

# 10 years of The Children's Movement

Celebrating our wins & looking ahead to the future





**We are the largest, most powerful, and most diverse network advocating for kids in the country.**

The Children's Movement, coordinated by Children Now, is an unprecedented network of organizations and individuals across the state, driven to act on behalf of kids.



There are more than 93,000 non-profits in California focused on kids, plus thousands of private and public sector groups that care about kids. That widespread and diverse support creates the opportunity for kids to be the most powerful interest group. But until now, the field has been too disconnected.

With already more than 5,600 organizational members (and growing fast) unifying in collective action campaigns to deliver wins for California's kids, The Children's Movement is making that opportunity a reality.



EQUAL JUSTICE SOCIETY



# 5600+



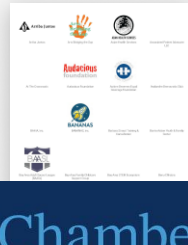
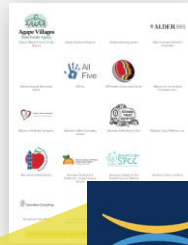




The Children's  
Movement  
of California®

# State Advocacy

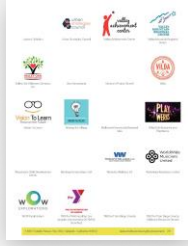
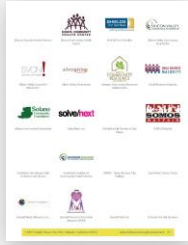
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STATE ADVOCACY

# Early Childhood

Children's Movement campaigns have led to more than \$8.1 billion in state funding for early learning, with more than 5,200 organizational signatures showcasing the widespread support for quality early childhood supports.






**We support CommonCore**

The Common Core State Standards were approved back in 2010 by California policymakers on a bipartisan basis and with widespread support from educators and a wide range of stakeholders. The standards set expectations for students to help ensure they graduate from high school ready for college, career and civic life. The standards establish learning goals for all students and emphasize critical thinking, analysis and deeper understanding. Local districts and teachers have been leveraging the standards to better engage students and expose them to these important approaches to learning.

**Over 500 diverse education, business, equity, parent and community organizations support Common Core because it's the right thing to do for California's kids.**



**PRO-KID** For a complete list of supporters visit [childrensnow.org](http://childrensnow.org)



**SCHOOL FUNDING REFORM IS PRO-KID**

..... A remarkably diverse group of business, education, civil rights, parent, faith-based, and community organizations and leaders are all supporting the Local Control Funding Formula because it's the right thing to do for California's kids.

