

# Michigan's Children Strategic Framework

**Vision:** A Michigan where all children have an equitable opportunity to thrive from cradle to career

**Mission:** Michigan's Children is the only statewide independent voice working to ensure that public policies are made in the best interest of children from cradle to career.

**Policy Priorities:** To mitigate the discouraging and unacceptable gaps that begin early and persist over a lifetime, Michigan's Children has a specific focus on policy priorities that reduce disparities in child and family outcomes. These include:

- Improving school readiness by increasing investments prenatally through age three that support infants, toddlers and their parents.
- Improving career and college readiness by building student success through school/community linkages, including supports for expanded learning opportunities, attendance promotion and discipline alternatives; and expanding investments in programs that support multiple pathways and chances for educational success.
- Ensuring that Michigan is caring for its most vulnerable children and families – those at risk of becoming or already involved in child protective services, foster and juvenile justice systems – and connecting them to family support services as well as successful education and workforce pathways.
- Building better support for two-generation strategies that help children thrive while their parents move ahead.

**Values:**

- Equitable opportunity for all children
- Independent, non-partisanship
- Focus on prevention
- Community engagement
- Aligned and collective action

**Value Proposition:** The only independent, nonpartisan advocacy organization working to close equity gaps for children cradle to career and their families through policy change.

