

10th Annual Children's Advocacy Day

Celebrating 10 years of stepping up and speaking out for Kentucky's children



Blueprint Win: Reduced Child Abuse Deaths

The successful passage of House Bill 290 during the 2013 General Assembly put into law a panel to review child abuse deaths and prevent future deaths.

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Kentucky Youth Advocates gratefully acknowledges Quantum Graphix for donating a portion of the cost of printing this book.

10th Annual Children's Advocacy Day at the Capitol



Dear Child Advocate,

Welcome to the 10th annual Children's Advocacy Day at the Capitol! The sponsors of today's event are thrilled to have you here in support of our Commonwealth's children.

Use this booklet as a guide for today's events and feel free to visit the Children's Advocacy Day Resource table at the bottom of the main stairs in the Annex with any questions. We encourage you to step out of your comfort zone and stand up for children. Today will make a difference in the lives of Kentucky's children!

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of Children's Advocacy Day, we are highlighting some past Blueprint wins in the headers throughout this booklet. Let these be a reminder that your presence at Children's Advocacy Day does make a difference. Today, you are helping to make Kentucky the best place in America to be young.

Lastly, we extend a special thanks to our rally speakers and performers and all the Blueprint sponsors and partners across the state.

Sincerely,

2014 Blueprint Partners, Children's Advocacy Day Sponsors and Kentucky Youth Advocates

Blueprint Win: Helped Victims of Human Trafficking

The passage of House Bill 3 during the 2013 General Assembly ensures that victims of trafficking, especially children exploited in commercial sex, are treated as victims rather than criminals and are provided healing services.

Children's Advocacy Day Agenda

- 9:30 am Registration**
Come to the Capitol Rotunda to pick up materials for the day and attend the rally.
- 10:00 am Kick-off Rally**
Join hundreds of advocates from across the state in the Capitol Rotunda to kick off Children's Advocacy Day!
- 11:00 am 2014 Blueprint for Kentucky's Children Mini-Seminars**
Come learn more about the 2014 Blueprint issues in Annex Room 111. See page 3 - 12 for more information on the mini-seminars and the Blueprint.
- Meet with your legislators and Deliver Step Up for Kids Notes.** See page 14 for more information about visiting with your legislators. Step Up for Kids Notes can be found on page 15 and at the resource table.
- Legislative committee meetings:** Learn more about other issues that are important to children. See page 3 for the schedule of key committee meetings.
- 1:00 pm KIDS COUNT Briefing and Ceremony: The State of Kentucky Kids**
Where does your county rank in child well-being? Find out at the KIDS COUNT Briefing in the Capitol Rotunda. The event will also recognize several state legislators and other state officials for going the extra distance for kids.
- 1:30 pm Meet on the steps to the House or Senate Chambers**
Welcome your legislators into session at the bottom of the stairs on the 2nd Floor Mezzanine in the Capitol.
- 2:00 pm View the House or Senate in Session**
Watch your legislators in action! There are a limited number of gallery passes at the resource table during Children's Advocacy Day. You can also obtain gallery passes in the House or Senate Clerk's Office on the third floor of the Capitol to sit in the gallery during a House or Senate Meeting. They both begin at 2:00pm. Please know, seating in the gallery is first-come, first-served, and you should obtain a gallery pass as early as possible.

***View the Children's Advocacy Day Tunnel Decor at any time during the week of CAD!**

Art from students across Kentucky and facts from the 2014 Blueprint will be on display in the tunnel between the Capitol and the Annex from January 9 - 16.

***Join the conversation on Twitter: @kyyouth, #FundKidsFirst or #CAD2014**

If you need more information about anything during the day, visit the Children's Advocacy Day Resource Table at the bottom of the main stairs in the Annex.

Have a successful day!



10th Annual Children's Advocacy Day at the Capitol

2014 Blueprint for Kentucky's Children Mini-Seminars Capitol Annex, Room 111 11:00am - 12:45pm

The 2014 Blueprint for Kentucky's Children Mini-Seminars are a great opportunity for advocates to learn more about each issue on the Blueprint. Experts from across the state will discuss the issues, the solutions and how advocates can act today.

You can find the agenda for the mini-seminars at the resource table and posted outside Annex room 111.

Relevant Legislative Committees Meetings

10:00 am Senate Judiciary - Annex Room 154

11:30 am Senate Education - Annex Room 171

12:00 pm House Health and Welfare - Annex Room 169

On Adjournment Senate Appropriations and Revenue - Annex Room 149

Note: These meetings are subject to change.

1:00pm - KIDS COUNT Briefing and Ceremony Capitol Rotunda

The KIDS COUNT Briefing and Ceremony will provide an overview of the state of Kentucky kids based on the recently released 2013 Kentucky KIDS COUNT County Data Book. The event will also recognize several state legislators and other state officials for their progress in moving the needle in the right direction for kids in Kentucky. 2013 KIDS COUNT County Data Books will be available to take and share with your friends, colleagues, and family.



2014 Policy Priorities

BLUEPRINT *for* KENTUCKY'S CHILDREN

Safe & Healthy Families • A Fair Deal for Working Parents • A Fair Opportunity for Every Child



Build a budget that gives every child the best opportunity to thrive in childhood and succeed as an adult

A successful Kentucky depends on successful families. Budgets always require tough choices, but especially now, Kentucky can't afford a budget that fails to invest in kids. When kids succeed, Kentucky's families, communities, and our economy win.



Clear the air with a statewide, comprehensive smoke-free law

All children deserve to live in communities where they can breathe clean air. A statewide, comprehensive smoke-free law in public workplaces would prevent youth from starting smoking and help parents quit.



Protect children from abuse and neglect

Kentucky can do a better job keeping children safe from harm. Prioritizing prevention services will reduce physical abuse, sexual abuse and neglect. Strengthening reviews of child death tragedies will ensure accuracy of investigations and promote systematic improvements to prevent future deaths.



Follow the evidence on public safety: improve Kentucky's response to child behavior

All children need opportunities to learn from their mistakes while still being held responsible. Let's stop locking kids up when we can more effectively work with children using programs offered in their communities. It's better for kids, safer for the community, and less expensive for the state.