California's current school funding system is outdated, irrational, and inequitable. Our students can't wait any longer. Over 70 percent of the public is in favor of the Local Control Funding Formula approach. We cannot delay fixing the way the state funds schools.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ACLU of California</li> <li>Alliance College Ready Public Schools</li> <li>Alliance for a Better Community</li> <li>Alliance for Boys and Men of Color</li> <li>Alliance San Diego</li> <li>Asian Business Association</li> <li>Aspirin Public Schools</li> <li>Associated Administrators of Los Angeles</li> <li>AYPAL</li> <li>Daiwashed City School District</li> <li>Bay Area Council</li> <li>California Alliance of African American Educators</li> <li>California Civil Rights Coalition</li> <li>California Collaborative on District Reform</li> <li>California Forward</li> <li>California State NAACP</li> <li>California for Justice</li> <li>Champion for Quality Education</li> <li>Children Now</li> <li>Coachella Valley Unified School District</li> <li>Coalition for Quality Education</li> <li>Community Asset Development</li> <li>Community Coalition</li> <li>Contra Costa County Central Labor Council AFL-CIO</li> <li>Contra Costa Interfaith Supporting Community Organization</li> <li>David N. Plank Executive Director, Policy Analysis for California Education</li> <li>Dolores Huerta Foundation</li> <li>Downtown Associated Youth Services</li> <li>East Bay Asian Youth Center (EBAAYC)</li> <li>Education Trust-West</li> <li>Educators 4 Excellence Los Angeles</li> <li>Edvoca</li> <li>Ella Baker Center for Human Rights</li> <li>Families in Good Health</li> <li>Families in Schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First 5 Fresno County</li> <li>Fresno Unified School District</li> <li>Full Circle Education Fund</li> <li>Gay Straight Alliance Network of CA/UT/MT</li> <li>Haji Moon Roy Coastside Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley</li> <li>Inner-City Struggle</li> <li>Kids in Common</li> <li>KIPP Bay Area Schools</li> <li>Latino Community Foundation</li> <li>Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>Los Angeles Education Partnership</li> <li>Los Angeles Unified School District</li> <li>Los Angeles Urban League</li> <li>Marijuana</li> <li>Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa, City of Los Angeles</li> <li>Mayor Chuck Reed, City of San Jose</li> <li>Mayor Edwin Lee, City of San Francisco</li> <li>Mayor Kevin Johnson, City of Sacramento</li> <li>Muskie County Office of Education</li> <li>National Center for Youth Law</li> <li>New Schools Venture Fund</li> <li>North Bay Leadership Council</li> <li>Oakland Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>Parent Services Project</li> <li>Pasadena Unified School District</li> <li>PICD California</li> <li>Progressive Christians United - Los Angeles</li> <li>Public Advocates</li> <li>Public Counsel</li> <li>Salvadorean American Leadership &amp; Educational Fund</li> <li>San Bernardino City Unified School District</li> <li>San Diego County Office of Education</li> <li>San Diego Unified School District</li> <li>San Francisco Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>Santa Ana Unified School District</li> <li>Silicon Valley Education Foundation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Silicon Valley Leadership Group</li> <li>Silver Giving Foundation</li> <li>Superintendent Arturo Delgado, Los Angeles County Schools</li> <li>Superintendent Christine Fischer, Kern County Schools</li> <li>Superintendent Christopher Steinhilber, Long Beach Unified School District</li> <li>Superintendent Gary Eagles, Humboldt County Schools</li> <li>Superintendent Gary Rutherford, Deseret Sands Unified School District</li> <li>Superintendent Jan Christensen, Redwood City School District</li> <li>Superintendent Jonathan Raymond, Sacramento City Unified School District</li> <li>Superintendent Mary Jane Burke, Marin County Schools</li> <li>Superintendent Richard Carranza, San Francisco Unified School District</li> <li>Superintendent Iion Camruth, Whittier City School District</li> <li>Superintendent Jessica Rivera, Delano Joint Union High School District</li> <li>Superintendent Sandra J. Horspenson, Whittier Union High School District</li> <li>Superintendent Tom Armeino, Shasta County Schools</li> <li>Superintendent Tony Smith, Oakland Unified School District</li> <li>Teach Plus Los Angeles</li> <li>The Children's Movement of Fresno</li> <li>The Dirk and Charlene Rabocott Foundation</li> <li>The Los Angeles Trust for Children's Health</li> <li>Thomas A. Saenz, President and General Counsel for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)</li> <li>United Way of California</li> <li>Waypoint Wealth Partners</li> <li>West Contra Costa Unified School District</li> <li>Woodlawn Joint Unified School District</li> <li>Youth Advocate Network for Sustainable Communities</li> <li>Youth Together</li> </ul>
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**PRO-KID** See the full public support list and find out more at [cawepicdformula.com](http://cawepicdformula.com)

STATE ADVOCACY

# Education Equity

In addition to supporting more funding for education, The Children's Movement led efforts to enact historic school equity reform and ensure the successful roll-out of Common Core standards.

“Children Now’s leadership on the Local Control Funding Formula was absolutely critical to getting it done, particularly how the organization built the diverse and powerful support base needed around it being the right thing to do for California’s kids.”

**Mike Kirst**  
President, CA State Board of Education & Key Advisor to Gov. Brown

September 2023  
The Governor's Office Newsroom  
Governor  
State Capitol  
1601 Franklin Street, Sacramento, California 95834

**Re: SB 274 - Request for the Governor's Signature**

Dear Governor Newsom,

We are writing to ask for your signature on SB 274 (Kinnear), which seeks to improve student success rates, create a more supportive academic environment, eliminate suspensions, and expeditious for tardiness, truancy or other absences, and encourage schools to consider alternatives to suspensions and expulsions by eliminating the "willful defiance" sunset for students in grades K-5 and extending the prohibition of those suspensions to students in grades 6-12 through 2029. SB 274 aims to keep California students in schools while protecting the most vulnerable student populations from harmful and discriminatory school climates.

