

**CHILDREN'S COALITION OF GREATER BATON ROUGE
ADVOCACY PUBLIC POLICY**

Revision proposed Nov. 9, 2007

Adopted by the Board, Jan. 18, 2008

I. Guidelines for Public Policy

Public policy statements may be issued based on the goals of the Children's Coalition 2006-2011 Community Plan for Children, including but not limited to children's safety, health, basic needs, early care, art, recreation, education, family support, youth leadership and service.

II. Response to Issues

A. Contact Public Officials

- 1. At Meetings** of the General Membership or the Board members of the Children's Coalition (agencies and individual members) may be alerted to issues bearing on the well being of children and youth, and be encouraged to contact appropriate public officials by agencies and individual members of the Coalition

Issues of concern may be presented with recommended action by Advocacy Committee co-chairs, or any member of the Board to the Board or General membership at a regular or called meeting of the Board or General Membership.

- 2. Use of "Voter Voice"** to urge members of the Children's Coalition to contact U.S. representatives and senators, Louisiana legislators, City-Parish Council members, East Baton Rouge Parish School Board members, and other elected officials:

"Voter Voice" urging action on specific issues may be initiated by any two of these three officers, President or Co-Chairs of Advocacy Committee, who approve the message to be sent to Children' Coalition Membership. .

B. Issue a Public Statement of Position of Children's Coalition

- 1. The president** of the Children's Coalition may issue a statement representing the position of the Children's Coalition with the approval of a majority of Board members present and voting, or by a majority of members of the Board who respond to e-mail within 24 hours of e-mal being sent, or by majority of Board members who are polled by telephone. .

2. With approval by the Board, the president or a person designated by the president may issue statement to the press, be interviewed by media reporters, testify before Louisiana Legislative Committees, speak at the City/Parish council, and send communication to elected officials presenting the position of the Children's Coalition and the reasons for the advocated position.

III. **Monitoring Teams/Sources of Information**

National: Children's Defense Fund. (Alvin Mack)

Local: Prevent Child Abuse of America (Anna Fogle)
CWL, Alliance of CTF
Louisiana Children's Cabinet Advisory Board, (Adren Wilson)
Louisiana. Partnership, LANO (Anna Fogle)
Local: Metro Council, Juvenile Court Judges (Roxson Welch)
EBR Parish School Board (Jenola Duke)
Baton Rouge Recreation Commission (Alvin Mack, Bill Blount)
Library (Pabby Arnold)