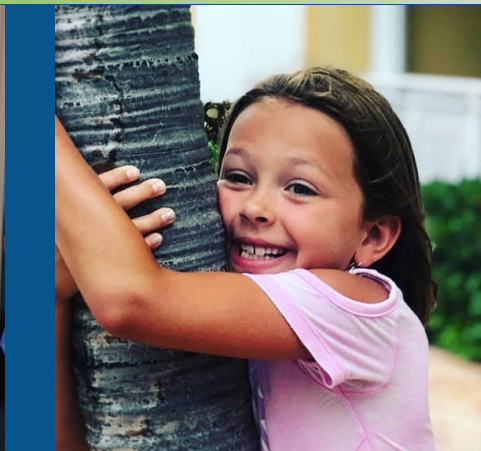




BLUEPRINT *for*
KENTUCKY'S CHILDREN

2021 State Policy and Budget Priorities





The Blueprint for Kentucky's Children is a coalition of non-profit, public, and private organizations that stands on three pillars: thriving communities launch strong families, strong families launch successful kids, and successful kids launch a prosperous future for Kentucky.

As the commonwealth works to overcome the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and address systemic racism, the Blueprint speaks with a common voice to create brighter futures for all Kentucky kids and their families.



THRIVING COMMUNITIES



STRONG FAMILIES



SUCCESSFUL KIDS



Strengthen Kentucky's efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect by making these commonsense changes to state law:

- **Strengthen the current statute of limitations timeframes**
- **Remove the clergy-penitent privilege exemption**
- **Modify mandated reporting law to disallow "chain of command" procedures**





Establish a minimum age – at least **12** years old – that a child can be charged with an offense, and connect the child and family to community-based services instead of sending them through the juvenile justice system





Minimize the impact of parental incarceration on children by utilizing community-based alternatives to incarceration for parents who commit nonviolent offenses and releasing pregnant women with substance use disorder to treatment



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**2021 General
Assembly Bills**



HB 42 (Representative Nemes) **HB 54 (Representative Raymond)**

Allow state employees to
access 12 weeks of paid family
leave after the birth or adoption
of a child



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HB 147 (Representatives Moser and Bojanowski)

SB 81 (Senator Raque Adams)

Allow city and county governments the option to regulate the use, display, sale, and distribution of tobacco products – including e-cigarettes – to curb tobacco use among youth





SB 36 (Senator Westerfield)

Allow juvenile court judges to use their discretion in the decision to transfer youth ages 14 and older to adult court for situations involving a firearm





SB 148 (Senator Carroll)

Amend local planning and zoning laws to allow regulated home-based family child care options to safely serve children in their neighborhoods



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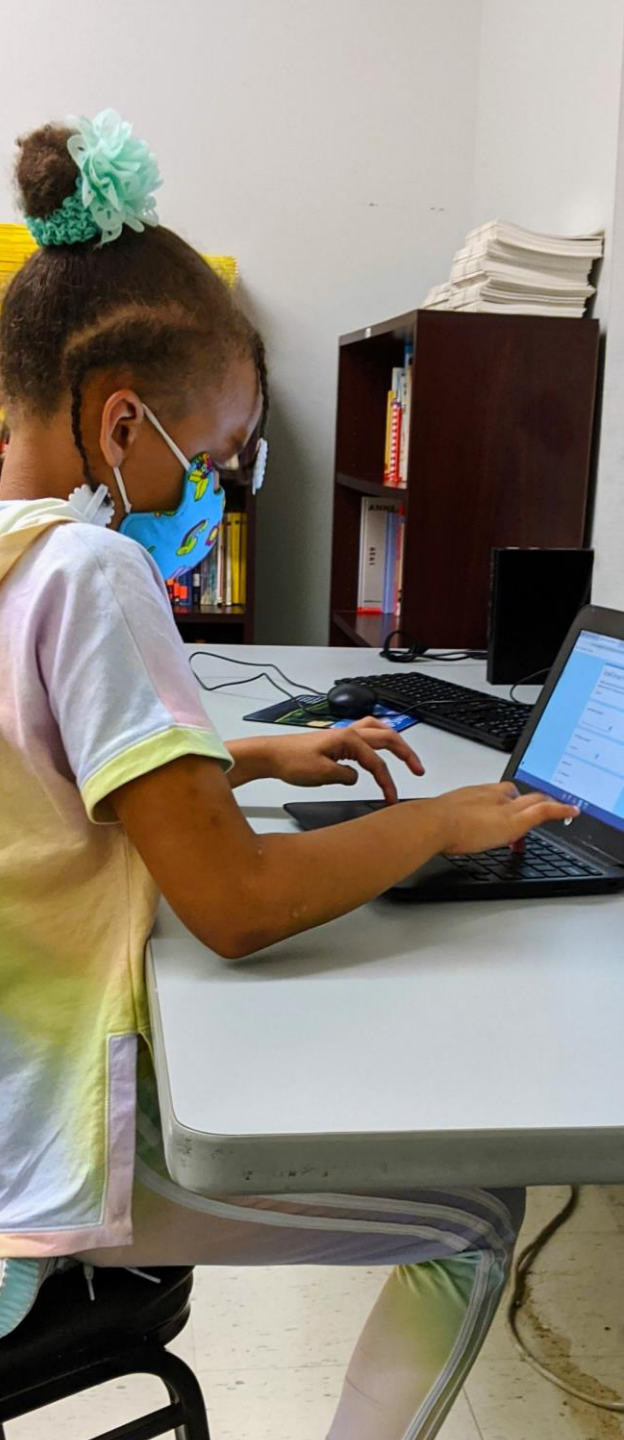


HB 192 (State Budget)

Sustain investments in Medicaid and KCHIP, and prioritize investments focused on closing the remaining gap and addressing racial disparities in coverage so that children and families can continue to access the health care they need



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HB 192 (State Budget)

Promote student success, health, safety, and well-being:

- Invest in infrastructure to close the digital divide
- Ensure school districts have necessary resources to implement the Expanded Care Services policy
- Sustain investment in Family Resource and Youth Service Centers





HB 192 (State Budget)

Prioritize kinship care by sustaining investment in critical services and financial supports, such as respite care and the Relative Placement Support benefit



HB 192 (State Budget)

Strengthen Kentucky's efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect by investing in the following programs to keep kids safe:

- Kentucky Strengthening Ties and Empowering Parents (K-STEP) and the Sobriety Treatment and Recovery Team (START) programs
- Home visitation programs, such as HANDS
- Forensic services for children who experience maltreatment
- Safety net programs to meet families' basic needs, including KTAP, CCAP, and SNAP



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