



FUNDING THE NEXT GENERATION

GROUNDBREAKING COURT VICTORY FOR LOCAL BALLOT MEASURES. LOCAL ELECTION ACTION FOR KIDS.

GIANT STEP FORWARD FOR REVENUE MEASURES TO REQUIRE ONLY A MAJORITY VOTE

COURT VALIDATES SAN FRANCISCO AND ALAMEDA VOTER INITIATED MEASURES THAT RECEIVED LESS THAN 2/3 VOTE.

San Francisco's City Attorney won! A September 9 California Supreme Court decision means that **funding measures for homeless services in San Francisco and young children in Alameda County will go into effect - despite receiving less than a 2/3 vote.** The so-called Taxpayer's Association attempted to have these measures invalidated. But the Court refused to hear their case and agreed with the Court of Appeals which had ruled in favor of the measures because they had been put on the ballot through voter signature drives. **HOORAY! THIS IS A BIG DEAL**, and gets local communities in California much closer to being able to place Children's Funds on the ballot (by voter petition) that will only require a majority vote.

Opinion of legal guru on all election matters, James Harrison of Olson Remcho, LLP: **"The Supreme Court's decision not to grant review is significant but not determinative.** While it means that the Court of Appeal's decision in the SF Measure C case is binding on trial courts (e.g., in the challenge to Alameda County's Measure C), it is not binding on other courts of appeal, meaning that another appellate court (e.g., the 5th District in the challenge to the Fresno measure), could reach a different decision. In that case, the California Supreme Court would likely grant review to resolve the conflict. **On the other hand, the fact that the Supreme Court didn't grant review could be a signal that they agree.**

So, a step forward, but not the end of the road."

NOTE TO ADVOCATES:

Get ready to raise money to collect signatures for your 2022 funding measures!

MOST VISIONARY AND EXPANSIVE LOCAL REVENUE STRATEGY IN STATE - 10% Reinvestment

RE-IMAGINE LA amends the county charter to annually allocate no less than 10% of the county's locally generated unrestricted revenues to address the *disproportionate impact of racial*

injustice through community investment and alternatives to incarceration. WOW!

The measure specifically prohibits the use of funds for incarceration and law enforcement agencies. And it requires that the reallocated funds support new programs, and not be used to supplant existing ones. (Does this sound familiar? It is a similar strategy to the San Francisco, Oakland and Richmond Children and Youth Funds.) First on the list of the many services to be funded is **community-based youth development programs. If successful, LA's Measure J will set an example for the country.** Placed on the ballot by the Board of Supervisors and endorsed by a huge multi-racial coalition that includes labor, civil rights groups and community organizations, according to the campaign website



CREATIVE CA LOCAL ELECTION STRATEGIES FOR DOLLARS FOR KIDS



San Joaquin County children's advocates add to new meaning

to "persistent" with their cannabis tax for kids! It's **MEASURE X** on the November ballot, and it is a second effort to pass a county-level cannabis tax – half of which will go to children and youth. The trio of Kay Ruhstaller (San Joaquin County Family Resource and Referral Center, Lindy Turner-Hardin (Child Abuse Prevention Council) and Christina Gilbert (San Joaquin Children's Alliance) have brilliantly maneuvered their way through local county politics in the Valley and are spearheading the **ONLY BALLOT MEASURE IN THE STATE WITH MONEY SPECIFICALLY LOCKED IN FOR KIDS!**

Children's advocates in Sonoma join forces with others for special mental health and homeless services tax – Angie Dillon-Shore, ED of First 5 Sonoma, reports the success of a strong push to include **Children's Mental Health Prevention and Early Intervention** in a county special **sales tax**. In fact, children are the first group mentioned as the recipients of services in Measure O which will generate \$25M a year for mental health! This measure will require a 2/3 vote, and of course, the real battle for resources will come **AFTER** it passes. **Youth advocates take note: Alliances with homeless and mental health coalitions can be powerful.**

Long Beach and Contra Costa County children and youth will get piece of a general tax – finally! Lian Cheun, ED of Khmer Girls in Action (KGA), is thrilled to finally get money for youth on the ballot – after years of organizing and too many dead ends. Because of all the efforts of KGA, youth services will be a featured recipient of funding in a Long Beach general **tax on oil production** – Measure "US."

The Contra Costa County Budget Justice Coalition, First 5 and others are rallying to support a general sales tax called [Healthy and Safe Contra Costa](#) featuring a baby receiving health care on the homepage of the campaign website. The intended recipients of the funds are **"Firefighting, the Hospital and Our Kids"** says the campaign.

Here's a strategy for child and youth advocates: Join a broad coalition to increase local funding, play a prominent and vocal role supporting the measure, make yourselves indispensable, organize supporters and donors to the campaign' and **when it passes be the first in line to claim funding on behalf of kids.**

San Francisco Revises Business Tax – Child and youth advocates are leaders in San Francisco's ballot measure to revise and increase business taxes. The measure will protect existing dedicated funds (like the Children and Youth Fund) and ensure funding of local measures for child care, homeless services and teachers that received a majority vote, but were short of the 2/3 needed.



