

# Six Big Wins for Children First



## Extra state funding for the 100 poorest school districts

*Children First*, with our Start Strong Coalition partners, successfully advocated for a 50% boost to state funding for Philadelphia schools in 2020. That's a seven-year increase, totaling \$389 million on a recurring basis.

## \$240 million in new state funding for Pre-K and Head Start

For seven consecutive years, *Children First*, in partnership with the Pre-K for PA campaign, has secured increased funding for Pre-K and Head Start, allowing more than 94,400 children to have greater access to high-quality early childhood education.

## Philadelphia Soda Tax enacted

Four thousand more children a year will be in free, high-quality Pre-K programs, and 71 playgrounds, small parks and neighborhood libraries are being rebuilt thanks to *Children First's* strong advocacy and coalition building efforts.

## Dedicated funding for Philadelphia public schools

One percent of Philadelphia's sales tax is now dedicated to public schools - \$25 million annually thanks to *Children First*. Additionally, we stopped a state effort to repeal the cigarette tax – protecting \$45 million annually for Philly schools.

## Lead protections to keep children lead safe

*Children First* worked with leaders in Philadelphia to enact the country's toughest lead poisoning prevention law. Norristown is poised to pass an even stronger ordinance in Fall 2021 following our advocacy efforts.

## Youth Ombudspersons Office created

*Children First* worked with thought leaders from across the City to create a safe place that children in residential or detention institutions could call if they were in trouble - a \$500 million investment.