion with our business leaders at the "Back to the Future" Forum on September 27th at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

Thank you for your service to Ohio and for your leadership in ensuring our children's success with you as Governor of Ohio.

Sincerely,



Shannon Jones
Executive Director, Groundwork Ohio
One Franklin Square, Columbus, OH 43203



Rick Lashley
President & CEO, Ohio Children's Hospital Association
110 Franklin Square, Columbus, OH 43203

50 Ohio Business Leaders Representing:

Akron Children's Hospital

Buckeye Health Plan

CareSource

Chase Properties

Cincinnati Children's

Columbus Partnership

Crane Group

Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce

Dayton Business Committee

Dayton Children's

Dinsmore & Stahl

Donatos Pizzeria

Gosiger, Inc.

Hylant Group, Inc.

Katz Teller

Liberty Health Care Corporation

Macy's Inc.

Michelman, Inc.

Morris Furniture Company

Myers Industries, Inc.

Nationwide Children's Hospital

The Ohio Business Roundtable

PNC Bank

Procter & Gamble

ProMedica Physicians Group

ProMedica Toledo Children's Hospital

Shook Construction

Skyline Chili

Spurlino Materials

Strategic Healthcare

UH/Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital

University of Dayton



Make Engagement EASY for Members

MEDIA TOOLKIT

The *Vote for Ohio Kids* Media Toolkit is a resource for our coalition members to help amplify the message of the Vote for Ohio Kids campaign. The Toolkit provides action steps, images, and sample text to make it easy for you to share our message on social media, in newsletters, and on your website. If you are interested in receiving additional materials or modified versions of these materials, specific requests can be sent to Info@VoteforOhioKids.org.

SAMPLE TWEETS:



The time is now to invest in quality early education and healthcare for Ohio kids. Check out the @Vote4OhioKids consensus agenda for ways Ohio should invest in our youngest children in the upcoming state budget. voteforohiokids.org/agenda @GroundworkOhio @OhioChildHosp

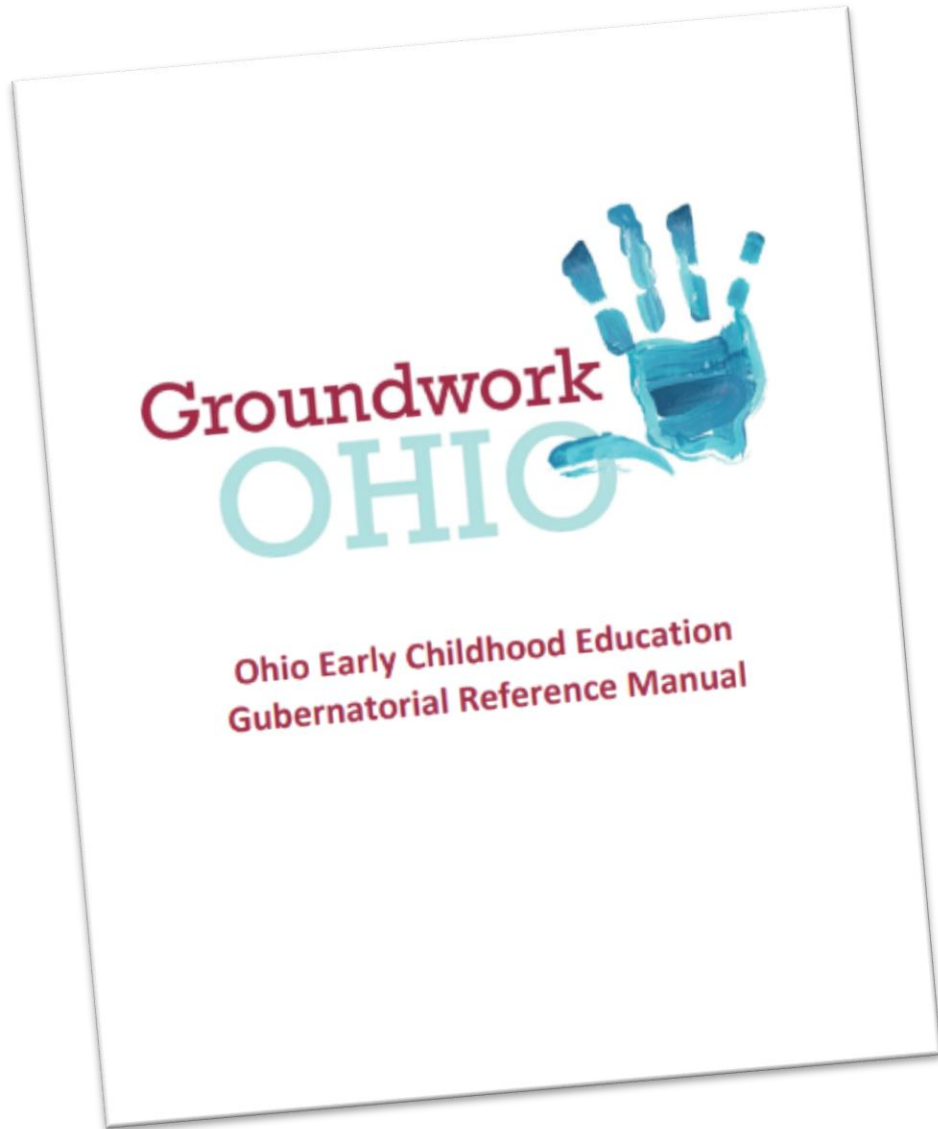
Copy and paste the tweet or [click to share!](#)

