

Investing in Kids – Investing in Iowa’s Future

All Kids Deserve A Strong Start.

By age 5, a child’s brain is already nearly completely developed. During these early years of brain development, it is critical to invest in kids’ futures by providing early learning opportunities.

The Problem.

According to the Annie E. Casey Foundation, more than half of Iowa’s 3- and 4-year-olds were not enrolled in a pre-K program in 2014. In the same year, Iowa ranked 32nd in the nation in state-spending on preschool. Therefore, thousands of Iowa children do not arrive at kindergarten with opportunities equal to those of their peers. Without access to high-quality early learning programs, children fall behind. Many never catch up.

The Solution.

Save the Children Action Network (SCAN) is working with early learning coalition leaders in Iowa to call on elected officials to prioritize a child’s early years and give all kids a bright future. We support efforts to advance early childhood policies that improve and expand high-quality early learning programs in Iowa.

The Strategy.

High-quality early childhood education is an investment Iowa needs to make in order to give all kids a fair start. If we’re going to build the business, political, military and community leaders of the future, we need to invest in young children today. Effective early childhood education programs not only prepare children for school, but also empower parents to influence their child’s academic success.

About Us.

Founded by Save the Children in 2014, Save the Children Action Network (SCAN) is the political voice for kids. We believe that every child deserves the best start in life. As the political advocacy arm of Save the Children, we’re building bipartisan will and voter support to make sure every child in the U.S. has access to high-quality early learning and that no mother or child around the globe dies from a preventable disease or illness. By investing in kids and holding leaders accountable, we are helping kids from birth to age five survive and thrive.



How We’re Investing in Iowa’s Children

- **Mobilizing Iowa voters to take bold action to hold our policy makers and presidential hopefuls accountable to children.**
- **Cultivating bipartisan support for early childhood education to ensure voters and candidates prioritize investing in early learning.**
- **Working with Iowa state legislators to ensure state leaders create legislation that increases access to high-quality early learning programs.**

