



ADVOCACY AGENDA

MISSION

The Healthi Kids Coalition advocates for the creation of policies, systems, environments, and resources that advance the health and well-being of all children birth to age 8 in Rochester and the Finger Lakes region.

We advance policies to ensure all kids regardless of race, zip code, economic status, sexual orientation, immigration status, social status, gender, religion, or ability have the supports they need for the healthiest start in life.

VISION

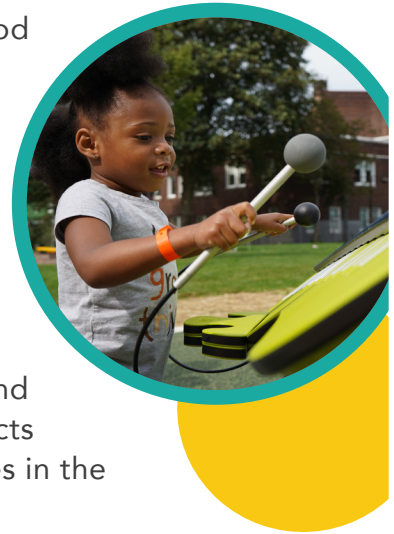
All kids in Rochester and the Finger Lakes region have a village - a connected community of caring adults to support them, and safe and supportive environments that will give them the healthiest start in life.

Together we will abolish inequities in Rochester and the Finger Lakes Region caused by racism, adverse childhood experiences, poverty, gender discrimination, ableism, and community violence to support the health and well-being of our youngest children.

healthikids.org

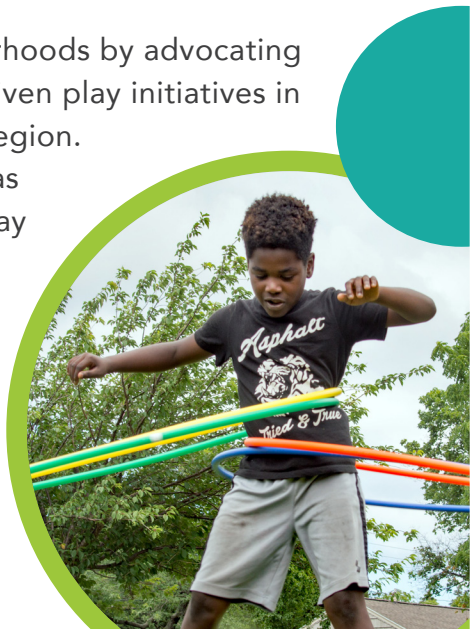
BUILD FOUNDATIONS FOR HEALTH IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

- Advance policies and practices that center infant and early childhood mental health to strengthen child-caregiver relationships and promote healing in all early childhood services and supports.
- Build an infant and early childhood mental health-informed workforce that is anti-racist, healing-centered, and relationship-focused, that reflects the diversity of kids and families in the communities they serve.
- Eliminate barriers to accessing high-quality early intervention services and preschool special education for all children.
- Advocate for policies and practices that center the importance of Black and Latino fathers to advance infant and early childhood health, development, and wellbeing.
- Promote access to culturally-responsive prenatal and postpartum support services.



PROMOTE THE POWER OF PLAY FOR EVERY CHILD IN EVERY PLACE

- Invest in safe, accessible infrastructure that supports every child's right to play in school and in their neighborhood.
- Promote playful neighborhoods by advocating for youth and resident driven play initiatives in communities across the region.
- Ensure that every child has access to unstructured play opportunities in early childcare settings and at school.
- Safeguard play as a cornerstone of school learning for pre-kindergarten through 3rd grade.





ADVANCE EQUITABLE COMMUNITIES FOR ALL KIDS TO GROW AND THRIVE

- Expand opportunities for healthy food and food education in homes and neighborhoods.
- Reduce the impact of crime and safety concerns on individual and community well-being.
- Advance changes to the built environment to ensure every family has healthy, supportive infrastructure in their neighborhoods, regardless of zip code.
- Support community efforts to eliminate the impacts of hazardous environmental exposure on children and families.

ENSURE EVERY CHILD IS HAPPY, HEALTHY AND SUPPORTED IN THE PLACES THEY LEARN

- Advance culturally responsive and sustaining policies in schools and early learning environments to improve quality nutrition, physical activity, and social-emotional health.
- Ensure that every child has opportunities for enrichment activities in community settings and high quality out-of-school time opportunities after school, on the weekends, and throughout the summer.
- Support relationship building as a foundation of trauma-informed, healing-centered early childhood education.
- Promote opportunities for inclusive family and community leadership in learning environments and community collaboratives.
- Advance policies and funding to support inclusive opportunities for Black and Latino fathers in all learning environments.