Close the achievement gap: prioritize early learning

Restoring funding and helping more low-income working parents pay for child care will strengthen family economic stability, and increasing preschool accessibility will help children get the foundation they need to thrive in school. Redesigning child care regulations will ensure quality care is based on child outcomes.



Help children recover from trauma: support grandparents and relative caregivers

Children recover faster from the trauma of being separated from their parents when relatives can step up to care for them, known as kinship care. Providing supports to kinship families and allowing caregivers to easily enroll children in school and access health care will offer a stable environment for kids. Restoring funding for kinship care will also save state dollars as it costs less than foster care.



Help working families make ends meet: enact a state Earned Income Credit

State EICs help make sure people who work hard are able to meet basic family needs and stay out of poverty. This small investment can make a big difference in the lives of working families. Twenty-four states plus the District of Columbia have a state EIC.



Ensure schools have the resources to prepare children for college and career

Funding for schools through the SEEK formula has not kept pace with growing attendance. Restoring K-12 core SEEK funding and support services to prior levels of adequacy can ensure every school can provide quality learning opportunities for every child.



Connect children to health care

Kentucky should use every available policy tool to cover uninsured kids and families and make sure coverage translates to care. Health coverage should also address a full range of health needs including physical, mental, vision and oral health.



Create a Children's Caucus in the Kentucky General Assembly to champion solutions for the pressing issues facing Kentucky's children and families across education, economics, health, and safety.

For more information, visit: www.blueprintky.org

2014 Policy Priorities

FACT SHEET: Clear the Air with a Statewide, Comprehensive Smoke-Free Law



All children deserve to breathe clean air and be healthy, yet approximately 62 percent of Kentucky's children live in a community that does not offer them strong protections from secondhand tobacco smoke in public places. Pregnant women are also exposed to secondhand smoke, which increases the risk for poor birth outcomes. The science is now clear that there is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke because it contains more than 7,000 chemicals – hundreds of which are hazardous, and at least 69 known to cause cancer. A comprehensive, statewide smoke-free law would ensure all Kentucky kids and pregnant women – not just those living in the 24 counties with strong smoke-free ordinances – have the opportunity to fully participate in their communities without exposure to the dangers of tobacco smoke.

FACTS:

- **Comprehensive smoke-free policies protect children and unborn babies from the dangers of secondhand smoke.** Health consequences caused by exposure to secondhand smoke by babies and children include sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), middle ear disease, and respiratory symptoms, illnesses and infections. Kentucky is ranked 41st in the nation for children with asthma problems, and secondhand smoke is a common trigger for asthma attacks. Pregnant women exposed to secondhand smoke are more likely to have babies born with a low birthweight and therefore at increased risk for serious health problems as newborns, developmental and intellectual disabilities, cerebral palsy, vision and hearing loss, and infant death.
- **Comprehensive smoke-free policies reduce maternal smoking during pregnancy.** Smoke-free communities experience decreased rates of maternal smoking during pregnancy. Reducing Kentucky's high rate of smoking during pregnancy is vital since cigarette smoking during pregnancy is the single most important known cause of low birthweight. Smoking during pregnancy can also cause problems with the placenta, increased risk of miscarriage, preterm delivery, and cleft lip. Babies whose mothers smoked during pregnancy are more likely to die before their first birthday, and are three times more likely to die from SIDS.
- **Comprehensive smoke-free policies prevent youth from becoming smokers.** Not only do smoke-free policies increase the number of tobacco users who quit smoking, but they also reduce the initiation of tobacco use among young people. A 2011 study by the American Cancer Society estimated a comprehensive, statewide smoke-free law in Kentucky would cause at least 50,000 adult smokers to stop smoking and prevent about 20,000 youth from becoming smokers. Youth who do not smoke are healthier and have fewer absences from school – we need all students to be healthy so they can focus on succeeding in school.

SOLUTION:

Enact a comprehensive, statewide smoke-free law covering all workplaces, restaurants, and bars to improve the health of Kentucky's unborn babies, children, and workers.

2014 Policy Priorities

FACT SHEET: Protect Children From Abuse and Neglect



All children need loving and safe environments to thrive. However, approximately 15,000 Kentucky children experience abuse or neglect from their parents or caretakers each year. Abuse and neglect have serious long-term impacts on children's physical and mental health, and in severe cases, it results in death. Kentucky needs an effective review panel to identify system-level solutions to prevent such tragedies. In addition, investing in prevention and early intervention services for families can decrease the incidence of child abuse and neglect and help keep families safely together.

FACTS:

The benefits of strengthening existing policies and prioritizing prevention strategies include:

- **Keeping families safely together:** Prevention and early intervention services provided in the home for at-risk children and families keep children safe while teaching caregivers effective parenting skills. These services help prevent the need to remove children from their homes – a traumatic experience for children and an expensive intervention for the state.
- **Preventing child sexual abuse:** Organizations that serve or interact with children need policies in place to prevent sexual abuse while children are in their care. Individuals who work at these organizations need to receive training to recognize signs of sexual abuse and report it.
- **Promoting systems-level improvements to prevent future child abuse deaths:** Child abuse fatality review panels help identify what went wrong in cases where children died due to abuse or neglect, so panel members can develop solutions to prevent future deaths from occurring. Reviews also improve working relationships among different agencies to facilitate the protection of children.

SOLUTIONS:

Improve strategies for the prevention of abuse and neglect:

- Ensure adequate funding for research-based and promising prevention and early intervention services to keep children and families safely together.
- Develop training requirements and strengthen policies and procedures for child sexual abuse prevention for adults and children in education settings and child-serving agencies in Kentucky.
- Increase the effectiveness of the External Child Fatality and Near Fatality Panel by supporting funding for the panel, incorporating recommended changes to the panel from national experts, and increasing the transparency of potential conflicts of interest among panel members.

2014 Policy Priorities

FACT SHEET: Follow the Evidence on Public Safety: Improve Kentucky's Response to Child Behavior



Kentucky children should be held accountable for behavior that could harm themselves or others. However, relying on the court system can push children towards a path of delinquency and put public safety at risk. Instead of using the adult model of incarceration, Kentucky will achieve the best outcomes for youth and for community safety by addressing youth behavior within the context of family and outside of the court system whenever possible.

