United 4 Children urges you to support and VOTE YES on **Amendment 3**, sponsored by **Raise Your Hand for Kids**, which will appear on the ballot this November. **Amendment 3** provides $300 million annually in new, dedicated funding for investments in early childhood health and education, as well as smoking-cessation programs for pregnant mothers and youth. The funding comes through an incremental increase in Missouri’s cigarette tax, which is now the lowest in the nation.

Specifically, the initiative dedicates new funding for:

- Increasing access to and improving quality of preschool
- Home visitation programs like Parents as Teachers
- Professional development for early childhood education providers
- Health and developmental screenings and preventative health care for children ages birth through 5
- Smoking cessation and prevention programs for pregnant mothers and teens

Research shows investments in early childhood education lower high school dropout rates, reduce crime, cut the cost of social services, and improve the health and education of children, which results in significant savings for taxpayers.

More than 200,000 Missourians added their name to a petition to ensure voters can have their say on **Amendment 3** this November.

You can learn more at [RaiseYourHandForKids.org](http://RaiseYourHandForKids.org), where you can sign up to receive updates on the initiative.

You can also follow the campaign on Facebook, at [https://www.facebook.com/raiseyourhandforkids/](https://www.facebook.com/raiseyourhandforkids/) and on Twitter at [https://twitter.com/RYH4KMO](https://twitter.com/RYH4KMO). We encourage you to like, favorite, share and retweet the campaign’s social media post as well as create supportive posts of your own.

**Please get involved by helping the campaign with the following activities:**

1. **Endorse** the effort at [http://www.raiseyourhandforkids.org/endorse.us](http://www.raiseyourhandforkids.org/endorse.us).
2. Author a letter to the editor (the campaign can help you draft).
3. **Share** information about #YesOn3 with your networks
4. Offer a **testimonial** describing the impact of early childhood health and education and what **Amendment 3** means for children and your community. What would your organization do with an early childhood grant? Help tell the story!

**If you are willing to help with any of these activities, please contact Brian Schmidt at bschmidt@mowonk.com.**

We all know that children need to be healthy to learn and need to learn to succeed. This initiative will help thousands of Missouri children, as well as set our state on a path toward lower crime, a better economy, and a more educated workforce.