



## CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

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

### MEDIA ADVISORY

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## Hundreds to Place Children First at Rally in Olympia

Speaker of the House Frank Chopp; Director of Department of Early Learning to Speak  
*“Invest in our future. Invest in kids.”*

**WHO:** **The Children's Alliance**, a statewide child advocacy organization  
**Hundreds of child advocates** from across the state  
**House Speaker Frank Chopp (D, 43)**  
**State Representative Maureen Walsh (R, 16)**  
**Sharon Tomiko Santos, Majority Whip, (D, 37)**  
**Director of Department of Early Learning, Jone Bosworth**

**WHEN:** **Monday, February 19, 2007, Rally from 1-1:30 pm. Gathering at United Churches (110 11<sup>th</sup> Ave SE) begins at 9:30am.**

**WHERE:** **Capitol steps, Olympia**

**WHAT:** A gathering of at least 600 hundred parents, youth, and advocates from all parts of Washington. The Children's Alliance is in Olympia for "Have A Heart for Kids Day." We will be lobbying on children's health, early learning, school breakfast and foster care. Several important bills for children being considered this year include HB 1071/SB 5093- health coverage for all children in WA. State; HB 1663- improve early childhood development and learning; HB 1472-remedies for racial disproportionality in our foster care system. See [http://www.childrensalliance.org/4Download/advocacy/2007/2007\\_legislative\\_agenda.pdf](http://www.childrensalliance.org/4Download/advocacy/2007/2007_legislative_agenda.pdf) for our 2007 legislative priorities.

**WHY:** "Lawmakers now have a golden opportunity to invest in our future by investing in our children. Smart investments in education, health care, early learning, and foster care will give all of our children the chance to be healthier and more successful in school. They are investments worth making now," says Paola Maranan, Executive Director of the Children's Alliance.

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*For more than twenty years, the Children's Alliance has advocated for children, youth and families in Washington. The Alliance has 128 organizational members and more than 7,500 individual members statewide. To learn more about the Children's Alliance, go to*

[www.childrensalliance.org](http://www.childrensalliance.org)