FACTS:

- Children can often be better served in the community without entering the court system.** Court is costly, and any involvement with the formal court system can negatively impact children. Risk of a lengthy juvenile court record increases the younger a child enters the system. Young children and youth with low-level offenses often do not get the services they need through the courts to grow into productive members of society. These services can be more effectively provided in the child's community.

- Children charged with minor offenses do not belong in jail.** Research shows that incarcerating children charged with minor offenses alongside those charged with serious crimes can increase the likelihood that youth will engage in future criminal activity. Incarceration can increase the risk of re-arrest by interrupting the development of skills like impulse control and handling peer pressure.
- Community interventions have proven successful at addressing the real reason for a child's misbehavior.** Many states have implemented models that have addressed behavior and the underlying issues while avoiding costly incarceration.
- Incarceration is the most expensive option available.** Incarceration – called secure detention – costs more than \$87,000 per year. For status offenses, counties pay \$94 per day for each youth incarcerated, plus the cost for the sheriff to transport youth to regional facilities. Ending the incarceration of youth who pose no threat to the community and are not helped by being locked up would free up funds to reinvest in proven community-based interventions and improve public safety.

SOLUTIONS:

- Increase community-based services and early intervention measures to address issues out of court.
- Limit the use of secure detention and other placements away from home for youth charged with minor offenses.
- Reinvest savings from limiting the use of costly incarceration in effective community interventions.

2014 Policy Priorities

FACT SHEET: Prioritize Early Learning to Close the Achievement Gap



Every child in Kentucky deserves the opportunity to enter school ready to engage in, and benefit from, early learning experiences that best promote their success. National studies show investments in early childhood education for very young, at-risk children have the greatest return on investment for building human capital. Neuroscience research also indicates that early childhood education in the critical years from birth to age five is essential for optimal development. A recent bipartisan poll shows the vast majority of voters rate ensuring children get a good start in life as a top national priority (second only to increasing jobs and economic growth). Voters also think our nation should be doing more to start children off in kindergarten with the knowledge and skills needed for success, and they overwhelmingly believe it is important to make early education and child care more affordable for working families.

FACTS:

- **Supporting working families:** Child care assistance provides children stable and safe care when parents are at work, and it also helps low-wage parents find and keep jobs. However, Kentucky recently decreased income eligibility to 100 percent of the federal poverty level – the lowest in the nation.
- **Preparing more children for kindergarten:** Increasing access to high-quality early learning environments for more children results in better educational attainment and higher income earnings over a lifetime. Developing public-private partnerships between public preschool programs and quality child care centers will provide more children a high-quality early education, while increasing the return on investment for public dollars spent on early childhood. A coordinated delivery system is also more cost effective by reducing facilities and transportation costs for school districts.
- **Improving child care regulations:** Current child care regulations create a substantial administrative burden for child care providers without sufficiently emphasizing components that promote safe, healthy, and developmentally-appropriate care. The National Association for Regulatory Administration has created evidence-based regulations that Kentucky can model.

SOLUTIONS:

Create opportunities for more children to receive quality early childhood education:

- Restore funding to the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP); lift the freeze on applications; restore eligibility to 150 percent of the federal poverty line, and when funds become available, increase eligibility to 200 percent, which is the minimum income level needed for family self-sufficiency.
- Encourage the use of high-quality child care centers for delivery of preschool services, in addition to public preschool and Head Start programs, and, in the future, increase eligibility for public preschool to 200 percent of the federal poverty line.
- Redesign Kentucky's child care regulations based on recommendations from the National Association for Regulatory Administration to ensure highest-quality child care services.

2014 Policy Priorities

FACT SHEET: Help Children Recover from Trauma: Support Grandparents and Relative Caregivers



Some 63,000 kids in Kentucky live with grandparents or other relatives for safety and security because their parents cannot raise them, known as kinship care. Kentucky extended families have a strong track record of caring for their kin. Actively supporting relatives as they assume new caregiving roles helps children recover from the trauma of being separated from their parents.

FACTS:

- Kids recover faster and better with relatives than with strangers, even well-intentioned strangers.** Studies have shown that living with kin minimizes the trauma and loss children feel when they are separated from their parents. Children living with kin also have fewer behavioral and mental health problems and experience fewer educational disruptions.
- Kinship caregivers face financial, emotional and legal challenges.** Kinship caregivers are more likely to be poor, single, older, less educated and unemployed than families in which at least one parent is present. They also face difficulties accessing available help to meet the child's needs from government and community support systems – many of which were designed to be accessed by parents.
- Many kinship caregivers do not have legal custody of the children in their care.** Without legal custody or guardianship, it can be very difficult to obtain health care or complete school enrollment forms for children. To address this, 23 states have enacted health care consent laws and 14 states have enacted education consent laws that allow kin caregivers to access these services for the children in their care without the need for legal custody or guardianship.
- Supports for kinship caregivers cost the state less money than foster care.** The average foster care placement costs the state \$70/day, compared to \$10/day for Kinship Care. Cuts to Kinship Care will force more children into the foster care system because relatives cannot afford the significant cost of raising a child, or siblings. Placement with family promotes success and is a good investment.

SOLUTIONS:

- Restore funding for the Kinship Care Program to support family members stepping up to care for kin.
- Enact consent laws that allow kin caregivers to access education and health for the children they raise without the need for legal custody or guardianship.

2014 Policy Priorities

FACT SHEET: Help Working Families Make Ends Meet: Enact a State Earned Income Credit



All children benefit when they live in families with adequate resources to meet their basic needs. A state Earned Income Credit (EIC) would help more working parents cover their family's basic needs by closing the gap between what they earn and what they need to make ends meet.

FACTS:

- **The EIC gets and keeps people working.** The EIC can only be claimed by people who earn income through work. It has increased employment levels and decreased use of welfare assistance among single parents. Research has indicated that state EICs contribute to even larger increases in workforce participation in states where a

credit is available.

