

Kentucky's Independent Voice for Kids!



2024  
2025

# Impact Report



## DEAR ADVOCATES,

Without the unwavering commitment from supporters like you, Kentucky Youth Advocates would not be the steady and resolute backbone for the Commonwealth's kids.

Over the past year, we've worked diligently at all systemic levels to ensure kid issues are prioritized in the growing partisan climate. The 2025 state legislative session brought wins, missed opportunities, and some puzzling moments for Kentucky kids – making next year's budget session a critical one. We continued to empower young people by equipping them with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to be effective advocates in their communities and when talking with elected officials. And finally, we deepened our research and data capacity through some innovative measures to ensure everyone who cares about kids has access to the most up-to-date information and are provided with clear cut solutions for positive change.

We are proud to stand with you in building a brighter future for every child in our state. We invite you to join us in our mission to make Kentucky the best place in America to grow up.

With gratitude,



## Speaking Up for Kentucky Kids in Frankfort

Each legislative session brings a new array of hope, questions, and inspiration for continued advocacy for Kentucky's kids – and the 2025 legislative session was no different.

Kentucky Youth Advocates spoke up for our most vulnerable in the halls of Frankfort and in the media. Policy change is a long game that requires a long term commitment from advocates and our generous supporters.

The sustained and persistent efforts to secure legislative wins for kids and play defense on harmful bills is only possible because of YOU. Although there remains much important work to be done, we celebrate these wins for kids.

During the session, Kentucky Youth Advocates secured nearly **100 media mentions**, promoting support for beneficial legislation for children and raising concerns about harmful proposals.

Social media posts from Kentucky Youth Advocates regarding the 2025 Kentucky General Assembly garnered **226,784 views and 9,231 interactions.**

# Blueprint for Kentucky's Children Legislative Wins

HB  
90

Removes barriers to establishing freestanding birth centers in Kentucky, reducing disparities and paving the way to offer pregnant and birthing women additional choices for their prenatal, delivery, and postpartum care.



SB  
100

Creates mechanisms to meaningfully enforce Tobacco-21 law in Kentucky through a retail licensing program for tobacco and nicotine products.

SB  
73

Increases accountability measures for perpetrators of sexual extortion and includes components to boost awareness among kids and their families through the school system.

SB  
120

Protects student athletes by ensuring that coaches and administrators are trained on their legal responsibility to report suspected child abuse or neglect.



# Advocacy in Action

The **2025 Children's Advocacy Week** featured our **21st Day at the Capitol** and **5 virtual events**, including Q&A sessions with state legislators, Lt. Governor Coleman, and top Kentucky journalists.

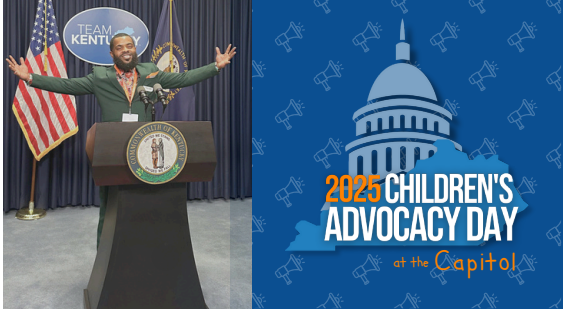
Nearly **700 advocates**, including more than **200 youth**, from across the Commonwealth participated during the week and joined us in the Capitol Rotunda to rally on behalf of Kentucky kids for Children's Advocacy Day.

More than **30 legislators** participated throughout the week, along with Governor Andy Beshear, Auditor Allison Ball, CHFS/DCBS leadership, the Office of the Ombudsman, and the Office of the Attorney General.

Many of these leaders met with Kentucky's young leaders and changemakers representing diverse groups, such as KYA's Health Youth Ambassadors, Housing Policy Ambassadors, True Up's Peer Network, and Truth Telling Circles young adults.

*"I'm truly grateful for the opportunity to be at our state capitol celebrating the achievements and dedication of so many incredible kids. Children's Advocacy Week gets us one step closer to ensuring their voices are heard and their potential is fully realized."*

- Isabella, high school student from Graves County and 2025 Champion for Children Award Recipient





# Leveraging Data to Inform Decision-Making



In the 34th edition of the **Kentucky KIDS COUNT Data Book**, we saw improvement in 11 of the 16 child well-being indicators, compared to their baseline data. KYA unveiled a new online interactive **County Data Dashboard** that provides easy access to race, county, and school-district level data when available. Another highlight from this year's project was a spotlight around the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), progress on efforts to mitigate those impacts, and the power of supportive community environments and positive experiences in building resilience.

