



Children's Defense Fund–Ohio

A strong, effective, independent voice for *all* children

Our Children. Our Future.

Season's Greetings

For many of us, this year has been difficult.

Now, with the election behind us, **we must move forward together**. For what remains true is that too many of our Ohio children are in desperate need of support. **With their delicate futures hanging in the balance, you can help.**

Every day the Children's Defense Fund-Ohio works to change the odds for all of Ohio's children. We lift children up through our child [policy work](#) and [advocacy](#), [Freedom Schools®](#), and the [Beat the Odds® scholarship program](#) -- because no one should ever give up on a child.

We are a voice for children who cannot vote, lobby or speak for themselves. We are working to place Ohio's children on a path to successful adulthood.

Never has our work been more urgently needed to give children hope for a better future and bring our state together. Please consider giving as generously as you can this holiday season.

DONATE NOW

CDF-Ohio needs your help more than ever

We wish you all the best this holiday season and a very happy new year!



The CDF-Ohio team: Robert Southers, Dawn Wallace-Pascoe, Sarah Biehl, Renuka Mayadev, Ashon McKenzie, and Pam Kreber.

Infant Mortality News

THE OHIO LEGISLATURE HAS ENDED ITS SESSION FOR THE YEAR. Amidst the flurry of activity at the statehouse as Ohio ended its 2015-16 legislative session, the legislature passed a landmark [infant mortality bill](#). The bill addresses a number of complex social and economic factors that contribute to infant mortality. It bans the sale of crib bumpers—associated with suffocation—and provides resources to new and expectant mothers living in underserved communities. The bill also allows pharmacists to administer certain drugs that would reduce the risk of preterm birth. We applaud Senator Shannon Jones and Senator Charleta Tavares for their leadership on this issue.

Upcoming Issue Brief Focused on Breastfeeding

Among the many variables that affect infant health, research shows that breastfeeding can reduce infant mortality rates. In Ohio, Black mothers and babies suffer from a disproportionate number of health issues and risks that could be reduced through breastfeeding. Our upcoming issue brief focuses on Black mothers' health and recommends a number of interventions that would eliminate barriers to breastfeeding and help our babies see their first birthday.



Need Data? County Fact Sheets Now Available

CDF-Ohio recently released our latest set of KIDS COUNT® [county fact sheets](#). Fact sheets have current demographic, economic well-being, education, health, and safety data for all Ohio counties and for the State of Ohio. As part of the national KIDS COUNT® network, CDF-Ohio also provides data to the [KIDS COUNT® Data Center](#). Visit the [Data Center](#) to create your own queries, maps, and graphs for hundreds of indicators.



Save the Date!

Children's Defense Fund-Ohio's annual [Beat the Odds® Awards Celebration](#) will be held Thursday, June 15, 2017 in Columbus. We hope you will join us as we celebrate another group of bright scholars and send them off to continue their education!

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