- **The EIC is a proven method to keep working families out of poverty.** The federal EIC is credited for keeping more children out of poverty in the United States than any other program. In Kentucky alone, it keeps more than 50,000 children above the poverty line. EIC recipients work and pay taxes – a state EIC would help them make ends meet.
- **The EIC is most often used as a temporary support.** Three out of five recipients claim the EIC for short periods—only one or two years. The EIC is a good way to help families that experience temporary job loss, reduced hours, or reduced pay stay on their feet.
- **A state EIC would improve outcomes for children in Kentucky.** Research shows a direct link between families receiving additional income through the federal EIC and improvement in children's math and reading comprehension, as well as increasing their work and income when they become adults. State EICs are also correlated with healthier babies and better outcomes across the course of children's lives.
- **State EICs would make Kentucky's tax system fairer.** Kentuckians making an average of \$36,400 currently pay a larger share of their income in taxes than those making an average of \$759,000. A state EIC in Kentucky would help low- and middle-income working Kentuckians keep more of their hard-earned money.
- **State EICs are a small investment that can make a big difference in the lives of working families.** Half of states in the U.S. have gone beyond the federal EIC and created a state EIC, because it helps people who work hard meet basic needs, support their families and stay off welfare.

SOLUTION:

Enact a state Earned Income Credit that will provide increased financial stability to thousands of low-income working Kentuckians and help keep families out of poverty.

2014 Policy Priorities

FACT SHEET: Ensure Schools Have the Resources to Prepare Children for College and Career Success



All children need a high-quality education to build a strong foundation for their future. It paves the road to higher education, better paying jobs, and stable careers. Each student gets just one chance at a high-quality K-12 education, which is more imperative than ever before due to the increasing percent of jobs requiring postsecondary education. Kentucky's preschool-12th grade education system needs adequate funding to help Kentucky students prepare for college or a career.

FACTS:

- **Education funding has not kept pace with higher expectations for student achievement.** In recent years, new federal requirements from No Child Left Behind and the new Kentucky assessment system required by Senate Bill 1 in 2009 demand greater academic rigor in teaching and learning. Education Week's Quality Counts report gives Kentucky a grade of B- overall on education but gives Kentucky a grade of F for spending.
- **Inadequate funding impacts more than just per pupil expenditures.** In recent years, funding has been reduced for things like teacher training, afterschool help for struggling students, and technology.

SOLUTION:

Ensure every school can provide quality learning opportunities for every child by restoring K-12 core SEEK (Support Education Excellence in Kentucky) funding and support services to prior levels of adequacy.

2014 Policy Priorities

FACT SHEET: Connect Children to Health Coverage that Addresses a Full Range of Health Needs



All children benefit from comprehensive health coverage and access to health services. In recent years, Medicaid and the Kentucky Children's Health Insurance Program (KCHIP) have protected kids from becoming uninsured, even during a recession that cost millions of families their employer-sponsored health care. Despite this progress, 56,000 children in 2012 remained uninsured; many of whom already qualify for Medicaid or KCHIP.

Ensuring children's health coverage and access to physical, mental, vision and oral health care can help children stay healthy and reach their full potential. Kentucky can help children receive health care by coordinating care in settings, such as schools and community centers.

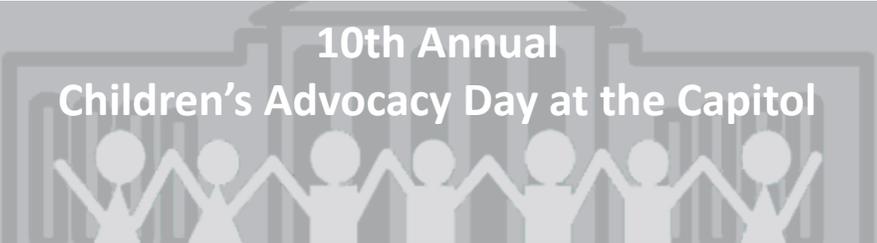
FACTS:

- **Currently, 220,000 Kentucky children were reported to have one or more emotional, behavioral, or development conditions in 2011-2012.** Most kids with behavioral health conditions do not receive needed services. Access to health services allows early detection and prevention of serious conditions, which can increase the number of children receiving appropriate treatment. Implementing a system of coordinated care that includes schools, primary care physicians and behavioral health organizations will help children receive holistic treatment.
- **When parents are enrolled in health coverage, their children are more likely to be enrolled too.** Research shows that children with uninsured parents are three times as likely to be uninsured than children whose parents have either private insurance or Medicaid coverage.
- **Youth who have spent time in foster care need access to physical and mental health services.** Research confirms that youth who are in the foster care system until they become an adult face multiple health risks and need high quality health and mental health services to address the lingering impact of trauma. Recent changes in the health care system in Kentucky will allow foster care youth to continue receiving Medicaid coverage up to age 26, and all young people will be able to stay on their parent's health insurance until that age.

SOLUTION:

Kentucky should use every available policy tool to cover uninsured kids and families and make sure coverage translates into care. Health coverage should also address a full range of health needs including physical, mental, vision, and oral health.

10th Annual Children's Advocacy Day at the Capitol



Other Children's Bills of Interest

*As of January 8, 2014

Education

Anti-Bullying Month, October designation of - SB 20

Charter schools - HB 85

Child care centers, exemption from administrative regulations, establish - SB 54

Graduates, employment rates and earnings, reporting of - HB 87

Refugees and legal aliens, SEEK funding for - HB 79

SEEK funds, prohibition of withholding as a punitive measure - SB 55

Health

Diabetes, treatment in school settings - SB 30; HB 98

Drug addicted or dependent newborns, statistical reporting relating to - SB 47

Hearing exam, school physicals - SB 32

Economic Security

Minimum wage, raise - HB 1

Youth Justice

Truants, detention and release to school by peace officer - HB 83

Safety and Child Welfare

Abused or neglected, custody of, notice to schools - HB 132

Children adopted by family members, tuition waiver for - HB 140

Discipline by parent or legal guardian, civil and criminal immunity - HB 56

Domestic violence protective orders, include dating partners - HB 8

Maximum speed limits, four lane non-interstate highways, 65 MPH - HB 58

Pediatric abusive head trauma, require physician training on - HB 157

Sexual abuse awareness and protection - SB 42

Temporary custody orders, joint custody presumed with equal visitation - HB 114

Uniform traffic citations, copy provided to parent or guardian of young drivers - HB 90

Blueprint win: Youth Justice Improvements In 2012 and 2013, the legislature created a Task Force to study how Kentucky can better respond to youth who act out by providing them services in their communities, whenever possible, instead of locking them up in juvenile jails. The recommendations of the Task Force, if passed in 2014, could drastically improve Kentucky's Juvenile Justice system.

