



**CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE**

*Speaking Out for Washington's Children Since 1983*

## **Voices for Children 2013**

### **Legislator Quotes**

*Given the status of the state legislative session, we knew that many legislators who wanted to attend Voices for Children might not be able to make it. Knowing this was a possibility, we asked lawmakers to share their thoughts about the Children's Alliance on our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Here are their words:*

"When I need strong reliable data on youth issues, I go to Children's Alliance."

~[Representative John McCoy](#), 38<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Tulalip (D) [Photo](#)

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"As a legislator I look for stakeholder advocates that are effective and knowledgeable about their issue area and the Children's Alliance has proven time and time again that they are the experts on children's issues and they get results. I have been particularly impressed with the Children's Alliance's work on food security and early childhood education and rely on them as experts in these areas. Every child in our state has an influential lobbyist in Olympia in the form of the Children's Alliance."

~[Senator Andy Billig](#), 3<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District, Spokane (D) [Photo](#)

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"I support the Children's Alliance financially because I believe in the organization's values for kids and families."

"I count on the Children's Alliance to effectively move their priorities forward, particularly in the areas of early learning, Apple Health for Kids, and fighting hunger."

"The Children's Alliance's data driven and outcome based approach is evident in their early learning campaign focus on research to successfully gain strong bipartisan support."

~[Representative Tina Orwall](#), 33<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District, Normandy Park (D) [Photo](#)

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"While we all know that sick, hungry, unprepared kids can't learn, the Children's Alliance makes sure that policy makers have the data to back that up. They know what we need to do as a state to support the whole child, and every child, so that we can finally start to close the opportunity gap."

~[Senator Sharon Nelson](#), 34<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Vashon (D) [Photo](#)

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"I support the Children's Alliance financially because they are the organized voice for the future of Washington – our children. They represent actual children, not adults whose financial interests tangentially (at best) improve outcomes for kids."

~[Representative Ross Hunter](#), 48<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Medina (D) [Photo](#)

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“The Children’s Alliance is dedicated to achieving successful outcomes for all children. They are always prepared with fresh perspectives, emerging studies and helpful data to drive the conversation about important policies that shape our children’s future. As a parent, their work helps us move Washington in a direction that we can be proud to pass on to our children.”

~[Senator Andy Hill](#), 45th Legislative District, Redmond (R), [Photo](#)

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“The Children’s Alliance facilitates an essential connection between stakeholders and legislators to create positive changes for children. This on-the-ground approach helps me work directly with the families who can share their own experiences.”

~[Senator Joe Fain](#), 47th Legislative District, Auburn (R), [Photo](#)

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“Every year I look forward to Advocacy Camp. It’s one of my favorite annual events: spending a wonderful evening with great parents who are gaining the skills, insight, and confidence to become powerful voices for our children and community.”

~[Senator Bob Hasegawa](#), 11th Legislative District, Seattle (D) [Photo](#)

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“The Children’s Alliance is about giving every child a chance – and a voice.”

“No child should go hungry, homeless, uneducated or denied health care because their parents are too poor. That’s what the Children’s Alliance is fighting for, and will always be fighting for.”

“Kids don’t vote. They don’t have money or power, so they need champions like the Children’s Alliance.”

~[Representative Laurie Jinkins](#), 27th Legislative District, Tacoma (D) [Photo](#)

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“The Children’s Alliance has long been a strong, effective, trusted voice for children and families in our state. Their work makes a real difference in the lives of citizens.”

~[Senator Annette Cleveland](#), 49th Legislative District, Vancouver (D) [Photo](#)

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“Apple Health for Kids, our award winning health care program, is proof that the Children’s Alliance gets results. Children’s Alliance is one of the most effective advocacy organizations in our state. “

~[Speaker Frank Chopp](#), 43rd Legislative District, Seattle (D) [Photo](#)

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“It should be a source of comfort for parents around the state to know that dedicated and tenacious advocates at the Children’s Alliance are fighting for their family’s best interests in Olympia. As a parent, I know that I appreciate everything they do for all Washington kids.”

“The Children’s Alliance serves as a constant reminder of why we’re here and why we’re fighting for the best interests of all Washington’s kids.”

~[Senator Steve Hobbs](#), 44<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Lake Stevens (D) [Photo](#)

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“Helping children succeed requires a holistic approach and the Children’s Alliance consistently provides relevant research and data that helps legislators with important policy decisions.”

~[Senator Steve Litzow](#), 41<sup>st</sup> Legislative District, Mercer Island (R) [Photo](#)

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“The Children’s Alliance provides a much needed voice in Olympia that reminds all legislators that, even though kids don’t vote, they must be one of our top legislative priorities.”

~[Representative Mary Helen Roberts](#), 21<sup>st</sup> Legislative District, Lynwood (D) [Photo](#)

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“Children’s Alliance builds power for children and families by bringing together individuals and organizations of every size and strength. They fight to ensure that underrepresented communities get a place and a strong voice in policy decisions.”

~[Representative Eric Pettigrew](#), 37<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Seattle (D) [Photo](#)

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“When I need to know how a policy will impact kids across the state, I turn to the Children’s Alliance.”

“As a parent and a state representative I trust that the Children’s Alliance focuses their fierce and tireless advocacy on data-driven policies that will lead to a better future for all Washington children.”

~[Representative Marcus Riccelli](#), 3<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District, Spokane (D) [Photo](#)

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“Kids are one-third of the population and 100 percent of the future. Children’s Alliance is working with leaders at the state and federal levels to make that future brighter.”

~[Congressman Derek Kilmer](#), 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, Bremerton (D) [Photo](#)