"Willful defiance" is broadly defined as defying the authority of school staff. Some examples of "defiance" include wearing a hat, not having a belt, or falling asleep in class. Defiance suspensions contribute to racial inequality in schools. Students of color, students with disabilities, and LGBTQ+ students are disproportionately suspended for low-level subjective behavioral disruptions, classified as "willful defiance." These suspensions cause students to lose significant instruction time. Data made available by the California Department of Education shows Black students are suspended 3 times more often than White students for defiance. Black and Latino boys in special education are 6% of students in California, yet they account for 19% of defiance suspensions across the State.

The simple act of ending willful defiance suspensions for all public school children recognizes the unique developmental vulnerabilities of youth, especially youth of color, and youth with disabilities, by creating a school environment where every child has the opportunity to learn, thrive and succeed.

Many California school districts, such as Los Angeles, San Francisco, Azusa, Oakland, and Pasadena, have proactively eliminated willful defiance as grounds for suspension.

For these reasons, we urge you to sign SB 274.

Sincerely,  
The Undersigned Organizations

1601 Franklin Street, Ste 200, Oakland, California 94612 | [www.childrensmovement.org/governor](http://www.childrensmovement.org/governor) 1

1601 Franklin Street, Ste 200, Oakland, California 94612 | [www.childrensmovement.org/governor](http://www.childrensmovement.org/governor) 2

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STATE ADVOCACY

# School Climate

The Children's Movement reduced racial disparities in school discipline by supporting a bill banning the suspension of high school students for willful defiance.

This Movement effort built upon Children Now's previous advocacy work with student leaders to ban similar suspensions in middle school.

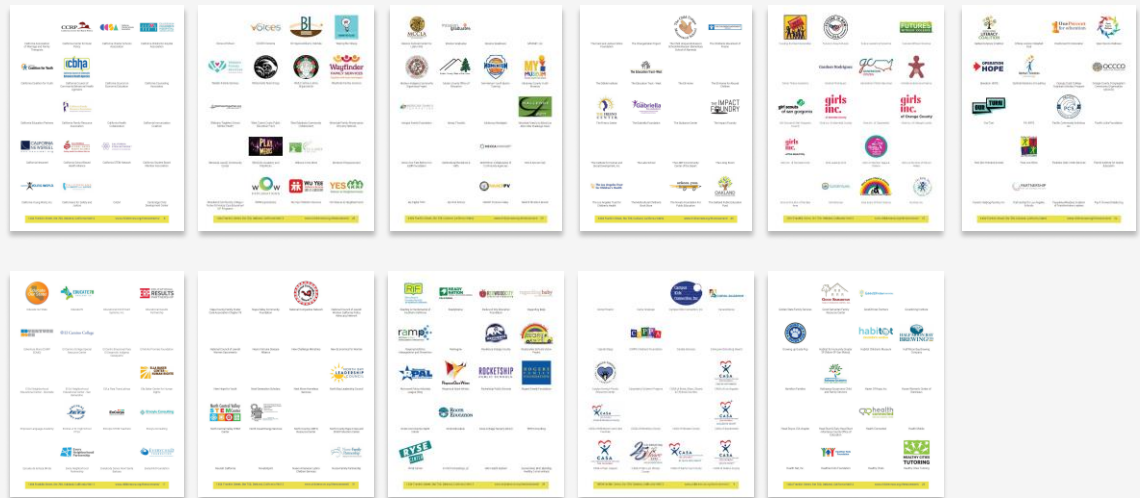






STATE ADVOCACY  
**Mental Health**

With more than 2,100 organizational signatures across multiple campaigns, The Children's Movement secured over \$250 million for school-based mental health services and prevented last year's Proposition 1 from cutting youth mental health supports.







