1 in 5 California children live in poverty, impacting almost 2 million children

- 450,000 children live in deep poverty (their families earn less than $12,500 per year)
- California’s high cost of living makes the child poverty problem worse

California’s Lifting Children and Families Out of Poverty Task Force (created by Assembly Bill 1520 [2017, Burke]) issued its comprehensive recommendations—the End Child Poverty Plan—at the end of 2018.

1. A Targeted Child Tax Credit that will put more cash back into families’ pockets to support the basic necessities of daily living.

2. CalWORKS safety net grant increases that will bring families receiving CalWORKS to 50% of the federal poverty line (deep poverty), as promised in 2018’s CA budget.

3. Expansion of the California Earned Income Tax Credit to build on the success of the current program as a critical anti-poverty tool for working families.

4. Guaranteed access to early care and education for children 0–8 living in poverty.

5. Expanded, voluntary home visiting programs to support families with young children.

6. 20 additional Promise Neighborhoods offering coordinated, community-driven support services.

7. Strengthened, connected, and coordinated workforce training programs for up-skilled jobs that can fundamentally support sustainable upward mobility.

8. Expanded access to Medi-Cal health care for all families at risk of poverty, and increased access to community clinics.

9. Expansion of emergency child care for foster care families, and access to housing for youth aging out of foster care.

10. Rental subsidies for homeless families and families living in poverty.

The End Child Poverty Plan recommendations are comprehensive, coordinated and meant to be implemented together. GRACE, the non-profit that co-chaired the Task Force, and a wide range of partners will be working with legislators to sponsor legislation to implement the End Child Poverty Plan.

Find out more and sign up for updates and advocacy opportunities: endchildpovertyca.org.

Join in the conversation and ask questions using the handle @endchildpovca and the hashtags #EndChildPoverty and #PassThePlan on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.