

Voter-Approved Children's Fund Community of Practice

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Across the nation many communities have realized the power and impact of [voter-approved children's funds](#)—so much so that there are now [52 such funds at the local level](#) nationwide that together raise \$1.6 billion dollars annually for children and youth. A voter-approved children's fund refers to local public revenue that is dedicated to children's services in an election by voters. While local voter-approved children's funds do not finance cradle-to-career systems in full, they offer the flexibility and infrastructure communities need to maximize multiple funding sources and to fill the gap left by federal and state funding.

What Is the Voter-Approved Children's Fund Community of Practice?

Since 2021, Children's Funding Project, with support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, has engaged with CEOs, presidents, executive directors, and other senior leaders of voter-approved children's funds through a community of practice. More than 25 voter-approved children's funds have engaged with the community of practice. The community of practice provides opportunities for senior fund leaders to engage in peer learning and share ideas and resources. Discussion topics include how to communicate impact to the community, strengthening funding systems and efforts, and how to engage parents and providers.

Children's Funding Project staffs the community of practice and provides the following types of support:

1. Virtual and in-person peer learning opportunities
2. Exclusive access to subject matter experts on topics including communications, enrollment, and evaluation for one-on-one support
3. Tools and resources to support implementation of voter-approved children's funds

Children's Funding Project is a nonprofit social impact organization that helps communities, states, and Native nations expand equitable opportunities for children and youth through strategic public financing. childrensfundingproject.org



Who Should Join the Community of Practice?

1. Senior leadership of established voter-approved children's funds including CEOs, presidents, and executive directors
2. Transition teams of newly or soon-to-be established voter-approved children's funds

How Do I Join?

Please email marina@childrensfundingproject.org for more information about how to gain access to the meeting invitations and resources.

What if My Community Does Not Have a Children's Fund?

We understand that not every community can create a voter-approved children's fund due to local or state laws and regulations. Children's Funding Project remains dedicated to helping every community create dedicated funding through public investments for children and youth. For ways to find sources of additional funding that might be right for your community please contact Reginald Harris, senior manager, sourcing additional funding at reginald@childrensfundingproject.org.

If your community is considering establishing a voter-approved children's fund via a local ballot initiative, please consider joining Children's Funding Project's ballot measure cohort. For more information about the cohort please contact Daniel Whitaker, senior policy associate, at daniel@childrensfundingproject.org.