

# Policy Progress Report



OHIO  
CHILDREN'S  
BUDGET  
2022-2023

## Progress Made to Improve the Well-Being of Children

<b>Infant/Maternal Health</b>	Extension from 60-days to <b>12-month postpartum Medicaid</b> coverage for new mothers
<b>Internet Connectivity</b>	<b>\$250 million for broadband infrastructure and access</b> , including specific funding for telehealth services to support behavioral health needs for children
<b>Evidence-Based Home Visiting</b>	Allocates \$41 million per year for the Help Me Grow Program and <b>expands access for children ages 3-5 who are in the child welfare system, in alignment with Ohio's Family First Prevention Services Plan</b>
<b>K-12 School Funding</b>	Addresses Ohio's currently unconstitutional school funding system through the inclusion of the phased-in Fair School Funding Plan which aims to <b>achieve greater equity in how Ohio funds K-12 education</b>
<b>Child Lead Exposure</b>	\$6.5 million increase to ODH's lead abatement program and reinvestment of \$10 million for SCHIP Lead program to <b>prevent children from lead exposure</b>
<b>Access to Quality Child Care</b>	Expanded income eligibility for publicly funded childcare access from 130% to <b>142% of the federal poverty level</b> and preservation, in part, of the Step Up to Quality Program

## Priorities for Child Well-Being Left Out of the Budget

<b>Earned Income Tax Credit</b>	Making the EITC refundable <b>helps balance tax fairness and economic stability for working families</b>
<b>Paid Family and Medical Leave</b>	Paid Leave supports <b>working families and healthy babies</b> and addresses racial health disparities in maternal and infant health outcomes
<b>Whole Child Wellbeing</b>	Enacted Budget folds in the Student Wellness and Success funds (SWSF), making funding for child health compete against funding for child educational supports, and ultimately, means less overall funding for our schools. <b>Ohio can both fully fund its schools and provide SWSF to meet the health needs of our children.</b>
<b>Medicaid Coverage of Doula Services</b>	Access to doula care during pregnancy <b>supports healthy outcomes</b> for both mother and child