

How to Get a Local End Child Poverty California Resolution Passed

Working with local organizing committees to campaign and pass local resolutions is a key campaign tool. Take a look at the overview below. The End Child Poverty California 2020 Resolution itself is at the end of this document. Contact Carlo (cgomez@doloreshuerta.org) for support, brainstorming, and to ask any questions you have.

Initial organizing planning meeting/call

An initial planning meeting with key local partners in the target region is a good way to bring community together and build a core group that can work to get the resolution passed. At these initial meetings, we will lay out the goals of the Campaign and decide on a regular meeting time or conference call that will work for the group.

Laying the plan

The first step to passing a resolution is doing some research and planning a strategy. We will identify regional goals, identify secondary target (identify your targets — the people who have the power to give you what you want) that we can engage to pass resolutions in support of End Child Poverty California Campaign, and map out a strategy for moving the resolution(s) forward.

Resources and potential allies

Identify our organizing committee groups and what resources each bring. Figure out who has relationships with entities or elected officials we want to engage to pass our resolution(s). Organizing committees will identify potential allies we need to recruit to help garner and strengthen our effort.

Outreach

We will outreach to individuals and organizations in your community in order to show a broad base of support behind our resolution(s).

Individuals

There's power in numbers. With our petition drive, we can engage those who signed to support our local resolution drive. We can talk to both individuals and organizations and invite them to get involved in the Campaign and take action by supporting our local resolution(s).

Organizations

Outreaching to key groups can help demonstrate a broader base of support because they represent larger numbers of people from diverse perspectives. Organizing committees at the local level can brainstorm a list of community or neighborhood groups, such as churches, co-ops, school groups, medical or public health groups and others who likely care about our issue. We will reach out and ask for their support, and ask that they send information about how to support passage of resolutions through their networks.

Meet with representatives of entities where we want our resolution passed

Identifying who in a network, coalition, city council, etc. can best sponsor our resolution is key. This person (or people) will likely to be a strong supporter who has good relationships with other members of their entity. When we meet with them, we will try to bring other constituents and influential members of the community who can help commit them to becoming an advocate. At the end of the meeting, you should have a firm commitment to introduce the resolution (or agree on a follow-up plan if they need time to think about it), and we should get an idea of who we should outreach to next to make sure you have the votes you need to pass our resolution.

Media & Follow-up

Once our resolution passes, we will use the media and press to lift up the issues highlighted in our resolution to End Child Poverty in California. We will also think of creative ways to present the approved resolution to our targets to show our appreciation of their support.

Questions: Reach out to Carlo (cgomez@doloreshuerta.org) for support.

End Child Poverty in California 2020 Resolution

WHEREAS, California is the 5th largest economy in the world; and

WHEREAS, California has the largest number and highest percentage of children living in poverty in the nation; and

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

WHEREAS, California has approximately 450,000 children living in extreme (deep) poverty, unable to meet their basic needs; and

WHEREAS, California has an affordability crisis, exacerbating the impact of poverty; and

WHEREAS, California families are struggling, working multiple jobs, to try to make ends meet; and

WHEREAS, According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, poverty has a profound effect on specific circumstances, such as birth weight, infant mortality, language development, chronic illness, environmental exposure, nutrition, and injury; and

WHEREAS, Child poverty also influences genomic function and brain development by exposure to toxic stress; and

WHEREAS, California children living in poverty are disproportionately children of color; and

WHEREAS, In November 2018, the Department of Social Services issued the Lifting Children and Families Out of Poverty Report and known as the End Child Poverty Plan; and

WHEREAS, The Lifting Children and Families Out of Poverty Task Force was created by the California state government and a broad set of stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, The End Child Poverty Plan is research-based, community-informed, and achievable; and

WHEREAS, These comprehensive recommendations will eliminate deep child poverty for 450,000 California children when fully implemented; and

WHEREAS, These recommendations will also dramatically reduce overall child poverty in our state while working to break the cycles of intergenerational poverty; and

WHEREAS, Investing in nutrition, health care, and other essential needs keeps children learning, parents working, families strong, and allows all of us to contribute fully to our communities; and

WHEREAS, California recognizes the value of public investments targeted to supporting children living in deep poverty; now, therefore, be it

(Cont'd, 1 of 2)

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, that the Legislature makes a commitment to ending deep child poverty and reducing overall poverty for all families by adopting the policy actions:

- 1) **Safety Net:** Expand the Young Child Tax Credit to address the needs of families living in deep poverty; Ensure that ALL California families, based on income level, are eligible for the California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC) and the Young Child Tax Credit, inclusive of mixed-immigration-status families; and Ensure that the Child Support System does not further exacerbate poverty for children in CA.
- 2) **Early Care and Education:** Close the Child Care Gap for families living in poverty; Restructure the Early Care and Education rate structure to ensure that it is fair and equitable, inclusive of fair wages and labor practices for child care workers.
- 3) **Coordinated Services:** Fund and expand upon models similar to Promise Neighborhoods, which leverage place-based investments to improve the health, education, economic stability and well-being of children living in poverty.
- 4) **Healthcare:** Expand Medi-Cal to ALL California Families up to 138% of the poverty level, regardless of immigration status; Expand investments to establish more community-based clinics, inclusive of school-based clinics.
- 5) **Housing:** Create a Housing Loan Fund structure to expand the infrastructure of housing for ALL Californians, targeted at expanding housing to alleviate the housing challenges of poor families.
- 6) **Special Populations (Foster Care, Juvenile Justice):** Eliminate fines and fees for system-involved youth and their families.