

Investing in the Future: Philanthropy's Role in Strategic Public Financing for Children

March 19, 2024



Panelists



Todd A. Battiste
Senior Vice President,
Education & Youth
United Way of Southeast
Louisiana



Heather Flaherty
Executive Director
Chuckanut Health
Foundation



September Jarrett
Program Officer,
Education
Heising-Simons Foundation



Trevor Storrs
President & CEO
Alaska Children's Trust

Moderator



Elizabeth Gaines
Founder and CEO
Children's Funding Project



VISION

We envision a nation where all children and youth thrive because all communities maintain equitable, coordinated, and sustainable funding for comprehensive programs and services.



MISSION

Children's Funding Project helps communities and states expand equitable opportunities for children and youth through strategic public financing.



Building a strategic public financing movement with states, localities, and Native nations

From questions...

...to opportunities

➤ **Current Funding**

How much funding supports our goals right now?



Fiscal mapping

➤ **Needed Funding**

How much will it cost to fund our goals in full?



Cost modeling and estimation

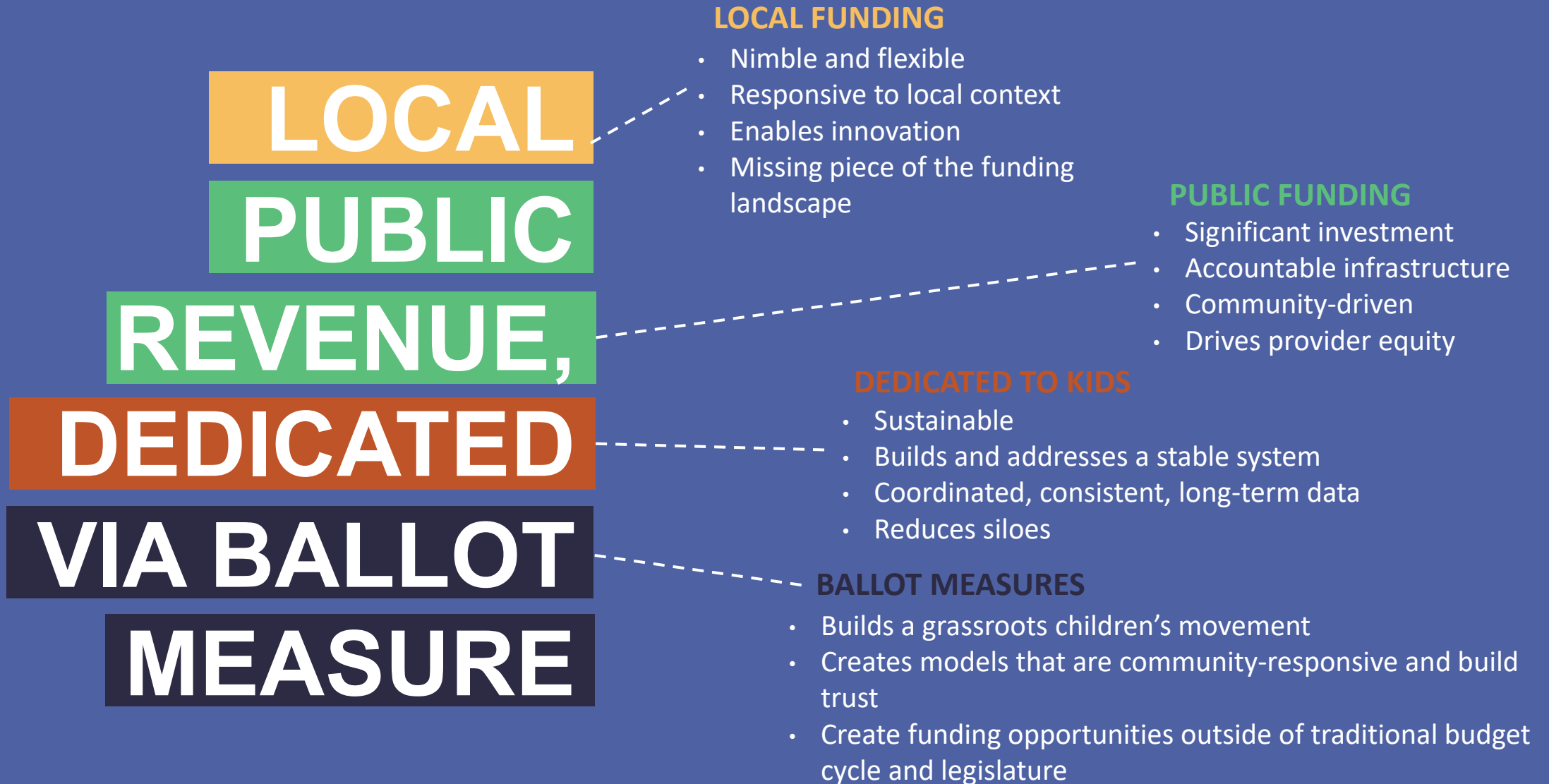
➤ **Additional Funding**

How do we fill the gap between current funding and fully funding our goals?



Sources of additional funding

What Is a Voter-Approved Children's Fund?



North Star Goal

Vastly increase public investment
in early care and education

A young green plant with several leaves is growing out of a large pile of gold coins. The plant is positioned in the center of the frame, and the coins are scattered around its base. The background is a light, neutral color, making the plant and coins stand out.

BENEFITS OF LOCAL DEDICATED FUNDING FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH



Results have been TRANSFORMATIVE



Children's Funding Accelerator

501(c)4 supporting non-partisan voter-approved children's fund campaigns.



OUR MISSION

Children's Funding Accelerator helps communities translate voter support for early childhood development into dedicated and sustained public investments.

WHAT WE DO

Children's Funding Accelerator acts as a non-partisan campaign partner to early childhood funding ballot measures, providing resources in the form of:

Financial contributions:

We target our campaign contributions to help campaigns get off the ground, elicit local matching dollars, meet unexpected challenges, and get across the finish line.

Strategic coaching:

Our team checks in regularly with campaigns and provides strategic guidance, resource referral, troubleshooting, and coaching as needed on topics including messaging, vendor management, coalition-building, and policy design.