Tips for Visiting with Legislators

LEGISLATORS WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

REASONS TO MEET WITH YOUR LEGISLATOR

- Legislators are sincerely interested in getting their constituents' views on legislation.
- The legislator may have a number of ideas and suggestions to help you focus your efforts.
- Meeting with your legislator can help you gauge the support or opposition to your position.
- Meeting with your legislator and providing information allows you to become a resource to him or her. As a result, the legislator's staff may call on you for input in the crafting of legislation.

SCHEDULING THE MEETING

- It is always better to call and schedule the meeting in advance. However, if you have not scheduled a meeting prior to today, you can simply stop by a legislator's office but keep in mind that they may not be there or they may be meeting with another person or group.
- For future appointments, it is better to telephone than to write asking for an appointment since calling makes it easier to find an acceptable date.
- It is always more effective if you, as a constituent, ask for an appointment, rather than having your organization's staff make the request.

NAVIGATING LEGISLATIVE OFFICES

- Pages 17 - 22 of this booklet will help you locate your legislators' office numbers.

Navigating Senate Offices

- You must use the stairs or the elevator in the middle of the Capitol Annex close to the tunnel to enter the 2nd floor.
- You can walk directly to your Senator's office on the 2nd Floor of the Capitol Annex by finding the correct room number. Once you find the correct room number, let the receptionist know who you would like to meet with, if you have an appointment, and if you are his/her constituent.
- If your Senator is not available, you can leave a Step Up for Kids Note with the receptionist or ask when your Senator will be available to meet later in the day.

10th Annual Children's Advocacy Day at the Capitol



Navigating House Offices

- Look to see if your Representative's office is on the 3rd or 4th floor and go to the appropriate floor. There will be a large desk with a receptionist on each floor.
- Let the receptionist know which Representative you would like to meet with, if you are his/her constituent, and whether or not you have an appointment. The receptionist will most likely give you a slip to fill out with your information.
- The receptionist will then call back to your Representative's office to see if he/she is available to meet or is expecting you. Once the receptionist has approval from your Representative to let you go back to his/her office, you will be given a visitor's badge to wear. Then, head through the glass doors to your Representative's office.
- If your Representative is not available, you may tell the receptionist that you would like to wait in the lobby, ask if there is a better time to come back, or leave a Step Up for Kids Note for your Representative.

DURING THE MEETING

- Appoint one person as the principal spokesperson to help keep the discussion on track.
- The group should meet at least briefly in advance to prepare for the visit.
- Be certain that members of the group agree on the objectives for the meeting and on the points to be addressed.
- Start the meeting off with a couple minutes of small talk to build some rapport, but make sure you get to the point rather quickly. Most visits last twenty minutes or less.

PRESENTING YOUR POSITION

- Present your view with conviction, but don't put him or her on the defensive.
- It helps to cover your issue from the legislator's perspective, tying it in with his or her past votes or interests.
- Listen attentively.
- The legislator's opening discussion with you will often give you clues about how to connect your issue with his/her concerns.
- If you don't have the answer to a legislator's question, say so. Tell the legislator you will provide the information, and then be certain that you do.
- Be prepared to address concerns raised by legislators about your issue, but make sure you do not become defensive if you disagree with them. Respond to their concerns with facts in a calm manner and ask them to consider the points you've raised.
- Provide information, both orally and in a fact sheet that you leave with the legislator.
- Include a brief description of your issue in the fact sheet, why it is important to your organization, and the action that you want the legislator to take.

AFTER THE VISIT

After the visit, write a letter of thanks to the legislator. Be sure to remind him/her of any agreements reached, and provide any information that you promised.

Adapted from Personal Visits with a Legislator, Center for Lobbying in the Public Interest, available at www.clpi.org.

Step Up for Kids Notes

It's best to meet with your legislator and tell them what you'd like to see changed in person. However, if your legislator is not available, you can leave a Step Up for Kids Note for them.

Step Up for Kids Notes can be found at the Children's Advocacy Day Resource table.

Dear _____	
<i>Build a budget that gives every child the best opportunity to thrive in childhood and succeed as an adult.</i>	
_____ Follow the evidence on public safety: improve KY's response to child behavior	
_____ Clear the air with a statewide, comprehensive smoke-free law	
_____ Help children recover from trauma: support grandparents and relative caregivers	
_____ Protect children from abuse and neglect	
_____ Connect children to health care	
_____ Close the achievement gap: prioritize early learning	
_____ Ensure schools have the resources to prepare children for college and career	
_____ Help working families make ends meet: enact a state Earned Income Tax Credit	
_____ Other: _____	
Thank you,	
Name _____	Occupation _____
Address _____	Phone () _____
City, State, Zip _____	Email _____
County _____	<small>*Note, it is important to complete this information</small>

View the full 2014 Blueprint for Kentucky's Children Here:



10th Annual Children's Advocacy Day at the Capitol

Locate Your Legislators (Adair - Cumberland County)

