

Best Starts for Kids

● Putting **every child** on a path to lifelong success

What is Best Starts?

Best Starts for Kids builds on the strengths of communities and families so that babies are born healthy, children thrive and establish a strong foundation for life, and young people grow into happy, healthy adults.

Best Starts for Kids is the most comprehensive investment in child development in the nation. Our investments span from prenatal development all the way through young adulthood, building strength and resilience in our communities along the way.

happy
healthy
safe &
thriving

Our philosophy



Promotion

We increase the positive things available to babies, children, young people and their families.



Prevention

We decrease things that may prevent babies, children and young people from growing up to be healthy and happy.



Policy & systems change

We work to change systems and policies so that all communities in our region can thrive and prosper regardless of race or place.



Early intervention

We intervene early to support children and young people who need additional resources to succeed.

Join the conversation



Subscribe to beststartsblog.com



Follow [@BestStartsKC](https://twitter.com/BestStartsKC)

Learn more on our website



www.kingcounty.gov/beststarts

How do we do it?

In 2015, King County voters approved a groundbreaking initiative to invest in the health and well-being of their neighbors and communities. The Best Starts for Kids levy will generate \$400 million over six years, investing an average of \$65 million every year to build strong communities, resilient families, and happy, healthy, safe, and thriving young people.

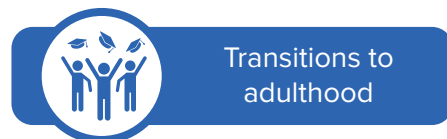
Investing early

Best Starts prenatal to five investments reach children and families where they are in their prenatal to five years—homes, child care settings, and communities—to support healthy child development and family well-being.



Sustaining the gain

Best Starts 5 to 24 investments continue the progress made in early childhood with school- and community-based opportunities to learn, grow and develop through childhood, adolescence and into adulthood.



Preventing youth & family homelessness

Best Starts Youth and Family Homelessness Prevention Initiative invests in case management and flexible funds to support families that are on the verge of homelessness.

The initiative builds on a highly successful pilot project funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Strengthening communities

Best Starts for Kids invests in Communities of Opportunity, a network of residents, communities, decision-makers, and funders who believe every community can be a healthy, thriving community—and that equity and racial justice are both necessary and achievable.

Learn more at:
kingcounty.gov/coo

Learn more about Best Starts on our website:
www.kingcounty.gov/beststarts