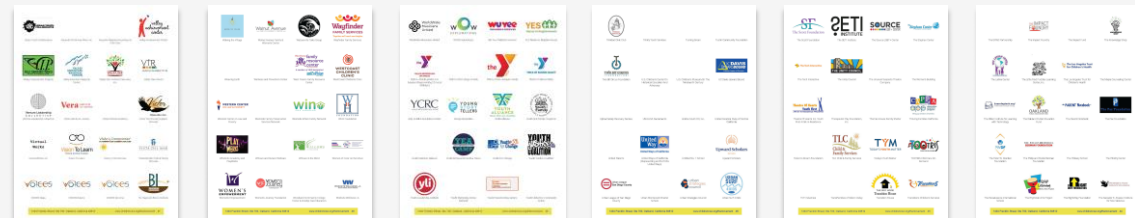
## STATE ADVOCACY

# Child Welfare

The Children's Movement has helped enact and preserve critical supports for foster youth and their caregivers.

For example, The Movement garnered more than 2,800 organizational signatures to create and preserve the Family Urgent Response System (FURS), a 24-7 hotline for foster youth and their caregivers.

Since FURS launched, approximately 5,000 requests for support are made annually.



# Local Advocacy

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## The 2020 Census is Less Than One Year Away!



### We need YOU to get involved!

The Federal Census Bureau, the state of California, local counties and cities are developing detailed plans to ensure every Californian is counted starting April 2020.

#### An update regarding the citizenship question

The Supreme Court is expected to issue an expedited ruling – on a Monday this month – on whether the 2020 Census will include the citizenship question. If you want to participate in the rapid response campaign (once a decision is announced), you can use this social media **tool kit**. You can also follow **Hansi Lo Wang**, NPR national correspondent, covering the 2020 Census, on Twitter, for regular, detailed updates on federal census issues.

#### Participate in the State Complete Count Committee

The State Complete Count Committee is coming to a community near you! They have **27 Regional Convenings and Implementation Plan Workshops** scheduled throughout 2019! Check out the list and make sure you attend one in your region.

#### Community Partner Resources: NALEO Education Fund

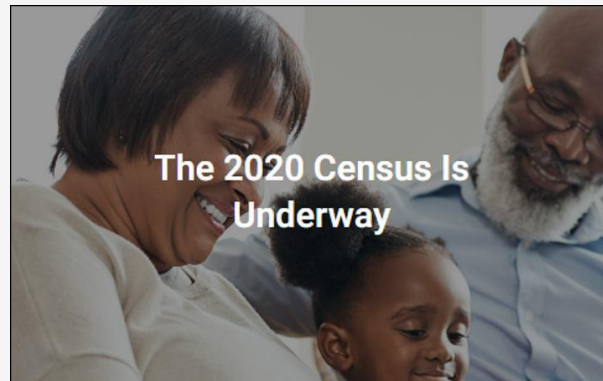
NALEO Education Fund has created the **Hágase Contar** campaign, which includes a fantastic series of tool kits and resources for organizations engaging the Latinx community. You can also text 97779 to join their Get Out the Count campaign! NALEO Education Fund also recently released *The Community Speaks: A Report of the National Latino Commission on Census 2020*, which provides comprehensive insights to challenges and concerns for the next census.

**Interested in working for the California Census Office and/or the U.S. Census Bureau?**

**There are job openings in outreach and communication strategy, as well as canvassing and enumerating the 2020 Census. Learn more and apply here.**

## Local Advocacy Efforts

The Movement has supported local advocacy and outreach efforts in Los Angeles and Alameda Counties



## The 2020 Census Is Underway

Let's work together to ensure that everyone is counted!

April 27, 2020

By now, every single household across the country should have received multiple mailers with instructions on how to fill out the 2020 Census. Many community organizations are grappling with how to engage members and families as on-the-ground, door-to-door outreach and engagement strategies – that have proven to be effective in the past – have been halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic at least until the end of May. Phone calls, text messages, and media outreach strategies are now

# Implementation

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## Medi-Cal is Open to All Young Adults – Help us Get the Word Out!



All CA children, youth, and families need access to health care now and after this public health crisis ends.

It's critical that California continues to ensure children and young people have timely access to the health care they need. Optimal health impacts a child's academic achievement and long-term well-being, but many California children and families are uninsured or lack access to routine check-ups and other preventive health services.