County	Legislator	Rm	County	Legislator	Rm
Adair	Sen. Sara Beth Gregory	209	Bullitt	Rep. Jeff Greer	367
	Rep. John 'Bam' Carny	413A		Rep. Russell Webber	351B
Allen	Sen. David Givens	215	Butler	Sen. Jerry Rhoads	254
	Rep. Wilson Stone	329A		Rep. C.B. Embry, Jr.	401
Anderson	Sen. Julian Carroll	229	Caldwell	Sen. Dorsey Ridley	255
	Rep. Kim King	429J		Rep. Lynn Bechler	424C
Ballard	Sen. Bob Leeper	252	Calloway	Sen. Stan Humphries	209
	Rep. Steven Rudy	413E		Rep. Kenny Imes	405D
Barren	Sen. David Givens	215	Campbell	Sen. Katie Stine	236
	Rep. Johnny Bell	357C		Rep. Dennis Keene	358
Bath	Sen. Albert Robinson	228		Rep. Adam Koenig	432D
	Rep. Sannie Overly	367		Rep. Thomas McKee	332B
Bell	Sen. Brandon Smith	242		Rep. Joseph Fischer	429D
	Rep. Rick Nelson	358	Carlisle	Sen. Bob Leeper	252
Boone	Sen. John Schickel	209		Rep. Steven Rudy	413E
	Rep. Adam Koenig	432D	Carroll	Sen Paul Hornback	203
	Rep. Sal Santoro	413D		Rep. Rick Rand	366B
	Rep. Addia K. Wuchner	424E	Carter	Sen. Robin Webb	229
Bourbon	Sen. Walter Blevins, Jr.	255		Rep. Jill York	451D
	Rep. Sannie Overly	367	Casey	Sen. Jimmy Higdon	204
Boyd	Sen. Robin Webb	229		Rep. Terry Mills	329B
	Rep. Rocky Adkins	309	Christian	Sen. Whitney Westerfield	255
	Rep. Tanya Pullin	332C		Rep. Myron Dossett	424D
	Rep. Kevin Sinnette	316C		Rep. John Tilley	373
Boyle	Sen. Chris Girdler	214		Rep. Brent Yonts	336A
	Rep. Mike Harmon	429C	Clark	Sen. R.J. Palmer II	254
Bracken	Sen. Katie Stine	236		Rep. Donna Mayfield	405F
	Rep. Mitchel Denham Jr.	329G	Clay	Sen. Robert Stivers	242
Breathitt	Sen. Brandon Smith	242		Rep. Tim Couch	429F
	Rep. Toby Herald	424D	Clinton	Sen. Sara Beth Gregory	209
Breckinridge	Sen. Carroll Gibson	228		Rep. Jeff Hoover	418
	Rep. Dwight Butler	429H	Crittenden	Sen. Dorsey Ridley	255
Bullitt	Sen. Dan 'Malano' Seum	242		Rep Lynn Bechler	424C
	Rep. David Floyd	432A	Cumberland	Sen. Sara Beth Gregory	209
	Rep. Dwight Butler	429H		Rep. Bart Rowland	416

Blueprint Win: Improved Alternative Education

The successful passage of House Bill 168 in 2012 helped ensure that children in alternative programs have quality teachers by prohibiting superintendents from assigning teachers to an alternative program as a form of discipline.

Locate Your Legislators (Davie - Lyon County)

County	Legislator	Rm	County	Legislator	Rm
Davie	Sen. Joe Bowen	228	Gallatin	Sen. Julian Carroll	229
	Rep. Dwight Butler	429H		Rep. Brian Linder	324C
	Rep. Jim Glenn	258	Garrard	Sen. Tom Buford	252
	Rep. Jim Gooch, Jr.	370D		Rep. Johnathan Shell	405E
	Rep. Tommy Thompson	315	Grant	Sen. Damen Thayer	209
Edmondson	Sen. Carroll Gibson	228		Rep. Brian Linder	324C
	Rep. Michael Meredith	413G	Graves	Sen. Stan Humphries	209
Elliott	Sen. Ray S. Jones II	229		Rep. Richard Heath	416
	Rep. Rocky Adkins	309	Grayson	Sen. Carroll Gibson	228
Estill	Sen. Albert Robinson	228		Rep. C.B. Embry, Jr.	401
	Rep. Toby Herald	424D	Green	Sen. David Givens	215
Fayette	Sen. Tom Buford	252		Rep. Bart Rowland	416
	Sen. Jared Carpenter	203	Greenup	Sen. Robin Webb	229
	Sen. Alice Forgy Kerr	215		Rep. Tanya Pullin	332C
	Sen. R.J. Palmer II	254	Hancock	Sen. Jow Bowen	228
	Rep. Robert Benvenuti	424B		Rep. Dwight Butler	429H
	Rep. Jesse Crenshaw	332D	Hardin	Sen. Dennis Parrett	255
	Rep. Robert Damron	313A		Rep. Tim Moore	413H
	Rep. Kelly Flood	373		Rep. Dwight Butler	429H
	Rep. James Kay	451A		Rep. C.B. Embry, Jr.	401
	Rep. Stan Lee	424G		Rep. Jeff Greer	367
	Rep. Sannie Overly	367		Rep. Jimmie Lee	457B
	Rep. Ruth Ann Palumbo	370B	Harlan	Sen. Johnny Ray Turner	254
	Rep. Ryan Quarles	424C		Rep. Fitz Steele	316B
	Rep. Susan Westrom	352		Rep. Leslie Combs	373
Fleming	Sen. Walter Blevins, Jr.	255		Rep. Tim Couch	429F
	Rep. Mitchel Denham	329C		Rep. Rick Nelson	358
Floyd	Sen. Johnny Ray Turner	254	Harrison	Sen. Walter Blevins, Jr.	255
	Rep. Hubert Collins	329H		Rep. Tom McKee	332B
	Rep. Gregory Stumbo	303	Hart	Sen. Carroll Gibson	228
Franklin	Sen. Julian Carroll	229		Rep. Michael Meredith	413G
	Rep. Derrick Gibson	329F	Henderson	Sen. Dorsey Ridley	255
	Rep. James Kay	451A		Rep. David Watkins	351C
Fulton	Sen. Stan Humphries	209	Henry	Sen. Paul Horback	203
	Rep. Steven Jack Rudy	413E		Rep. Rick Rand	336B