Access to a network of campaign experts:

We have a growing consortium of campaign experts from across the country who are motivated to help children's funding campaigns win.

A 501c4 pooled fund supporting ballot measures to fund early childhood development.

OUR GOALS

At Children's Funding Accelerator we aim to:



FUND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Increase access to high quality early childhood development opportunities through dedicated public funding streams



STRENGTHEN POLITICAL POWER

Build the early childhood field's capacity to conduct successful policy advocacy campaigns through coaching and financial assistance



BUILD GRASSROOTS COALITIONS

Cultivate a national movement around child well-being by engaging local voters in early childhood funding campaigns

OUR WINS

Since 2020, Children's Funding Accelerator has contributed to 13 campaigns that together generate **more than half a billion dollars for kids annually.**



CONTACT US

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What can funders do?

Read more: [The Role of Funders in Strategic Public Financing](#)



CONVENE

Bring together people, community-wide, to define shared goals and spending priorities for OST



BUILD CAPACITY

Fund capacity building grants to prep orgs to apply for (and win) federal funds; Support intermediaries; Fund a “Children’s Funding Coordinator” position



RESEARCH

Commission research on potential new sources of revenue the state, city, or county could dedicate to kids; Commission cost studies/models



RAISE AWARENESS

Fund the polling, messaging, grassroots organizing, and public education required to win campaigns

Questions & Discussion

Upcoming GLR Learning Tuesdays Webinars

GLR LEARNING TUESDAYS, PARTNER WEBINAR

The Power of Place: Embedding Two-Generation Approaches in Housing Developments

Tuesday, March 19, 3–4:30 p.m. ET/12–1:30 p.m. PT

GLR LEARNING TUESDAYS, PARTNER WEBINAR

Assessing Assessments: Ensuring Quality and Equity in Teacher Licensure

Tuesday, March 26, 3–4:30 p.m. ET/12–1:30 p.m. PT

GLR LEARNING TUESDAYS, KINDERGARTEN MATTERS

Starting Strong: Developing Foundational Life Skills in Kindergarten

Tuesday, April 2, 3–4:30 p.m. ET/12–1:30 p.m. PT

CRUCIBLE OF PRACTICE SALON

Conversation With Greater Watertown Community Health Foundation

Tuesday, April 9, 12:30–2 p.m. ET/9–11:30 a.m. PT

Please Join Us

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**SAVE THE DATE!
APRIL F2F**

**Foundations for
Attendance: Examining
How Funders Can Help
Reduce Chronic
Absence**

April 16,
12:30–2 p.m. ET/
9–11:30 a.m. PT

