

**Vote for Children's Health:** Put the Health of Children and Their Environments at the Center

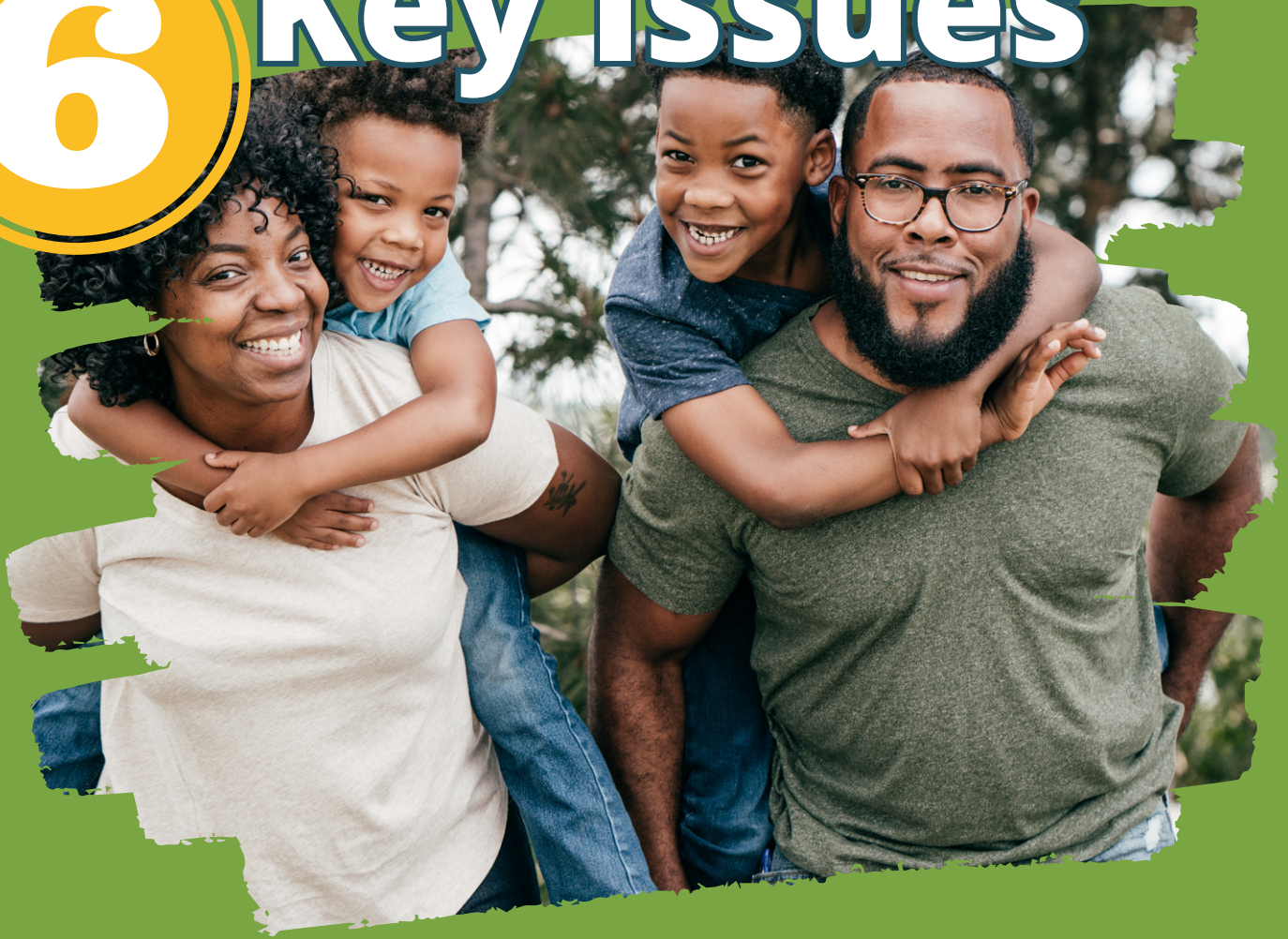


**Considerations for  
Voters in the 2024  
Elections**





# Key Issues



## YOUR VOTE MATTERS

ALL children deserve clean air and water, safe food, toys and products, stable climates, and healthy environments in which to live, learn, play, and work.