10th Annual Children's Advocacy Day at the Capitol

County	Legislator	Rm	County	Legislator	Rm
Hickman	Sen. Stan Humphries	209	Johnson	Sen. Brandon Smith	242
	Rep. Steven Jack Rudy	413E		Rep. Hubert Collins	329H
Hopkins	Sen. Jerry Rhoads	254	Kenton	Sen. Chris McDaniel	228
	Rep. Jim Gooch, Jr.	370D		Sen. Damon Thayer	209
	Rep. F.L. Ben Waide	429A		Rep. Adam Koenig	432D
	Rep. Brent Yonts	366A		Rep. Thomas Robert Kerr	457E
Jackson	Sen. Albert Robinson	228		Rep. Diane St. Onge	402
	Rep. Marie Rader	405C		Rep. Arnold Simpson	357B
Jefferson	Sen. Denise Harper Angel	229	Knott	Sen. Johnny Ray Turner	254
	Sen. Perry Clark	255		Rep. John Short	352
	Sen. Julie Denton	252	Knox	Sen. Robert Stivers II	242
	Sen. Ernie Harris	204		Rep. Jim Stewart III	429G
	Sen. Jimmy Higdon	204	Larue	Sen. Carroll Gibson	228
	Sen. Paul Hornback	203		Rep. Michael Meredith	413G
	Sen. Morgan McGarvey	255	Laurel	Sen. Albert Robinson	228
	Sen. Gerald A. Neal	255		Rep. Regina Bunch	424A
	Sen. Dennis Parrett	255		Rep. Marie Rader	405C
	Sen. Dan 'Malano' Seum	242		Rep. Jim Stewart III	429G
	Rep. Julie Raque Adams	229		Rep. Tommy Turner	413F
	Rep. Kevin Bratcher	429E	Lawrence	Sen. Ray Jones, II	229
	Rep. Thomas Burch	332E		Rep. Rocky Adkins	309
	Rep. Denver Butler	324E	Lee	Sen. Robert Stiver	242
	Rep. Larry Clark	304A		Rep. Toby Herald	424D
	Rep. Ron Crimm	424F	Leslie	Sen. Brandon Smith	242
	Rep. Bob DeWeese	416		Rep. Tim Couch	429F
	Rep. Jeffrey Donohue	413C	Letcher	Sen. Johnny Ray Turner	254
	Rep. Dennie Horlander	351D		Rep. Leslie Combs	373
	Rep. Joni Jenkins	329D		Rep. John Short	352
	Rep. Mary Lou Marzian	357	Lewis	Sen. Walter Blevins, Jr.	255
	Rep. Reginald Meeks	329C		Rep. Jill York	451D
	Rep. Charles Miller	457D	Lincoln	Sen. Chris Girdler	214
	Rep. David Osborne	405B		Rep. David Meade	414
	Rep. Darryl Owens	316A	Livingston	Sen. Dorsey Ridley	255
	Rep. Steve Riggs	370C		Rep. Lynn Bechler	424C
	Rep. Tom Riner	457C	Logan	Sen. Whitney Westerfield	255
	Rep. Jim Wayne	451B		Rep. Martha Jane King	329J
Jessamine	Sen Tom Buford	252	Lyon	Sen. Stan Humphries	209
	Rep. Robert Damron	313A		Rep. Will Coursey	351A

Blueprint Win: Improved Child Access to Health Insurance

Governor Beshear made it easier for families to enroll eligible children in Medicaid and Kentucky Children's Health Insurance Program in 2009 and in 2013.

Locate Your Legislators (Lyon - Woodford County)

County	Legislator	Rm	County	Legislator	Rm
Madison	Sen. Jared Carpenter	203	Morgan	Sen. Ray Jones, II	229
	Rep. Donna Mayfield	405F		Rep. John Will Stacy	466B
	Rep. Rita Smart	352	Muhlenberg	Sen. Jerry Rhoads	254
	Rep. Jonathan Shell	405E		Rep. Brent Yonts	366A
Magoffin	Sen. Brandon Smith	242	Nelson	Sen. Jimmy Higdon	204
	Rep. John Short	352		Rep. David Floyd	432A
Marion	Sen. Jimmy Higdon	204	Nicholas	Sen. Walter Blevins	255
	Rep. Terry Mills	329B		Rep. Sannie Overly	367
Marshall	Sen. Bob Leeper	252	Ohio	Sen. Jerry Rhoads	254
	Rep. Will Coursey	351A		Rep. Tommy Thompson	315
Martin	Sen. Ray Jones, II	229	Oldham	Sen. Ernie Harris	204
	Rep. Hubert Collins	329H		Rep. David Osborne	405B
Mason	Sen. Walter Blevins	255		Rep. Rick Rand	336B
	Rep. Mitchel Denham, Jr.	329C	Owen	Sen. Julian Carroll	229
McCracken	Sen. Bob Leeper	252		Rep. Brian Linder	324C
	Rep. Lynn Bechler	424C	Owsley	Sen. Robert Stivers	242
	Rep. Richard Heath	416		Rep. Marie Rader	405C
	Rep. Steven Rudy	413E	Pendleton	Sen. Katie Stine	236
	Rep Will Coursey	351A		Rep. Thomas McKee	332B
	Rep. Gerald Watkins	432B	Perry	Sen. Brandon Smith	242
McCreary	Sen. Sara Beth Gregory	209		Rep. Fitz Steele	316B
	Rep. Ken Upchurch	451C	Pike	Sen. Ray Jones II	229
McLean	Sen. Joe Bowen	228		Rep. Hubert Collins	329H
	Rep. Jim Gooch, Jr.	370D		Rep. Leslie Combs	373
Meade	Sen. Carroll Gibson	228		Rep. Keith Hall	332A
	Rep. Jeff Greer	367	Powell	Sen. Albert Robinson	228
Menifee	Sen. Albert Robinson	228		Rep. Richard Henderson	466D
	Rep. John Will Stacy	466B	Pulaski	Sen. Chris Girdler	214
Mercer	Sen. Tom Buford	252		Rep. David Meade	414
	Rep. Kim King	429J		Rep. Terry Mills	329B
Metcalfe	Sen. David Givens	215		Rep. Jeff Hoover	418
	Rep. Bart Rowland	416		Rep. Tommy Turner	413F
Monroe	Sen. David Givens	215		Rep. Ken Upchurch	451C
	Rep. Bart Rowland	416	Robertson	Sen. Walter Blevins	255
Montgomery	Sen. R.J. Palmer II	254		Rep. Tom McKee	332B
	Rep. Richard Henderson	466D			

