



# Best Starts for Kids 2.0

## The proposal to renew the Best Starts for Kids levy

If approved by King County voters, the Best Starts for Kids levy will maintain current investments in promotion, prevention, and early intervention, and deepen investments to address critical needs in our communities.

Best Starts for Kids provides critical support during key windows of development in early childhood and adolescence, catalyzing strong and healthy starts in children's early years, and sustaining those gains through to adulthood.

If approved by King County voters, Best Starts for Kids will maintain programs across four investment areas:

- Invest Early: Programs for pregnant parents and children prenatal to age five
- Sustain the Gain: Programs for children, youth and young adults age five to 24
- Communities of Opportunity
- Youth and Family Homelessness Prevention Initiative (YFHPI)

The levy would also expand funding to meet new and newly visible needs within the COVID-19 pandemic and overdue racial justice reckoning. Specifically, the proposed levy invests in:

- A new child care subsidy program for more than 3,000 low-income children
- A new workforce demonstration project for low-wage child care workers
- Expansion of out of school time programs for school-age children
- Up to four new school-based health centers
- Expansion of transitions to adulthood programs for youth and young adults

### KEY LEVY DETAILS

**\$0.19 per \$1,000**

of a property's assessed value

**\$114 per year**

for a median-priced King County home

**\$873 million**

estimated revenue over six years





## Best Starts for KIDS



### Selected Outcomes from the First Five Years

To date, Best Starts for Kids has served more than half of a million King County children, youth, young adults, and families in partnership with more than five hundred community-based organizations.

Best Starts for Kids reached over **490,000** children and families with programs that support healthy development during a child's critical first five years. Many programs intentionally expanded services to reach communities that have historically lacked access to health and early learning services.

Approximately **40,000** young people participated in programs and received services that support them as they grow into healthy, happy, thriving adults. These programs provided support for children and

young people to develop leaderships skills, connect with their community, and succeed in school.

Communities of Opportunity invested in community-led initiatives to change policies and conditions in communities through collaboration with over **150** organizations to create more than 241 new community partnerships and build the skills and capacity of approximately **2,500** people serving in leadership positions.

Of the over **10,200** youth and families served by the Youth and Family Homelessness Prevention Initiative, 90 percent did not enter the homeless system while enrolled in the program and 96 percent of those completing the program remained housed one year after leaving.

### BEST STARTS BY NUMBERS

500,000+

children, youth, and parents or caregivers served through mid-2020

\$278M\*

invested throughout King County

500+

community partners

570

new community-led programs

\*Sum of levy expenditures through 2020



# Happy, healthy, safe and thriving