SHAREABLE IMAGES:



Building a Strong Case for Support

Evolving Resources and Messaging



- About 300 pages
- Included 32 different resources and high-level overviews
- Mailed to each primary candidate upon filing

Evolving Resources and Messaging

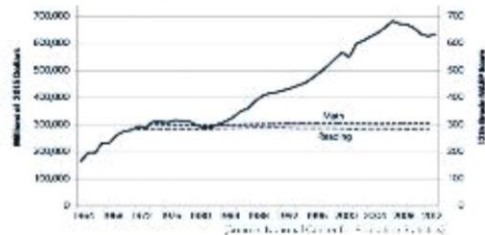
Ohio Early Childhood Spending & Access



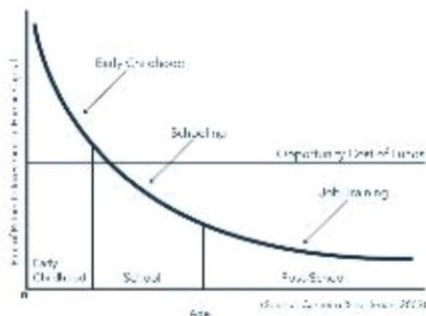
NATIONAL EDUCATION SPENDING

Despite national spending doubling for K-12 since 1980, the achievement of 17th graders in both Math and Reading as measured by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) have remained stagnant. While new investments are required in the education of tomorrow, they must be made strategically in alignment with 21st-century life, brain science and social and emotional development and student readiness — in the first five years of life — to set children on a path of success that will increase the potential of this generation to thrive on these matrices.

60% of U.S. Public Spending on K-12 & Achievement of 17-Year-Olds



Rate of Return on Human Capital Investments



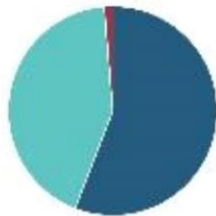
Ohio Early Childhood Spending & Access



OHIO EDUCATION SPENDING ON CHILDREN

In spite of the discrepancies between national spending and achievement trends and what we know about brain science, human development, and economics, Ohio's education budget follows the model of ineffective national spending patterns. Although the state has committed a great deal of its scarce resources to education spending, only a small portion of those funds are dedicated to early childhood.

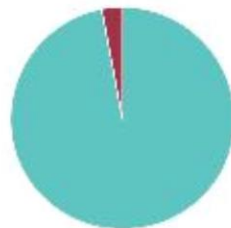
FY 2017 Ohio State Spending



Total	\$24,496,400,000
Other State Spending	\$15,688,783,520
K-12 (42.8%)	\$10,484,000,000
Early Childhood (1.32%)	\$323,616,480

(Source: ODE, OCT 15, 17; ODE's FY 2017 Spending)

FY 2017 Ohio Education Spending on Children



Total Education Spending on Children*	\$10,807,616,480
K-12 (97%)	\$10,484,000,000
Early Childhood (3%)	\$323,616,480
Publicly Funded Child Care	\$246,473,615
Public Preschool	\$56,775,011
Home Visiting	\$20,367,854

*Source: ODE, OCT 15, 17; ODE's FY 2017 Spending
*Total includes state and federal funding for public preschool, home visiting, and publicly funded child care.

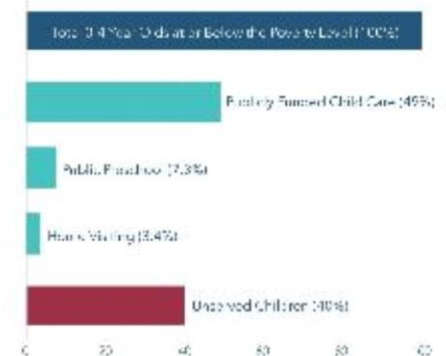
Ohio Early Childhood Spending & Access



ACCESS TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES

Allocating only 1.32% of Ohio's overall budget to early childhood spending is not adequate to provide our most at-risk kids with experiences that can lay the foundation for lifelong success. Of the 600,000 0-4 year olds in the state of Ohio, 34.5% (204,600) are living at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Not nearly enough of these kids have access to publicly funded child care, public preschool, and home visiting services.

Percentage of Children Age 0-4 or Below 100% FPL Who Had Access to ANY Early Childhood Experience (FY15)



Total 0-4 Year Olds at or Below 100% FPL	Publicly Funded Child Care	Public Preschool	Home Visiting	Total Children Served
204,600	115,000	17,934	9,131	142,065
100%	49%	7.3%	3.4%	60%

*Total at 100% FPL includes all children living at or below 100% FPL. *Unassisted children are those at or below 100% FPL who do not have access to any early childhood experience. *Source: ODE, OCT 15, 17; ODE's FY 2017 Spending

Evolving Resources and Messaging

VOTE 
for **OHIO KIDS**



Ohio's Quality Early Childhood Experiences

Ohio's quality early childhood experiences include high-quality child care, brain building, preschool, and voluntary evidence-based home visiting. Ohio has created a framework for a system of early childhood programs that have the potential to transform our state – but we still have a long way to go before this young system can reach its full potential.

