BLUEPRINT FOR CHILDREN

How the next president can build a foundation for a healthy future.
Goals of the *Blueprint*

- Articulate vision for what children need and how government can help achieve it
- Guide AAP’s engagement with next U.S. presidential administration
  - White House
  - Federal departments and agencies
- Engage partner organizations
- Integrate identified priorities into get out the vote (GOTV) efforts
Blueprint Development Process

• Input from AAP members
• First Draft
• External review
• Second Draft
• Approval and Endorsement
Input from AAP Members

1. Phone interviews
2. Staff discussions with committees and councils
3. Online survey: district chairs and vice chairs, section chairs, chapter presidents, past presidents
Word Cloud: Input from AAP Members
The following groups were offered the opportunity to provide feedback on the Blueprint:

- Academic Pediatric Association
- American Pediatric Society
- America's Promise Alliance
- Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs
- Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
- Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
- Children’s Defense Fund
- Children’s Hospital Association
- Family Voices
- First Focus
- Food Research and Action Center
- Georgetown Center for Children and Families
- March of Dimes
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
- Pediatric Policy Council
- Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine
- Society for Pediatric Research
- ZERO TO THREE
Endorsing Organizations
Structure of the *Blueprint*

2. Child Health Policy Agenda for the Next Administration
3. Recommendations for Federal Agencies and Departments
Comprehensive Review for Children and Families

“In its first 100 days, the next administration should seize the opportunity to direct all federal agencies to conduct a top-to-bottom review of how their activities can maintain progress made to date and boldly and proactively strive to better children’s lives.”
Child Health Policy Agenda for the Next Administration

HEALTHY CHILDREN

SECURE FAMILIES

STRONG COMMUNITIES

LEADING NATION

CHILD HEALTH POLICY AGENDA FOR THE NEXT ADMINISTRATION

To assist the next administration in putting children and families at the center of its agenda, the Blueprint offers the following policy agenda, which describes key issues and policies that will help make the nation’s future more secure and successful.

This agenda presents specific policy recommendations for the federal government to align its activities to optimize health outcomes, foster child health and well-being, strengthen families, support our communities, and maintain the position of the United States as a leading nation for children. Following the policy agenda are specific and detailed policy recommendations relevant to numerous federal departments and agencies that impact the lives of children.

HEALTHY CHILDREN

Child health is a strong predictor of adult health. Addressing health and development during childhood—from birth through adolescence—leads to improved life outcomes in many areas. Conversely, the inability to access health care services throughout the physical, mental, and social health and well-being of children and their caregivers.

The United States has succeeded in significantly expanding the number of children who have health insurance and, thus, has improved access to health care. From 1994 to the first quarter of 2018, the percentage of uninsured children declined from 29 percent to 6.4 percent. Today, 53.7 percent of U.S. children under age 18 are covered through private insurance, and 46.2 percent are covered by public plans, including Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP). These programs, combined with the Affordable Care Act (ACA), have reduced the number of uninsured children to a record low and helped millions of children, adolescents, and young adults access high-quality health care. These individuals now have better access to preventive health services, timely identification and treatment of illness, and improved health over the life span. And yet, about one in seven U.S. children still lack health insurance, jeopardizing their health and well-being.

The next administration must expand coverage so that all children in the United States, regardless of immigration status, have access to the services they need to stay healthy and build a strong foundation for lifelong wellness. In addition, many children, particularly those with special healthcare needs, remain undereadied, creating serious financial problems for their families.

Having insurance coverage is not enough on its own, however. Coverage must be designed so that it is age-appropriate and specifically designed to address the needs...
GOALS FOR HEALTHY CHILDREN:

The 45th president must ensure that all children have access to the highest-quality health care so they can thrive throughout their lifespan. The next administration must ensure that all children, regardless of their immigration status:

- have affordable and high-quality health care coverage,
- have insurance with comprehensive, pediatric-appropriate benefits,
- have access to needed primary and subspecialty pediatric care and mental health services, and
- receive comprehensive, family-centered care in a medical home.
Policy Recommendations

HEALTHY CHILDREN

- Strengthen/renew CHIP
- Essential health benefits for all
- Improve ACA benefits and costs
- Encourage enrollment
- Improve TRICARE
- Promote maternal and child health programs

- Expand loan repayment for pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists
- Improve financing for team-based medical and mental health care
- Address Medicare/Medicaid payment inequity
- Protect entitlements from block grants
GOALS FOR SECURE FAMILIES

The 45th president must advance efforts to ensure that parents can give their children the best foundation for the future. The next administration must ensure that all families have:

