

Make Ohio More Competitive with Great Public Services

Ohio's communities are stronger when everyone can participate in our economy and democracy. Human services stabilize families so they can compete in the 21st century economy. If people can't maintain what economists call "Basic Spending" levels – on things like food, rent, health care, and transportation – then the entire economy suffers. By investing in public services that make Ohio's workforce more competitive, our economy is strengthened and Ohio thrives.

1 Early Care & Education



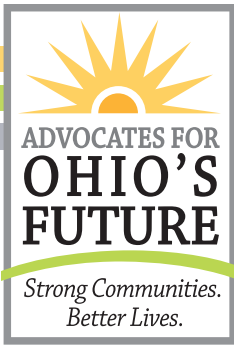
Research tells us that high-quality early childhood supports, such as home visiting and early education, are some of the most transformative strategies for helping children and families succeed. High-quality early learning and development helps ensure that children enter school ready to learn. To find out how advocates are strengthening Ohio's economy by building a better early care and education system, go to www.groundworkohio.org.

2 Stable Housing

Housing is the basis for opportunity. Stable housing strengthens the family foundation. It gives children the stability to learn and excel, and adults the ability to maintain employment. Stable housing strengthens the economy by improving living conditions and neighborhoods. Every \$10 million dollars invested in the Ohio Housing Trust Fund becomes \$90 million in housing construction across Ohio, as it leverages federal and private resources, rehabilitates vacant and abandoned properties, and improves communities. To learn more, visit www.cohhio.org.



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3 Child Welfare



Ohio's child welfare system ensures our children and youth have a safe and permanent family to become healthy, educated and competitive adults. It provides services to protect children, nurture families and strengthen communities. Without proper early intervention and treatment services for things like trauma and other behavioral health issues, our children do not do well in school, may drop out and lack the skills to be productive citizens in our communities. To learn more, visit www.pcsao.org or www.oacca.org.

4 Family Policy

Family-centered programs and services support raising healthy, well developed children and empower families so they can contribute to Ohio's economy. To find out more about how the Family and Children First Councils strengthen the economy in Ohio, visit www.fcf.ohio.gov.



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Advocates for Ohio's Future

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Advocates for Ohio's Future is a statewide coalition of over 400 local and statewide organizations that works to maintain vital public services—health, human services, and early care & education—to strengthen families and communities in Ohio.