In 2019, there were 334,000 uninsured kids in California. This year, the COVID-19 pandemic and immigration fears due to **policy changes at the federal level** have contributed to a stagnation or, in some cases, a decline in health coverage enrollment, putting the health of children and youth at risk, and exacerbating racial and economic disparities.

## Ensuring Effective Implementation

After Pro-Kid policies are passed, The Children's Movement has mobilized members to ensure they are implemented in the most effective, equitable way.

# Informational Campaigns







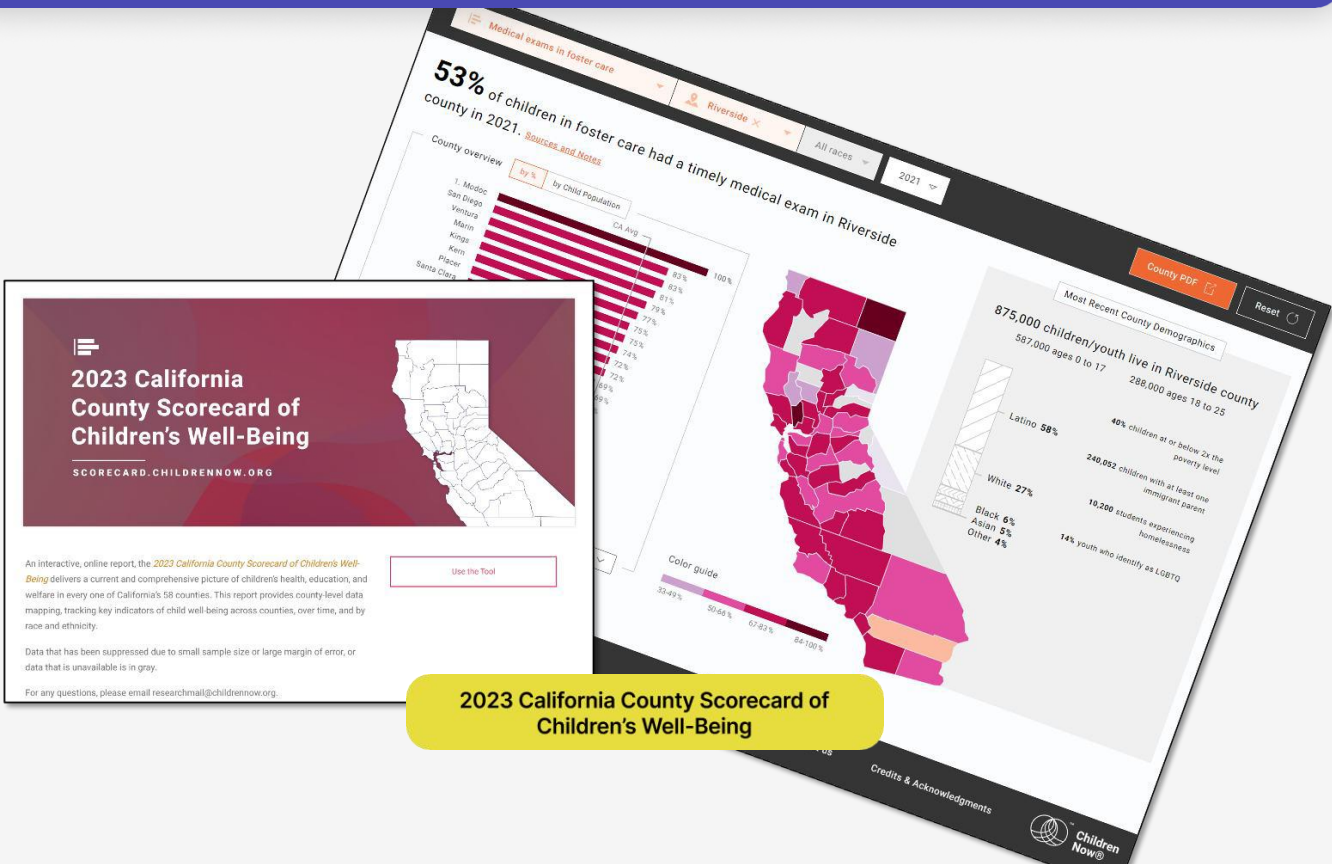
2024 California Children's Report Card

**Sharing Key Research & Other information**

Children's Movement members receive key research, invites to webinars and other information on kids' well-being locally and statewide.