- work that provides a stable and adequate income and family-friendly benefits,
- safe and secure housing,
- affordable and safe child care,
- access to adequate, healthy, nutritious foods throughout the year, and
- resources that support positive parenting skills training.
Policy Recommendations

**SECURE FAMILIES**

- Lift families out of poverty by strengthening EITC, CTC, TANF, and family and medical leave
- Support for affordable child care programs
- End family homelessness, expand rental assistance
- Strengthen programs for at-risk parents (MIECHV)
- Improve child welfare system
- Strengthen federal nutrition programs like WIC, SNAP, school meals
GOALS FOR STRONG COMMUNITIES

The 45th president must advance efforts to ensure that communities are safe and can mitigate social disparities in order to build a strong and resilient society. The next administration must help create communities that:

- are safe from violence and environmental hazards,
- provide high-quality early education programs,
- support public health systems that protect children from infectious diseases and support maternal and child health, and
- respond effectively when disasters and public health emergencies occur.
Policy Recommendations

STRONG COMMUNITIES

• Conduct gun violence research
• Enact common-sense gun violence prevention policies
• Expand Early Head Start, Head Start, pre-kindergarten
• Strengthen environmental protection laws
• Address outdated infrastructure
• Improve built environment
• Support vaccination programs
• Fully fund disaster preparedness programs
GOALS FOR A LEADING NATION

The 45th president must safeguard the nation’s position as a global leader for children. The next administration must ensure that the United States:

- promotes biomedical, public health, and health services research to help children grow into healthy adults,
- develops innovative new therapies for pediatric diseases,
- guides global efforts to address non-communicable diseases in children,
- aggressively addresses climate change,
- addresses factors that make some children more vulnerable than others, such as race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity, and disability, and
- reforms our broken immigration system.
Policy Recommendations

• Repeal discretionary spending limits
• Strengthen foreign aid
• Increase pediatric research funding
• Expand pediatric drug development policies
• Support policies to address climate change
• Enforce civil rights protections
• Comprehensive immigration reform
Recommendations for Federal Agencies and Departments

- Vision
- Recommended Administrative Actions
- Recommended Congressional Actions
- Funding Priorities
Recommendations for Federal Agencies and Departments

- Department of Health and Human Services
  - Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response
  - Administration for Children and Families
  - Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
  - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  - Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
  - Food and Drug Administration
- Health Resources and Services Administration
  - Indian Health Service
  - National Institutes of Health
  - Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Defense
- Department of Education
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Department of Justice
- Department of Labor
- Department of Transportation
- Department of the Treasury
- Consumer Product Safety Commission
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Social Security Administration
- Foreign Assistance Programs
Dissemination

- Sent to presidential campaigns
- Distributed to media
- Emailed to all AAP members
- Sent to partner organizations
- Emailed to all members of Congress
- Washington, DC launch event on September 19
- AAP NCE launch event: Sunday, October 23
Launch Event

Monday, September 19

HOST
Karen Remley, MD, MBA, MPH, FAAP
CEO/Executive Director
American Academy of Pediatrics

MODERATOR
Richard Besser, MD, FAAP
Chief Health and Medical Editor
ABC News

PANELISTS
Jared Bernstein, PhD
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President
American Academy of Pediatrics

Mona Hanna-Attisha, MD, MPH, FAAP
Director, Hurley Children’s Hospital Pediatric Public Health Initiative

Alma J. Powell
Chair
America’s Promise Alliance

SPEAKING UP FOR CHILDREN
A Conversation about Child Health in the Next Administration
Launch Event:
Watch on aap.org

The full launch event and panel discussion is archived and can be viewed on the AAP website at aap.org/blueprint.
Sunday, October 23

SPECIAL EVENT (Not Designated for CME Credit)

5:45PM - 6:15PM

Election 2016 Spotlight: Pediatricians’ Role in Shaping the Future for Children

Moscone West, 1st Floor Lobby

There is a lot at stake for children this election, and pediatricians have an important role to play in speaking up for their needs. During this informal and interactive session, hear directly from Academy leaders about our new plan for what children need from the next president and administration as they share the Academy’s Blueprint for Children: How the Next President Can Build a Foundation for a Healthy Future. With Election Day just around the corner on Nov. 8, pediatricians can also help Get Out the Vote through the Academy’s #VoteKids campaign. AAP leaders will share how pediatricians can help make children a meaningful part of the election conversation. Please join us!
**Key Dates**

- **Summer 2016:** Campaigns start transition planning
- **November 8:** Election Day
- **November 9:** First official day of transition
- **January 20, 2017:** Inauguration Day
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