PROP 15 - HISTORIC MEASURE REFORMS PROP 13.

Probably the most important thing on the ballot when it comes to money for kids is Prop 15, the **Schools and Communities First Act** which reforms our infamous **Prop 13** and requires (finally) that commercial property be taxed fairly. This measure has been a very long time in coming; and is widely endorsed by community and labor organizations

throughout the state. If it passes, counties and schools will receive millions of dollars. [Learn how much your county will receive.](#) **Start now making sure your county is aware of the unmet needs of children and youth, so when funds are available, those needs will be top of mind.**

[The home page of Prop 15.](#)

GETTING LOCAL DOLLARS FOR KIDS – SUCCESSES THROUGHOUT THE STATE

Fresno wins our COVID-19 Innovation Award with Health Equity

Project – Making the most of COVID-19 federal dollars for families has been the goal

throughout the state. Fresno used this opportunity to bring together numerous multi-ethnic community based organizations and networks, UCSF, and both the City and County of Fresno to create a **new grassroots community health infrastructure - representing 12 languages and training and employing 100 new community new health workers. All partners believe this project will be the foundation of Fresno's public health services moving forward.** This remarkable initiative was only possible because of years of laying the foundation through organizations like **Cradle to Career, the Community Foundation and Building Healthy Communities.** [Click here and on photo above for power point on the project.](#)



Sacramento breaks new ground redefining public safety – On Tuesday, September 15, the Legislative Committee of the Sacramento City Council voted unanimously to support a **change in the City's official definition of "public safety" to include youth-focused prevention services** which “proactively result in a state of well-being where young people are at lower risk of both causing and experiencing injury, death, psychological harm, violence, and community trauma.” [Link to resolution.](#) **This was the brainchild of Councilman Jay Schenirer, and the result of a year of meetings, in collaboration with Public Health Advocates, non-profit agencies and youth throughout the City.** As some will recall this was the most popular idea presented at Funding the Next Generation's February Statewide meeting. The full City Council will vote on the measure in the coming weeks.

Santa Ana allocates half of cannabis revenue to youth – The Santa Ana City Council agreed to allocate over \$3M of its cannabis dollars to youth services in its 2020-2021 budget. **This was the culmination of the work of Orange County Resilience, its partners on the “People’s Budget” and two champions on the City Council.** They analyzed the budget, got a youth department created and lobbied to get half of the cannabis money going to youth and families. According to **Dulce Saavedra, Youth Director from Resilience Orange County,** much of their success was possible because they had a TCE-funded position to do budget advocacy.

Pandemic inspires coming together for childcare – Many throughout the state have been inspired by the groundbreaking advocacy in **San Diego to have the city and the county allocate \$25M for childcare** ([check out webinar for presentation](#)) For instance, in **San Mateo County,** over **50 elected officials, community leaders and school district administrators** signed on to a campaign for a **Child Care Relief Fund,** resulting in a \$2 Million allocation, calling it a **down payment** on a long-term strategy to rebuild the child care infrastructure. The County commitment complemented funds from cities, including San Mateo, Redwood City and Menlo Park. **"This unity of purpose can lay the groundwork for greater city, county, and school district collaboration."** says **David Fleishman, ED of 4C's of San Mateo County,** who was instrumental in organizing the effort.



Childcare Is Essential

Thank You San Diego County Supervisors--Supervisor Fletcher, Chairman Cox, Supervisor Desmond, Supervisor Gaspar, Supervisor Jacob--for investing **\$25m in childcare provider stipends** to support our essential workers.

"Ad" created by San Diego early care coalition - Hint: "thank you's" encourage ongoing investment.

FROM FUNDING THE NEXT GENERATION

COMING UP:

3RD NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Children's Funding Institute
- Our (virtual) **national conference** on Ballot Measures for Child and Youth Funding will be December 8, 9, 10 - 3 hours each day - 10am - 1pm PT.

We expect to have 30 cities and counties from around the country participating. If you are interested in having a team from your community attend, please contact Margaret Brodkin,

Fall webinars will feature the stories behind the information in this newsletter. What do you want to hear about?

WEBINAR VIDEOS NOW AVAILABLE ON OUR HOME PAGE

We have had webinars on everything from closing juvenile halls, to budget advocacy, to unique opportunities created by COVID. [Check them out.](#)

Contact me with questions, suggestions, requests for support or advice.

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Excuse dupes

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HOME ABOUT PARTICIPATING COMMUNITIES OUR TEAM RESOURCES CONTACT

"These are all our children; we will all profit by, or pay for, whatever they become."

- James Baldwin

Because how we allocate our resources is the true reflection of our values...