10th Annual Children's Advocacy Day at the Capitol

County	Legislator	Rm	County	Legislator	Rm
Rockcastle	Sen. Jared Carpenter	203	Trimble	Sen. Paul Hornback	203
	Rep. David Meade	414		Rep. Rich Rand	336B
Rowan	Sen. Walter Blevins, Jr.	255	Union	Sen. Dorsey Ridley	255
	Rep. Rocky Adkins	309	Warren	Sen. Mike Wilson	203
	Rep. John Will Stacy	466B		Rep. Johnny Bell	357C
Russell	Sen. Sara Beth Gregory	209		Rep. Jim DeCesare	432E
	Rep. Jeff Hoover	418		Rep. Jody Richards	324D
Scott	Sen. Damon Thayer	209		Rep. Wilson Stone	329A
	Rep. Ryan Quarles	424C	Washington	Sen. Tom Buford	252
Shelby	Sen. Paul Hornback	203		Rep. Mike Harmon	429C
	Rep. Brad Montell	432C	Wayne	Sen. Sara Beth Gregory	209
Simpson	Sen. David Givens	215		Rep. Ken Upchurch	451C
	Rep. Wilson Stone	329A	Webster	Sen. Dorsey Ridley	255
Spencer	Sen. Jimmy Higdon	204		Rep. Jim Gooch, Jr.	370D
	Rep. David Floyd	432A	Whitley	Sen. Robert Stivers	242
	Rep. Kim King	429J		Rep. Regina Bunch	424A
	Rep. Brad Montell	432C	Wolfe	Sen. Robert Stivers	242
Taylor	Sen. Sara Beth Gregory	209		Rep. Richard Henderson	466D
	Rep. John 'Bam' Carney	413A		Rep. John Will Stacy	466B
Todd	Sen. Whitney Westerfield	255	Woodford	Sen. Julian Carroll	229
	Rep. Martha Jane King	329J		Rep. James Kay	451A
Trigg	Sen. Stan Humphries	209			
	Rep. Kenny Imes	405D			
	Rep. John Tilley	373			

Relevant Government Contact Information

Kentucky Legislature Home Page: <http://www.lrc.state.ky.us>

Toll-Free* Phone Numbers

Legislative Message Line	1-800-372-7181
Bill Status Line	1-866-840-2835
Calendar (Meetings) Line	1-800-633-9650
TTY Message Line	1-800-896-0305
En Espanol	1-866-840-6574

*Toll free numbers are operational only in Kentucky

Governor Steve Beshear

700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 100
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone Main Line

502-564-2611

Blueprint win: Improved Child Oral Health

In 2008, a bill passed to ensure children enrolling in school receive a dental screening or exam to identify and treat oral health problems that could be a barrier to learning.

Kentucky State Capitol Map

First Level

- Committee Meeting Rooms
- Children's Day Resource Table at the bottom of the Annex Stairs
- Cafeteria
- Blueprint mini-seminars Annex Room 125

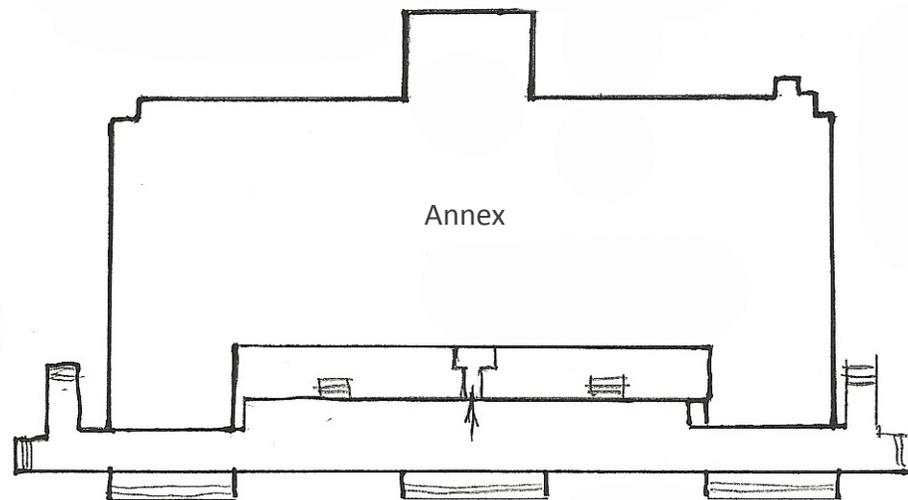
Second Level

- Senate Offices
- Supreme Court

Third and Fourth Levels

- House Offices

State Legislative Offices
Annex Building



Children's Day
Tunnel Display

Basement Level
Tunnel

Outside Stairs
& Terrace

First Level

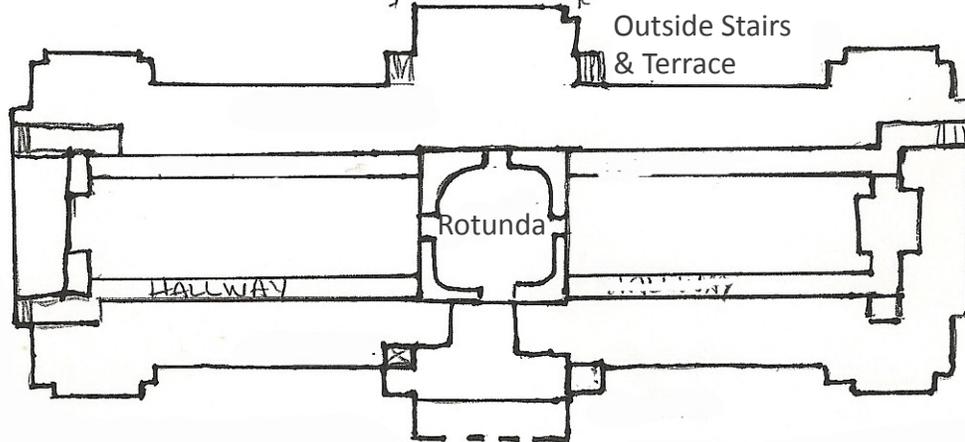
- Rotunda
- Governor's Office

Second Level

- Supreme Court

Third Level

- House and Senate Chambers



Rotunda and House and Senate Chambers
Capitol Building

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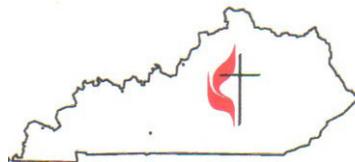
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