



2020 POLICY PLATFORM

F5VC's Policy Priorities are aligned with the four strategic priorities and goals outlined in our 2015 – 2020 Strategic Plan. These priorities are intended to help us achieve the vision that all children thrive in healthy, supported environments.

1. Children Grow Up Healthy
 - a. Ensure all children prenatal to age 5 and their families have and utilize comprehensive health and dental insurance
 - b. Increase routine screenings for prenatal substance use, developmental delays, childhood trauma, and parental mental health, and improve the system for referral and follow-up through our Help Me Grow system of care
 - c. Address the social determinants of health and promote general healthy practices such as good oral health, healthy eating, physical activity, and breastfeeding, and avoiding exposure to harmful substances including tobacco, marijuana, and illicit substances
2. Children Enter School Ready to Learn
 - a. Promote the importance of the early years (prenatal – age three) and early relational health including home visitation programs and developmental screenings, optimum attachment and bonding, and early literacy experiences, particularly through Family Resource Centers
 - b. Increase access to high quality early care and education programs for young children and their families, including through facilities, funding, and available spaces
 - c. Strengthen the compensation and professional qualification of the early childhood workforce
3. Parents Have the Knowledge and Resources They Need
 - a. Increase parent and caregiver knowledge, understanding, and awareness of opportunities for early childhood development, healthy lifestyles, and the impact of trauma and toxic stress
 - b. Increase social connections and support for parents, through policies promoting improved family leave, flexible work schedules, and family friendly benefits
 - c. Provide parents, families, and the community with relevant, timely and culturally appropriate information, services, and support, especially for immigrant families who regularly report fear of utilizing services
4. Communities are Engaged in Supporting and Prioritizing Children
 - a. Support communities to prioritize the health, education, and well-being of young children
 - b. Address and prevent childhood poverty, abuse, and neglect
 - c. Increase awareness among policymakers and business owners around the importance of investing in early childhood
 - d. Ensure a complete and accurate count of children 0 – 5 in the 2020 Census