

Measure____ - ADVISORY VOTE ONLY
Solano County Child Health, Safety and Educational
Improvement Advisory Measure

This is not a tax measure. It is Solano County voters' intent to provide only prevention oriented children's services which promote Solano children's health, safety and educational success with any new funds raised by an increase in the transactions and use tax rate by the Solano County 2017 Transactions and Use Tax Ordinance. Specifically, these services would include services to help homeless children succeed in school; to prevent child abuse; to improve access to high quality preschool and afterschool programs; to improve access to prevention oriented health services; and to support youth employment. This measure would require that all revenues generated would remain in Solano County, that services be made available in all cities and regions of Solano, that the revenues would not be used to supplant existing funding for the support of children's services and programs, and that a citizens' oversight committee be established to recommend approval of all projects before funds are spent.

100% of the revenues would be allocated for the following purposes:

- Prevention oriented children's services promoting Solano children's health, safety and educational success (95% of the funds).
- Oversight and Accountability (5% of the funds).

Services Eligible for Funding

Any and all transactions and use tax receipts (net of any fees payable to the California State Board of Equalization) shall be deposited in a separate fund known as the "Solano Fund for Children" (the "Fund"). The Solano Fund for Children shall be used solely for creating new and augmenting existing county wide, community-based prevention-oriented children's services and related programs, materials and operations, for children and their families residing in Solano County, and for related administrative costs. All services shall be for children and youths up to 18 years of age and may include their immediate families and caregivers; employment-related services shall be for youths up to 24 years of age. In order to ensure equitable use of the funds, children from all cities and unincorporated areas shall have access to services funded. Special attention shall be paid to children and families that do not have access to existing services, such as moderate-income families experiencing financial hardships or families with children who have special needs.

The Fund will be used to provide community based services that promote the Safety, Health and Educational success of Solano children in the following ways:

- (1) To provide services, in conjunction with the Solano County Office of Education and local public schools, for homeless children and youths that help them stay in school and improve their educational outcomes.
- (2) To provide child abuse prevention programs and education which keep children safe by preventing the circumstances that may lead to abuse.
- (3) To provide programs that improve the availability of and access to high-quality early care and education, preschool and after-school programs for children in need.
- (4) To provide programs designed to prevent childhood health conditions, such as obesity, poor dental health and mental health issues, before these problems occur or become severe.
- (5) To provide programs that help at-risk youth find and keep jobs.

The distribution of the Fund among the 5 eligible service categories shall be recommended by the Oversight Committee, and approved by the Board of Supervisors, based on changing patterns of need, community priorities and program evaluations so long as no category of funding receives less than 10% of the funds available for distribution and that all services are reasonably available countywide.

- Agencies eligible to receive funding shall be nonprofit organizations, schools, recreation districts, and County and city departments that serve children. Direct and indirect services shall be eligible for funding.

Every effort shall be made to ensure funded services are located in all cities in the County. County departments shall be limited to a maximum of 20% of the annual funding that is used for services under this measure. Any and all Solano Funds for Children unused in any fiscal year shall roll forward to the subsequent fiscal years, with distribution to be recommended by the Oversight Committee.

Oversight and Accountability

Should the Board of Supervisors decide to use the funds as set forth above, the Board will identify administrative policies and procedures to provide public oversight and accountability and to distribute the funds consistent with the goals and objectives of this advisory measure.

The goals of expenditures from the Fund shall be:

- (1) To ensure that all of Solano County's children are safe, healthy, and ready to learn and to succeed in school and in life.
- (2) To prevent problems by supporting and enhancing the existing strengths of children, youth and families.
- (3) To distribute funds based on best practices, coordinated planning, and utilization of successful and innovative approaches in order to have the maximum collective impact.
- (4) To maximize citizen participation in the decision making process for funding priorities and citizen involvement in promoting children's well-being.
- (5) To use resources efficiently by building upon and utilizing the existing local service infrastructure, using resources in innovative ways, and tracking and reporting on results achieved.

The Board will appoint an independent citizens' oversight committee that will:

- Review revenue projections and financial reports and audits.
- Review and recommend the distribution of the Fund among the 5 eligible service categories.
- Review each priority area's expenditure plan and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors annually regarding whether the proposed expenditures are consistent with the parameters of this advisory measure.
- Conduct all meetings in accordance with the Brown Act and open to the public.
- Select and direct the work of staff or consultants hired to support the work of the committee including third party evaluators.
- Maximize citizen participation in the decision making process for funding recommendations and citizen involvement in promoting child well-being.

Membership of the independent citizens' oversight committee shall consist of 15 members who are residents of Solano County. There shall be one representative from each Solano City with expertise in children's services; one First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission member; one Solano Children's Alliance member, one Local Child Care Planning Council member; one public health or health care organization member; one Solano Taxpayers Association member; one parent member; one youth (aged 14-24) member; and one County Superintendent of Schools staff member.

The Board of Supervisors will appoint the Oversight Committee members to four-year terms; provided that seven of the initially-appointed members chosen by lot shall have two-year terms.