



**CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE**

*A Voice for Washington's Children, Youth & Families*

# 2016 Legislative Agenda

## End Childhood Hunger

Here in Washington, one in five children lives in a household that doesn't have enough to eat. Childhood food insecurity disproportionately impacts children of color, and it undermines a child's educational progress. **Fight childhood hunger, including strategies to increase family economic security such as restoring Temporary Assistance for Needy Families.**

## Invest in Early Learning

Every child deserves the opportunity for a great start. High-quality early learning is a targeted investment with huge returns: proven outcomes in school and in life. Fulfill the promise of the Early Start Act of 2015. **Make investments to ensure access to high-quality early learning, including avoiding a waiting list for child care assistance.**

## Secure Health for All Kids

Too many kids—especially children in low-income families and children of color—are suffering needlessly from lack of access to the preventive dental care needed to ensure overall health. **Authorize dental therapists to bring quality care to children, families, and communities who are currently in need.**

## Revenue

Solutions to the McCleary ruling must include new revenue. Positive outcomes for children require investments in K-12 education and the services and supports that help children learn. **Close outdated and unnecessary tax preferences and adopt new sources of revenue.**