

INVESTING IN OUR CHILDREN WHY IT IS A PRIORITY NOW

Creating a local dedicated children's fund ensures that all the children in our community have access to priority needs such as preschool, after-school, health, family support, youth development, and career preparation.

Investment in children, youth and their families has been shown to pay off, preventing higher future cost that impact taxpayer's contribution into health, justice and benefits systems. Every community has different strengths and needs. Local funding streams can fill state and federal funding gaps and offer greater flexibility, creativity and targeting of priority needs, having the greatest local impact. An investment in children is an investment in our collective prosperity.

FOR EACH \$1 INVESTED THE SOCIETAL RETURNS ARE

- \$8.60 by Childhood Development
- \$4 by Mental Health Services
- \$9 - \$12 by Afterschool Funds
- \$9 by Health Prevention
- \$4.69 by Career Development

The following facts are illustrative of America's current state.



1 IN 5 CHILDREN
spends time alone and
unsupervised during
after school hours



1 IN 5 CHILDREN
struggles with a mental
health or learning disorder



1 IN 3 CHILDREN
are obese or overweight



1 IN ROUGHLY 100 ADULTS
are incarcerated

“The question is not whether we can afford to invest in every child; it is whether we can afford not to”

- Marian Wright Edelman