High-Quality Child Care FY 2017 PARTICIPANTS: 119,251*

In total, nearly all Ohio children receive some form of care, but not all care is of high quality. Ohio offers child care to 0-4 year olds, a third of whom are in child care at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level. Length of child care services is determined by the program type, schedule, ranging from hourly care to over 10 hours per week. Ohio does not always offer the opportunity to attend preschool, its most important period of development.

High-Quality Preschool FY 2017 PARTICIPANTS: 18,485*

Ohio offers quality school-based preschool opportunities to 4-year olds whose families are living at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level. State-funded preschool programming is limited to 15 hours a week, week-long sessions, and additional services are often supplemented by additional child care services. These programs provide cognitive development, social, emotional, and cognitive skills. In addition, they provide the best early learning environment for children who have the greatest needs.

Voluntary Evidence-Based Home Visiting FY 2017 PARTICIPANTS: 8,181*

Ohio currently operates evidence-based home visiting programs. Ohio's Home Visiting program is a home-based service that provides education, parent and caregiver skills, and social and emotional support. These home visits are the most necessary resources and skills to help children who are physically, socially, and emotionally not ready to learn. The number and frequency of visits are determined by the child and family's needs.

Early Childhood Spending FY 2017



Ohio's Next Governor Should:

This state is to increase the accessibility to and quality of Ohio's child care, preschool, and voluntary evidence-based home visiting. In order to improve our young children, invest in the long-term success of Ohio's children, and lay a strong foundation for economic prosperity in our state.

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#Vote4OhioKids



Evolving Resources and Messaging

VOTE for OHIO KIDS








Voluntary Evidence-Based Home Visiting

Ohio's community-based home visiting programs include the federally-funded *Maternal Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV)* program and the state-funded *Help Me Grow* program. Ohio's *Help Me Grow* program has 9,621 participants per year with an average participation of 1.9 years per participant. For those who elect to participate in a home visiting program, providers regularly visit the homes of vulnerable families (typically once per month) starting while the mother is still pregnant and continuing through the first five years of the child's life. During this critical period of physical, emotional, and cognitive development for young children, parents receive support and education on how to create a safe, stimulating environment that promotes growth and learning. Voluntary, evidence-based home visiting programs allow motivated parents to learn how to succeed in their new role and provide children a healthy start with their first and most important teachers—parents.³

Ohio's Help Me Grow Program:

This voluntary home visiting program utilizes three evidence-based models:

Although there is slight variation within each model to provide services catered to individual family needs, the primary goals of all programs are to:

- Enhance parents' ability to form strong, positive attachments with their children and to keep them safe.
- Promote children's healthy physical, cognitive, and social-emotional development by monitoring their progress, guiding parents in recognizing their children's and their own needs, and accessing appropriate services.
- Improve maternal and child health.⁴

THE RETURNS: \$5.70 ROI PER EVERY \$1 INVESTED

IN EVIDENCE-BASED HOME VISITING PROGRAMS⁵

THE CASE for VOLUNTARY EVIDENCE-BASED HOME VISITING

- School Readiness:**
 - Increases scores on 3rd-grade math and reading tests by 25%.
 - Decreases language problems by 65%.
- Family Health:**
 - Decreases instances of low weight births by 48%.
 - Decreases number of emergency room visits by 20%.
- Family Self-Sufficiency:**
 - Increases the likelihood of mothers to be employed in an education or training program by 10%.
 - Decreases Family Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) payments by 20% for 10 years post-partum.⁶

A Commitment to Quality Home Visiting

Local communities have embraced home visiting and are working to supplement the state's funding with their own support of local programs to increase the accessibility and quality of home visiting. Cuyahoga County's *Invest in Children*, for example, has made home visiting a key investment to ensure the development of safe, healthy children and effective parents and families.



Building on Evidence to Enhance Quality: Ohio's *Invest in Children* supports *Every Child Succeeds*, building on the sound foundations of evidence-based home visiting to provide enhanced, supportive services by highly trained staff. From the beginning, this program has been based on strong evidence demonstrating that a nurturing environment, being experienced in the first three years of a child's life, supports brain growth, language development, social skills, and emotional regulation. In FY2015, *Invest in Children* public's was part of an *Every Child Succeeds* service that resulted in 11,016 and average 14.6 visits per family each year.⁷

Ohio's Next Governor Should:

Invest in evidence-based home visiting to work the most at-risk children and families in order to improve children's school readiness, family health, and self-sufficiency.