2024-25 Budget Outcomes Webinar



2023 California County Scorecard of Children's Well-Being

# Engaging Individuals

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## The Children's Movement of California®

### We Stand with California's Immigrants

In these uncertain political times, we must work together to protect California's immigrants, keep kids and families together, and help everyone understand their rights. Below please find organizations and resources to aid you in protecting immigrant kids and families across our state.

- The **National Immigration Law Center** has put together [helpful resources](#) in English and Spanish to help immigrants and providers navigate privacy concerns around applying for health care under the Affordable Care Act.
- The **American Academy of Pediatrics** [firmly opposes](#) any Department of Homeland Security measure that would separate mothers and children at the border. [Their website](#) contains a number of resources to support the health of children.
- The **California Immigrant Policy Center** offers a variety of fact sheets that detail health and public benefits available to immigrant children. They can be found [here](#).  
The **Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum** recently held a webinar called "Healthcare for Immigrant Communities and the New Administration" [the slides](#) for which is another great resource.
- The **Service Employees International Union** has created two posters that explain what to do if immigration authorities come to one's [home](#), or [workplace](#). These posters can be printed and hung in offices, schools, lobbies, living rooms, and places of work.



# Engaging Individual Advocacy

Children's Movement individual members have shown their collective strength by contacting public officials on key local, state and federal issues.



## Stand Up for Kids: Stop Draconian Budget Cuts Today



As our [May newsletter](#) laid out, Governor Newsom's May Revise of the 2024-25 state budget proposed cuts to critical kid's programs, including but not limited to:

- Complete elimination of the **Family Urgent Response System (FURS)**, a 24/7 helpline with caregivers
- A 45% reduction in funding for **Family Visiting**
- An **indefinite** timeline for **TK-12 education**

### Contact the Governor

1. Navigate to [the Governor's contact website](#)
2. Select "Budget May Revision 2024-25" from the dropdown menu.
3. Choose "Leave a comment" and select "Con".
4. Submit your message with your contact information.

### Contact Your Representatives

1. Identify your State Assembly and Senate representatives [here](#)
2. Visit each representative's website and use the "contact" tab to send your message.



TCM NEWSLETTER | April 2024

[View Online](#)

Keeping Movement Members Informed on Key Kids' Issues Across the State

### Action Needed Around Proposed Draconian Cuts to Kids

Hello TCMers,

Governor Newsom's revision of the 2024-25 state budget proposal, commonly referred to as the May Revise, was released on May 10th. This edition of our newsletter is a deep dive into the May Revise – what was cut, and what Movement members can do over the next few weeks to make sure California's kids aren't left behind during a difficult budget year.

Overall, the proposed cuts across child welfare, child care, home visiting, TK-12 education, mental health, and access to health services are untenable. Yes, it's an extraordinarily difficult budget year in California, but the very last place to look for cuts is our kids. While California ranks in the top nationally when it comes to [spending on government programs](#), we hover around the national average on per capita spending on kids and rank [35th](#) when it comes to [overall child well-being](#).

### What does the May Revise propose to cut?

#### Supports for Foster Youth

The Administration already threatened the safety of California's foster youth by proposing the elimination of the Family Urgent Response System (FURS), a 24/7 hotline for foster families) in January. FURS funding was not added back into the May Revise. We will continue to leverage [this letter signed by over 1,000 Movement organizations](#) to pressure the Governor and Legislature to preserve this critical program.

# Our Plan to Continue Growing Stronger



Continue growing the TCM membership base until every Pro-Kid organization in CA is a part of The Movement



Create local chapters for more targeted engagement with Movement members and more advocacy opportunities at the local level



Expand opportunities for individual Movement members to make an impact, in addition to organizational members



Build capacity with new technology and staff to create more ways for members to engage

How to join the movement:

<https://www.childrennow.org/thechildrensmovement>

How to help fund the movement:

<https://www.childrennow.org/makeagift>

