



## CCF CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE (2020)

*For new candidates:* What issue related to the well-being of Washington's children is most important to you, and what are your suggestions for how to address this issue in the legislature?

*For sitting legislators:* What bills/issues that you have advanced affecting children and families are you most proud of?

When our economy was booming, almost 21% of our youth lived in households that struggled to find food. That percentage of children and families needing basic food has increased as unemployment has climbed. What should the legislature do to address this problem and will you support that policy action?

Recent events have increased the historical mistrust between the police and communities of color -- specifically the Black community. This has caused tremendous trauma in children, youth, and families for generations. What ideas do you have to address this problem in the legislature?

What ideas do you have for the legislature to address the impacts of systemic racism on the available opportunities, health, well-being, and life expectancy of children and youth of color in Washington?

Research indicates that the first five years of a child's life are critical for developing learning skills. Investing in early learning can yield great returns later in life. Families are also struggling to secure affordable childcare. In light of the budget cuts that are anticipated, will you advocate to maintain current investment in high quality childcare and pre-school opportunities for children in Washington to get kids ready for kindergarten?

During the great recession, funding for the foster care system was severely impacted resulting in fewer caseworkers, fewer support services, fewer foster families recruited. These cuts severely limited the state's ability to serve families and protect children. Will you stand up to support funding for foster care to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children in care and their families?

Most recent data indicate that over 40,000 students (K-12) are homeless across Washington state. How do you think this crisis can be addressed by the legislature?

As of now, we know that over a million workers have lost jobs and many of those have also lost the health insurance they have counted on. How would you improve access to health and mental health for children, youth and families?

We are facing unprecedented challenges transitioning to an increasingly virtual environment including schools, the justice system, health and mental health care. Unfortunately many children and families do not have the technology and necessary access to navigate this transition. What will you do to make sure access to technology is not an obstacle for Washington's children and families?

Budget cuts during the last recession disproportionately impacted children and families. We believe children's programs and issues must be prioritized in the state budget. Knowing that there will be a major decline in revenue and the legislature will be making budget cuts as a result of COVID 19, what are your thoughts about raising revenue to assure critical programs serving children and families will be available in Washington State?

**Learn More: [www.childrenscampaignfund.org](http://www.childrenscampaignfund.org)**