Sources

1. Ohio Legislative Service Commission, "Early Childhood System" (2014), 2014, www.ohio.gov.
2. The Pew Charitable Trusts.
3. The Pew Charitable Trusts.
4. PACT.org website.
5. *Child Care*, 4 (2014), 11-14.
6. *Lowell, Cole*, 48, 9000 L. Rev. 1171 (2014).
7. *Invest in Children*, 2014, www.investinchildren.org.
8. *Invest in Children*, 2014.
9. *Invest in Children*, 2014.
10. *Invest in Children*, 2014.
11. *Invest in Children*, 2014.
12. *Invest in Children*, 2014.

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#Vote4OhioKids



Gaining Strong

Candidate Commitments

Engaging the Press

Vote for Ohio Kids Coverage
15 ARTICLES

Candidate Issue Coverage
45+ ARTICLES

The Columbus Dispatch

THE BLADE

**AKRON
BEACON
JOURNAL**

STATEHOUSE NEWS BUREAU

THE PLAIN DEALER

POLITICO

Dayton Daily News

Securing Policy Commitments

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Attorney General
Mike
DeWine

1. **BACKGROUND:** Quality child care is both a vital support for working families and a crucial opportunity to provide young children with the enriching early learning environments they need at a time when the brain science and social science dictates most effective. Unfortunately, quality child care is not accessible to many working parents. The average cost of child care in Ohio ranges from about \$3,000 and \$6,000 per year based on the child's age and the quality of care, making it prohibitively inaccessible to many Ohio families. In FY 2017, 112,000 children in Ohio received some publicly funded child care (FPCC) subsidy, which translates to 49% of all kids living at or below 130% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The FPCC program is vital to allowing parents to participate in the workforce and at the same time provides the opportunity to positively impact children during their most critical period of development—the first five years of life. In order to achieve the high returns on investment and positive outcomes that child care programs can offer, Ohio needs to improve the quality of programs offered to our most at-risk kids and consider making it accessible to more Ohio families. Ohio is not on track to reach its statutory deadline of 100% of Ohio child care providers being rated high quality by 2025. Currently only 20% of Ohio's providers are high quality.

QUESTION: *If elected, what are your plans to improve Ohio's publicly-funded child care for low-income working families in Ohio?*

ANSWER: High-quality early childhood education is proven to improve long-term outcomes for children. Yet only 20% of centers are high-quality rated.

The DeWine-Husted administration will first invest in elevating all of Ohio's publicly-funded child care centers to high-quality. This will require investments in workforce, training, facilities, and evidence-based curricula. Not only will this improve outcomes for Ohio's most disadvantaged children who qualify for child care subsidies, but it will also improve outcomes for other children who attend these centers. Second, we will raise the eligibility level for publicly-funded early childhood programs for working families from 130% of the federal poverty level to 150% of the federal poverty level, which will expand access to at least 20,000 more children. To accomplish this, the DeWine-Husted Administration will invest \$100 million over our first biennial budget. Not only will this financial investment help children, but it will also encourage more parental participation in the workforce.

DeWine

2. **BACKGROUND:** Ohio offers quality school-based preschool opportunities to 4-year olds whose families are living at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. State-funded preschool programming is offered for 3.5 hours each week throughout the school year and is often supplemented by additional child care services outside of the school setting. These programs provide essential development of social, emotional, and cognitive skills for kids as they prepare to enter kindergarten. Local communities recognize the importance of preschool and are working to supplement the state's funding with their own support of local programs to increase the number of children served and the quality of programs—but these local dollars are limited.

QUESTION: *If elected, what are your plans to improve Ohio's publicly funded preschool to ensure Ohio's most at-risk kids are ready for kindergarten?*

ANSWER: Over the past 8 years, Governor Kasich has dramatically increased funding for publicly funded preschool seats. The DeWine-Husted Administration would continue to grow Ohio's public preschool system, distributing seats based on economic and access needs.

3. **BACKGROUND:** Voluntary, evidence-based home visiting programs allow motivated parents of Ohio's most at-risk children to learn how to succeed in their role and provide children a healthy start with their first and most important teachers—parents. During this critical period of physical, emotional, and cognitive development for babies and young children, evidence-based home visiting provides parents with support and guidance on how to create a safe, stimulating environment that promotes growth and learning. Extensive research has shown that evidence-based home visiting programs reduce rates of infant mortality and adverse childhood experience (ACEs), while increasing school readiness and family health and self-sufficiency. Currently, Ohio's voluntary, evidence-based home visiting program, Help Me Grow, reaches only 9,123 participants each year (3.4% of eligible families).

QUESTION: *If elected, what are your plans to improve Ohio's voluntary, evidence-based home visiting programs?*

ANSWER: I recognize that Ohio's evidence-based home visiting programs are grossly underfunded, reaching less than 4 percent of eligible families. The DeWine-Husted administration will make state investments to triple the number of families served through home-visiting programs. These programs can reduce infant mortality and improve school-readiness, as well as help parents develop the skills they need to support their child's development.