Children's health and their communities have NOT been at the forefront of our Nation's policies and programs.

The 2024 elections offer an opportunity to reset our national, state, and local priorities and to put children's health and their environment FIRST.

Children cannot vote, but YOU can.

We need political leaders at all levels of government who put the health of children, their future, and their families first.

As you go to the polls, think about the following 6 issues and consider where each candidate stands.



# Vote for everyone's right to vote.



*Voter suppression disproportionately affects people of color and perpetuates and deepens racial and health inequities. Protecting voter rights ensures inclusive public policy, especially at the state level. This improves the health of communities, families, and children.*

## Vote for candidates who:

- ✓ Oppose voter suppression laws, such as discriminatory voter ID laws and those that target youth
- ✓ Oppose the elimination of voting locations in under-resourced communities
- ✓ Support voting by mail and voting early
- ✓ Support laws against intimidation of voters and election workers
- ✓ Champion inclusive voting policies



## Vote for children's health and equity.



*Children are more vulnerable to environmental hazards. Black, Brown, and Indigenous children and those living in under-resourced communities are at greatest risk from the negative health impacts of environmental hazards.*

### Vote for candidates who:

- ✓ Support health coverage and access and delivery of quality health care for all children
- ✓ Support policies and programs that promote equity by addressing poverty and systemic racism
- ✓ Ensure that communities have a leading voice in decisions that impact their health, their environment, and their quality of life
- ✓ Support access to safe and healthy, high quality, affordable housing, child care, and schools for all children





## Vote for climate action.



*Children are especially vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate change. Those most at risk include children of color, those living in poverty, those with pre-existing illness or disability, infants, and pregnant women.*

### Vote for candidates who:

- ✓ Support policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- ✓ Prioritize community-led mitigation and adaptation plans
- ✓ Support clean energy alternatives and a just transition away from coal, oil, natural gas, and waste and biomass incineration
- ✓ Support policies to build equitable, prepared, climate-resilient communities
- ✓ Support policies and investments in community-led mental wellness programs and services



## Vote for clean air.



*More than 27 million children live in U.S. counties with unhealthy levels of air pollution. Of these children, approximately 1.7 million have asthma.*

### **Vote for candidates who:**

- ✓ Support strong and equitable clean air policies, including those that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and hazardous air pollutants
- ✓ Support active transportation policies and promote cleaner cars, trucks, planes, trains, and ships
- ✓ Support expanded monitoring, especially in communities nearest to polluting industries or high-traffic roadways, and support strict enforcement of standards





# Vote for clean water.



*Many children in the U.S. drink contaminated water, whether from public systems or private wells. Contaminants may include disease-causing bacteria such as E. coli, heavy metals such as lead (which harms children's brains), and carcinogens such as PFAS and radon.*

## Vote for candidates who:

- ✓ Restore and support policies that ensure clean water for all
- ✓ Support equitable investment in state and local infrastructure, including accelerated full lead service line replacements
- ✓ Support testing and reporting standards for privately owned water sources



# Vote for toxics-free environments and products



*Children in the U.S. are exposed to thousands of chemicals every day through food, drinking water, air pollution, and consumer products. Of the over 86,000 chemicals in use in the U.S., many can be found in toys and everyday products, and most are untested for safety. Pesticides and toxic chemicals such as PFAS, are associated with a number of children's health concerns, including childhood cancer which has increased by 41% since the 1970s.*

## **Vote for candidates who:**

- ✓ Support full and transparent implementation and enforcement of chemical safety policy, towards a toxic-free economy
- ✓ Support state and federal bans on toxic pesticides and the non-essential use of PFAS
- ✓ Support the use of science in environmental rule-making
- ✓ Prioritize an end to lead poisoning



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**#Vote4Kids**  
**#ChildrenAtTheCenter**



For over 30 years, the Children's Environmental Health Network (CEHN) - a national multi-disciplinary organization - has been working to protect all children from environmental health hazards and promote a healthier environment and stable climates.

