

INVESTING IN VIRGINIA'S FUTURE

Invest in Kids. Invest in Virginia.

Who We Are

Save the Children Action Network (SCAN), founded in 2014 as the political advocacy arm of Save the Children, is building bipartisan support to make sure every child has a strong start in life. We're doing this by advocating for high-quality early learning, ending child hunger in the U.S. and educating and protecting kids around the world. In Virginia, SCAN is addressing urgent issues such as the lack of affordable, high-quality early childhood education and child hunger.



What We Do

Through bold grassroots action, powerful storytelling, and direct engagement with candidates and lawmakers, Save the Children Action Network is transforming how policy gets made in Virginia. SCAN's Virginia volunteers are building lasting relationships with decision-makers to drive investments that expand early education access, improve child care options, end child hunger, and secure a stronger future workforce. SCAN doesn't just advocate—we mobilize, influence, and deliver results for kids.

In Virginia, SCAN's work is led by dedicated volunteers, including Student Ambassadors, Volunteer Leaders and our regional Community Action Teams, who work hard to make sure every child has a better start in life.



Our 2025 Wins



Reached more than **180,000** voters via our digital ads



Helped to **win** the Gubernatorial race Governor-elect Abigail Spanberger



450 voters reached on the doors and by handwritten postcards



Built relationships with elected officials, proving SCAN's impact and cementing our value-add across the Commonwealth ahead of the 2026 legislative session



Supported to **expand** a bipartisan bench of champions for kids in the Virginia legislature
15 of 17 endorsed candidates won their races

Leading the Charge: SCAN'S Vision for Virginia

Making Child Care More Affordable and Accessible:

SCAN is actively advocating for an additional **13,300 child care slots** in Virginia, ensuring **at least 50% of eligible children** can access publicly funded early learning programs. This investment will help families who are currently on waitlists, giving children the school readiness skills they need and allowing parents to fully participate in the workforce.

Supporting Quality Child Care in the Commonwealth:

SCAN is advocating for a **cost-of-quality funding model** that reflects changes in child care demand and ensures providers are paid fairly. We also support creating a **dedicated child care investment fund** to strengthen Virginia's early learning system and help providers deliver high-quality care.



2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Child Care and Early Learning Priorities

- **Secure Increased State Funding for the Child Care Subsidy Program (CCSP)** to reduce the waitlist and ensure more children have access to affordable, high-quality early learning.
- **Invest in Virginia's Early Education Workforce** by supporting pay parity, professional development, and retention strategies for child care educators.
- **Expand Access to Pre-K and Early Childhood Programs** by increasing enrollment opportunities for eligible children and improving coordination across state agencies.
- **Strengthen Family and Community Engagement** through funding and programs that help parents advocate for and access early learning resources.
- **Advance Long-Term Child Care Solutions** by supporting sustainable state and federal investments that stabilize the early childhood system.

Advocacy and Public Awareness Priorities

- **Build Broad Bipartisan Support for Child Care** by engaging lawmakers, business leaders, and local partners to prioritize early learning investments in the 2026 state budget.
- **Mobilize Grassroots Advocates** through training, digital campaigns, and community events to elevate stories of Virginia families affected by the child care crisis.
- **Highlight the Economic Benefits of Child Care** by sharing research that connects affordable early learning to workforce participation and economic growth.
- **Leverage Digital and Earned Media Campaigns** to increase public awareness about the urgent need for child care funding and support.

Get Involved

Join the movement: Be part of the campaign to expand early learning access.

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