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Mr.
Richard
Cordray

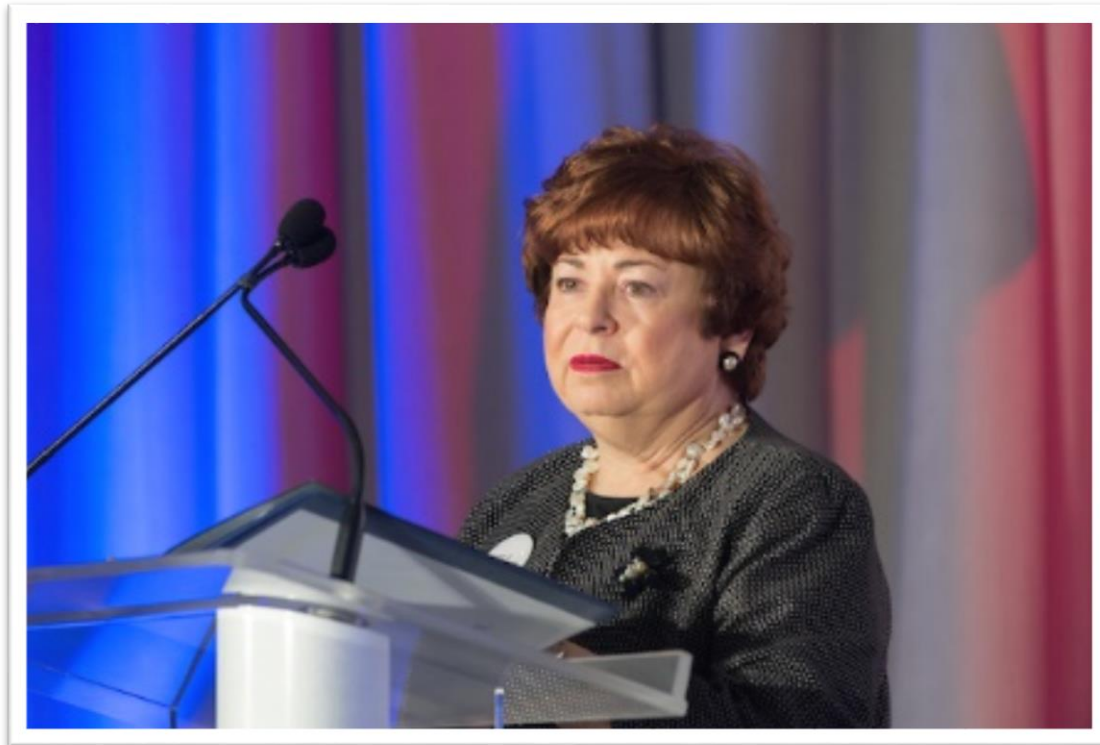
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QUESTION: *If elected, what are your plans to improve Ohio's publicly-funded child care for low-income working families in Ohio?*

ANSWER: We need to boost support for quality child care in Ohio. We say we value our children, but our policies fall short in both affordability and quality. In Ohio, many working families allocate much of their income to afford child care, sometimes spending more on child care than on housing. At the same time, two-thirds of Ohio children under age 6 have both parents in the workforce and they need more support. Child care receives the bulk of state early childhood funding, but it does not yet meet the need. While efforts exist to ensure parents pay on a sliding fee scale to eliminate a benefit cliff, we need to expand the level of assistance to those up to 200% FPL. Betty and I both worked on child support issues and child care financing during our time in the state legislature. As Governor, I will push for state legislation to offset the high costs of child care and provide direct relief to more working families.

Affordability only matters if a program for Ohio's children age 0-5 are also high quality. Children who attend a 5-star "Step up to Quality" program score higher on kindergarten readiness, but the vast majority of our children remain in unstarred programs. Quality child care provides a comprehensive approach to ensuring children succeed in kindergarten and beyond. We must provide funding and coordinated strategies from the state to ensure that all child care providers reach high-quality ratings on the regulated time frame.

Vote for Ohio Kids Leadership Forum



Maxine Clark

Founder & Former Chief Executive Bear
at Build-A-Bear Workshop

Leading Clinical Experts

From Ohio's Children's Hospitals



Vote for Ohio Kids Leadership Forum

Candidate Forum Panelists



David Melin

PNC Regional President, Dayton

Pat Tiberi

President & CEO, Ohio Business Roundtable

Deborah Feldman

President & CEO, Dayton Children's Hospital

Michael Johnson

President & CEO, United Way of Greater Cincinnati

Alex Fischer

President & CEO, The Columbus Partnership



Vote for Ohio Kids Leadership Forum



Governor Mike DeWine:

The First 100 Days

Post-Election Press Coverage

XENIA DAILY GAZETTE
A Pulitzer Prize-Winning **EST. 1868** Newspaper Serving Greene County



DEWINE HAS PLAN IN PLACE TO KEEP MOVING OHIO FORWARD

Dayton Daily News

DeWine cites moral obligation for state to invest more in at-risk kids



DeWine says he will prioritize efforts to help Ohio's at-risk children. TY GREENLEE / GUSTO Photo: Ty Greenlee

msnbc



Ohio's governor-elect plots the way forward
Ohio Governor-elect Mike DeWine joins Morning Joe to discuss his win over Democrat Richard Cordray and his plan for Ohio's health care.
msnbc.com

WOSU public media

DeWine Creates New Position To Lead Children's Initiatives

By ANDY CHOW • NOV 8, 2018

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Ohio Governor-elect Mike DeWine holds first press conference following his gubernatorial win to announce first staff positions.



MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF OHIO

Executive Order 2019-07D

Establishing the Governor's Advisory Council on Home Visitation

WHEREAS, Ohio utilizes evidence-based home visiting as a strategy to combat infant mortality and the achievement gap; and

WHEREAS, the array of evidence-based home visiting programs used by the State of Ohio are proven to improve school readiness and parenting skills and decrease infant mortality; and

WHEREAS, Ohio ranks in the bottom quartile of states for its infant mortality rate, with nearly 1,000 babies failing to reach their first birthday in 2018; and

WHEREAS, there is a disparity in infant vitality rates between Caucasian and African American babies, with black babies nearly three times more likely to not reach their first birthday; and

WHEREAS, just 41 percent of Ohio children arrive at kindergarten with the academic and social skills necessary to succeed; and

Governor DeWine's Executive Budget Proposal

Evidence-Based Home Visiting

- **\$50 million additional investment** over the biennium to triple the number of families number of families served

Part-C Early Intervention

- Nearly **\$25 million additional investment** over the biennium to expand services and support automatic eligibility (neonatal abstinence syndrome & lead poisoning)

The Final Stretch:

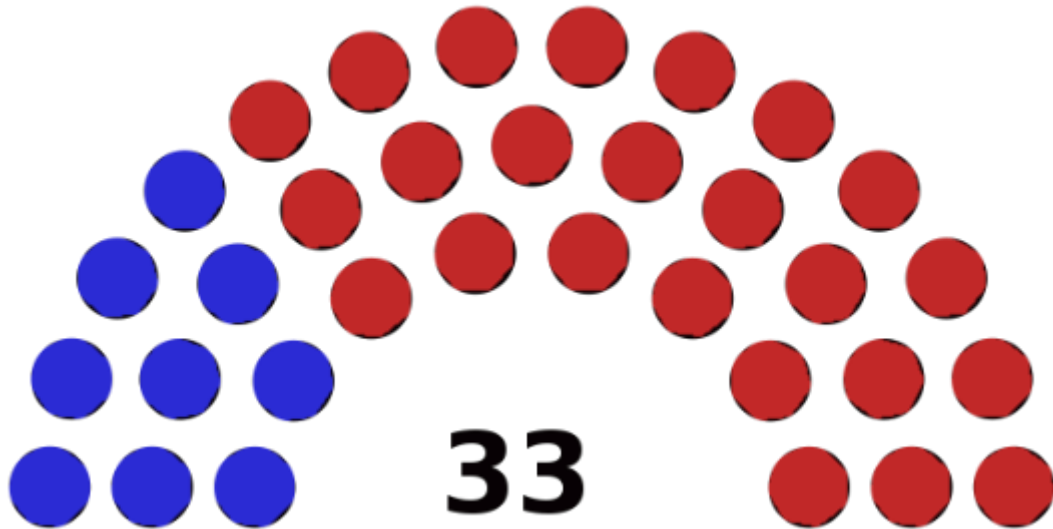
Legislative Advocacy

Legislative Budget Advocacy

Ohio Senate

Super-Majority

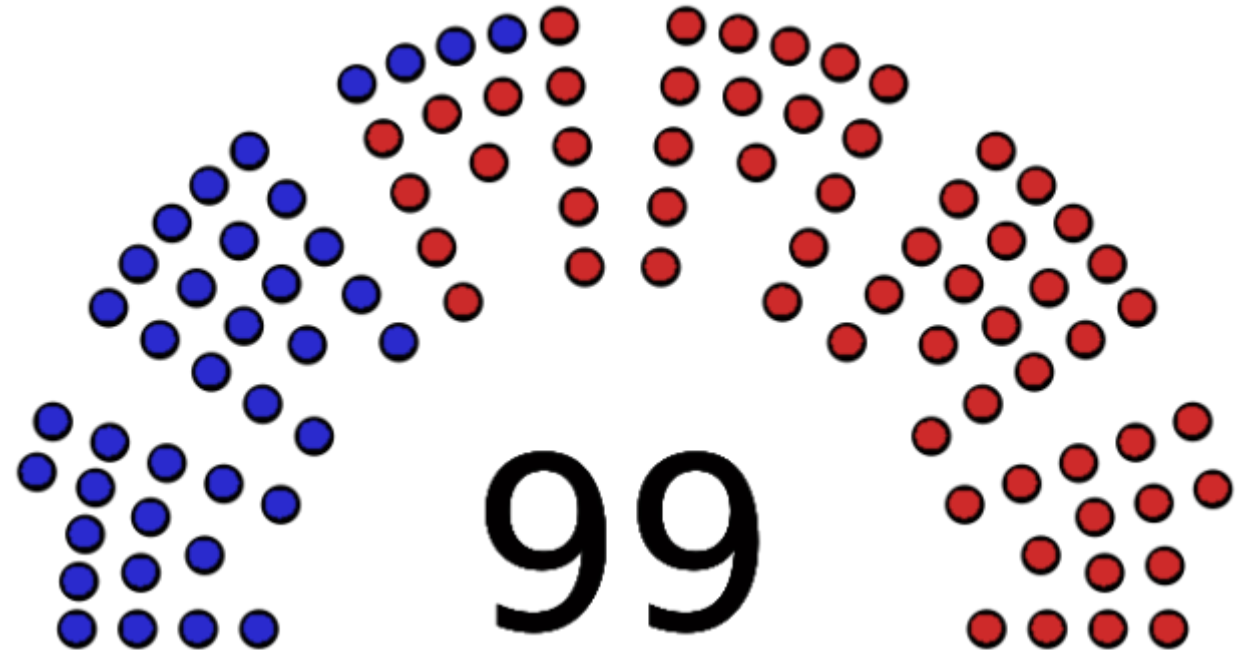
9 / 24



Ohio House

Majority Republican

38 / 61



Legislative Budget Advocacy



Dear Senator Ohio,

Thank you for your support of investments in quality infrastructure for Ohio's publicly funded child care system. Investments in quality care for our youngest learners support healthy development and long-term success for our residents, create stability in our state's workforce, and offer a whopping 134% ROI.

The Senator's leadership and bipartisan support for investments in quality child care will not only benefit working families today, but will create a brighter future for our state by ensuring kids have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Thank you for your continued support of quality early learning—our state's economic dependency bill.

Sincerely,

Jane Smith
11111111111111111111



By Honorable Howard Cook
11111111111111111111
Columbus, OH 43215



The Proof in the Pudding:

FY 20-21 Investments

FY 20 -21 Investments

Home Visiting

Invests an additional \$30 million state GRF in Help Me Grow (bringing the total biennial investment to \$70 million) to support Governor DeWine's goal of tripling the number of families served by evidence-based home visiting programs.

FY 20 -21 Investments

Part C Early Intervention

Invests nearly \$25 million additional state funds over the biennium in Part C Early Intervention, much of which will support the new automatic eligibility for children who have tested positive for lead and babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome (effective July 1, 2019).

FY 20 -21 Investments

Healthcare

Creates an enhanced primary care model (CPC for Kids) that supports improved health outcomes for children, a new care model that provides treatment to women with opiate use disorder and babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome in the same place at the same time, and extends Medicaid coverage for 12 months after delivery for new mothers.

