



The Bill of Rights for Children and Youth - Taking a Stand for Children and Youth

The Bill of Rights for Children and Youth helps our community stay focused on making the issues that affect children and youth a top priority especially during times of political change and financial upheaval. The Bill of Rights was endorsed by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors on February 9, 2010 to ensure that leaders keep the needs of young people at the forefront of decisions about budgets and government policies. Since then, eight cities, twelve school districts and hundreds of individuals and organizations have also endorsed these rights. For more information on how you, your organization, city or school district can endorse the Bill of Rights for Children and Youth, please go to www.kidsincommon.org.

The Santa Clara County Bill of Rights for Children and Youth

All children and youth have a right to be safe, healthy, successful in learning, and successful in life regardless of their language, culture, race, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, religion or developmental or physical abilities. Santa Clara County is enriched by the diversity of its children and youth. Therefore, we resolve to support Santa Clara County children and youth so that:

- They have a healthy mind, body, and spirit that enables them to maximize their potential.
- They develop a healthy attachment to a parent, guardian or caregiver and an ongoing relationship with a caring and supportive adult.
- Their essential needs are met — nutritious food, shelter, clothing, health care, and accessible transportation.
- They have a safe and healthy environment, including homes, schools, neighborhoods, and communities.
- They have access to a 21st-century education that promotes success in life and in future careers and a love of life-long learning.
- They have training in life skills that will prepare them to live independently, be self-sufficient, and contribute to their community.
- They have employment opportunities with protections from unfair labor practices.
- They have freedom from mistreatment, abuse and neglect.
- They have a voice in matters that affect them.
- They have a sense of hope for their future.