In response to the impact of the opioid epidemic, KYA launched the **Opioid Data Dashboard on Children and Families**. The dashboard puts information in the hands of community members in order to inform decision-making about best practices for utilizing opioid funds and to prevent another generation from experiencing addiction. Many proven programs exist to address the challenges children and families face, and the dashboard provides data on factors related to opioid use, in addition to solutions that communities can implement.

We know that what gets measured gets changed when it comes to outcomes for Kentucky kids.

Kentucky Kids  
Count County  
Data Dashboard



Opioid Data  
Dashboard





# Board of Directors

## Allen County

Tom Emberton

## Daviess County

Rosemary Conder  
Keith Sanders, Emeritus

## Fayette County

Bill Stewart, Emeritus

## Franklin County

Dr. Darlene Davis Goodwine

## Gallatin County

Dr. Dorothy Perkins

## Jefferson County

Charlie Baker, Emeritus  
Karina Barillas

Dr. Aimee Green-Webb  
Yvette Livers

Andy Parker, Board Chair  
Nancy Peterson, Emeritus  
Lynn Rippy, Emeritus  
Marita Willis, Emeritus

## Jessamine County

Dr. Scottie Day

## Kenton County

Shane Noem

## Letcher County

Angie Hatton

## Oldham County

Dr. Gregg Cobb, Treasurer

## Russell County

Dale Brown

## Union County

Dr. Laura Hancock Jones

## Financial Review

Fiscal Year October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024

### Revenue

Contributions: \$545,706

Fee for service: \$499,883

Foundation and organizational grants: \$2,348,514

Contributions of nonfinancial assets: \$3,185

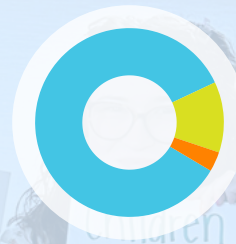
Program revenue: \$184,430

Other revenue: \$26,822

**Total revenue: \$3,608,540**

**Decrease in net assets: \$678,619**

### Expenses



#### Program Expenses

\$3,622,165



#### General/Administrative

\$519,608



#### Fundraising

\$145,386

**Total expenses: \$4,287,159**

**Final net assets: \$2,371,796**

# Champions

Investments made October 2023  
through September 2024



## \$20,000-\$99,999

William O. Alden, Jr.  
Anonymous  
C.E. & S. Foundation  
Jewish Heritage Fund  
Partnership for America's Children  
Prevent Child Abuse America  
Susan S. Means Fund  
The Book Works Project  
UnitedHealthcare

## \$5,000-\$19,999

3LS Ventures  
Delta Dental of Kentucky  
Elizabeth Deknate  
Wood and Marie Hannah Foundation  
Family Health Centers  
Fritz Hollenbach  
Graehler Family Fund  
David A. Jones, Jr. and Mary Gwen Wheeler  
Kentucky Children's Home Corporation  
The Lawrence and Augusta Hager  
Educational Foundation  
Lift a Life Novak Family Foundation  
Metro United Way  
Nicklies Foundation  
Save the Children  
Bill Stewart  
Sociable Weaver Foundation  
University of Kentucky Research Foundation  
UofL Health Trager Institute

## \$1,000-\$4,999

Alexander JFS  
AT&T  
Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc.  
Child Care Council of Kentucky  
Children's Alliance  
CHNK Behavioral Health  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital  
ECHO  
Jane and Bert Emke  
Family & Children's Place  
Family Enrichment Center  
Family Nurturing Center  
Holly Hill Children's Home  
Jefferson County Board of Education  
Jefferson County Teachers Association  
Bill Goodman  
Bria Isaacson  
Kentucky CASA Network  
Maryhurst  
Meyzeek Middle School  
Mountain Comprehensive Care Center  
National Council of Jewish Women  
Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative  
Pathways, Inc.  
Nancy Peterson  
Save the Children Action Network  
UK HealthCare  
UofL Peace Hospital  
Volunteers of America Mid-States  
WellCare of Kentucky  
Western Kentucky University  
Yes Arts

## \$100,000+





Aetna Better Health of Kentucky  
Annie E. Casey Foundation  
CareQuest Institute for Oral Health  
Casey Family Programs  
Commonwealth of Kentucky  
CVS Health Foundation  
Food Research and Action Center  
Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky  
Frank and Paula Harshaw  
Kosair for Kids  
New Venture Fund  
U.S. Department for Health and Human Services



**Kentucky Youth Advocates** is the independent voice for Kentucky kids. We advocate for policies that give children the best possible opportunities for a brighter future and are making Kentucky the best place in America to be young.

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