Where do we go from here?

Identifying Next Steps

Responding to Need for Context & Depth

Advancing Early Childhood Mental Health through Evidence-Based Home Visiting



What is early childhood mental health?

Brains are built on a foundation of early experiences. In the first few years of life, more than one million neural connections are formed every second. These neural connections, the brain's architecture, are formed through the interaction of baby and their environment through early enriching experiences. While genes provide a blueprint for brain architecture, neural connections must be formed through repeated use. All children are born with the ability to reach their highest potential, but connections that form early form either a strong or weak foundation for the connections that form later. These critical interactions with adults lay the foundation for all later learning, behavior and health.

In the
**FIRST
FEW YEARS**
of life, more than
**ONE MILLION
NEURAL
CONNECTIONS**
are formed every second.

- Provide in-depth technical detail on Ohio's evidence-based home visiting system
- Respond to common misconceptions about home visiting system within legislature
- Advance broader story around early childhood mental health

Responding to Need for Context & Depth

Webinar Recordings:



Webinar 1

What do developmental milestones tell us?

with Teresa Kobelt & Maggie Gons of [OCAL](#)

[View Presentation Slides >](#)



Webinar 2

A Policy Overview

with Cindy Oser

[View Presentation Slides >](#)



Webinar 3

Perspectives from the Field

with the Ohio Association for Infant Mental Health

[View Presentation Slides >](#)

Recognizing Workforce Challenges

Ohio

**Governor's Office of
Workforce Transformation**

Mike DeWine, Governor

Jon Husted, Lt. Governor and Director

Focus on *critical* occupations

READY, SET



SOAR OHIO

Early Investments, A Lifetime of Success.

Together, we can make Ohio the
best place to be a young child.

Recruiting New Allies: Local Policymakers

Building Brains. Building Communities.

The Case for Investing in Children, Prenatal to Age 3



We know that the economic success of cities, counties, and our state as a whole is linked to a productive workforce and secure, welcoming communities.

What is not widely understood, however, is how much Ohio's economy is influenced by the health and development of our infants and toddlers who, in a matter of years, will be our workforce.



How Local Leaders Can Support a Prenatal to Age 3 Agenda:



Provide community leadership, demonstrate commitment, and build public will to improve outcomes for infants, toddlers and their families.

1. Work to be visible statewide with focus on how your local community is investing in its toddlers and toddlers' families.
2. Increase public awareness around the importance of early childhood health, learning and well-being in the first three years of life.
3. Increase community investment in young children and their families.
4. Create a local network of support and allies to help the young children.
5. Use direct or indirect funding to support the agenda.
6. Use Groundwork Ohio's planning process by the presence and leadership of young children and their families in your community.



