

## Participate in "Step Up for Kids Day" on September 16, 2008

8/25/2008

Let's make new investments in children a priority in the 2008 elections! Join the non-partisan "Step Up for Kids Day" on September 16, 2008.

Every Child Matters is organizing a non-partisan, nationwide event, "Step Up for Kids Day," on September 16, 2008 to draw public attention to issues affecting America's children. We are organizing an event on the capitol steps in D.C. and all 50 states to draw public attention to issues affecting America's children-poverty, health care, juvenile incarceration, early care and education, child abuse, and afterschool programs. On the same day, advocates, volunteers, and kids across the country will gather on the steps of state capitols to highlight the needs of children and families.

Help us raise public attention in Florida and across the country. For more information about "Step Up for Kids Day" in Florida, contact Mark Eichler of the Children's Campaign at [meichler@iamforkids.org](mailto:meichler@iamforkids.org).

We are asking anybody who is able to distribute 10 or more "Step Up for Kids Day" posters to email us at [posters@everychildmatters.org](mailto:posters@everychildmatters.org). We would like these free posters to go anywhere that people can see them, e.g., child care or Head Start centers, small businesses, or libraries. When you email us, please be sure to provide us with the number of posters you would like to distribute, your mailing address (Please, no P.O Boxes) and a sentence or two on how you intend to distribute the posters.

[Download](#) the "Step Up for Kids Day" poster.

### *Statistics on Children in Florida:*

- There are 4,067,877 children under 18 in Florida. Many face serious challenges. Join us and help raise the visibility of children's issues in Florida.
- Children Living in Poverty (2006) - 689,315
- Children Not Covered by Health Insurance at Any Time in 2006 - 771,000
- Children's Health Care Covered by Government Assistance (2006) - 1,125,000
- Children Reported Abused (2005) - 148,044
- 2 Year Olds Not Immunized (2006) - 48,652 or 21.8 percent
- Child Abuse Deaths (2000-2005) - 557
- 3-4 Year-Olds Not Enrolled in a nursery school, pre-school, or pre-kindergarten education program (2006) - 226,873 or 50.1 percent
- Percentage of 4th Graders Scoring below Basic Reading Levels (2007) - 30