Increase access to services that improve outcomes for young children and their families by ensuring that:

1. Families with infants and toddlers have access to high-quality care that proactively promotes and supports healthy learning and family and community-based care settings, including child care, and other quality care settings.
2. Young children receive health screenings, developmental observations, interventions for additional risks and needs.
3. Children and families at risk and those with special needs have timely access to home visitors or services.



If you are unsure where to begin, you can start by asking one or more of these questions:

1. What would the overall goal be if you could get your local child care agencies to discuss the goal with the strengths and weaknesses of the current supports that are in place for young children and their families (funded by all available state or program state and local dollars)?
2. How many infants and toddlers do you have in your county? How many children in total? How do you see families who are at risk of being non-compliant with the local child welfare system?
3. Does your county select and manage a program to serve at-risk children in custody? If so, how do you ensure children and their families are not in the middle of these children and their foster or kinship placements?
4. How do you see judges manage cases that report young children and their families who they consider at risk of a special care placement?
5. Does your county provide or fund local home visitation services? How many programs, teams and by what means and are there a team for non-compliance?
6. How many your county's home visitation teams are currently in meeting the needs of young children in your community?
7. Are the local health, child welfare and your county's social workers all on the same page?
8. How are you connecting young children and their families to the local health care system, including local pediatric?
9. How do local law and community organizations work to ensure young children and their families?
10. What are the local county or school board policies for families who are pregnant? Do these policies support the health of the women?
11. How many more jobs do you see in your county if you don't take care on behalf of the young children in your community during the most critical period of brain development?

@GroundworkOhio

READY, SET SOAR OHIO

Early Investments, A Lifetime of Success.

The State of Infants & Toddlers

Montgomery County



XX,XXX,XXX
infants & toddlers under age 3



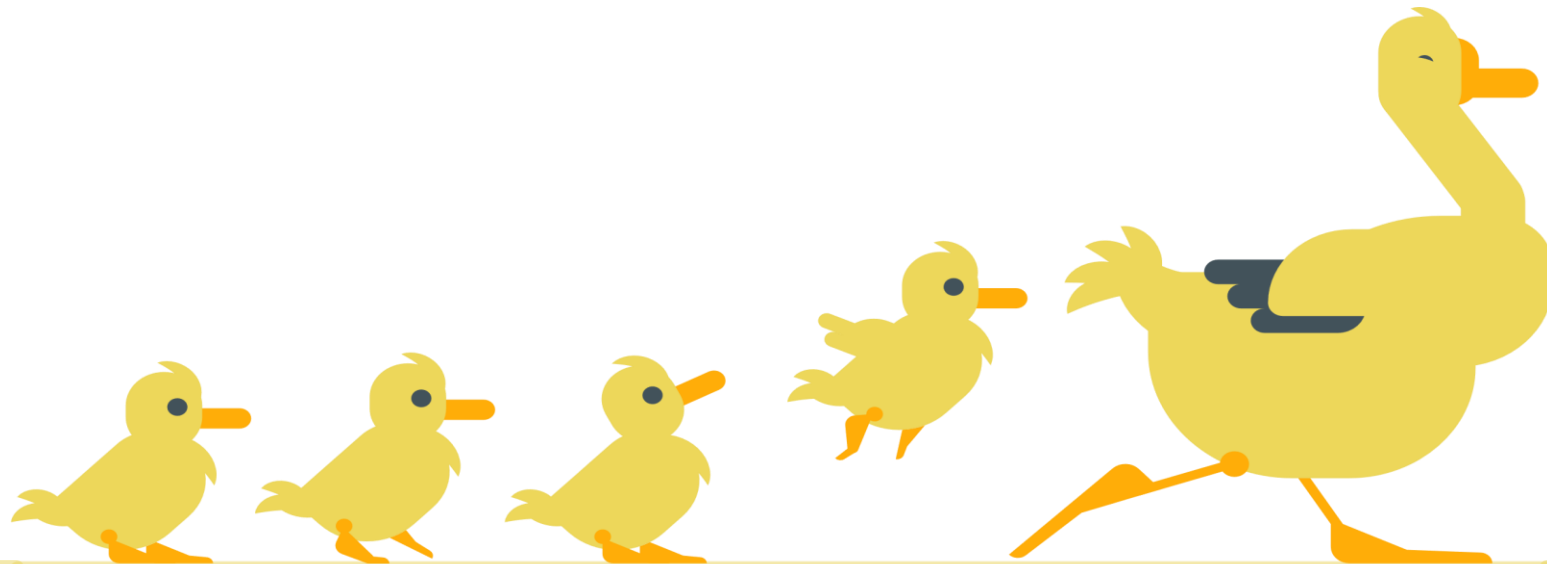
Join us & explore more resources!

There's more to work on, you know.

ReadySetSoarOH.org
@ReadySetSoarOH

Identifying New Opportunities

- What are the Governor's priorities for the remainder of his term?
- What opportunities and challenges exist within the state legislature?
- What federal opportunities can be leveraged in our state?
- Where does public support and interest lie?



Questions?



THANK YOU!

To learn more, visit
www.GroundworkOhio.org



@GroundworkOhio