Welcome! We’re glad you are interested in advocating for young children with special needs. Too many are waiting for services and therapies that will help them thrive and grow. *Kids can’t wait!*

We’ve put together a few resources in this toolkit that are designed to help you be part of the solution. Please share this with your friends, family and anyone who might want to join the campaign. We’ll be updating these materials as needed, so please check back to our website to be sure you have the latest information.

**What’s in this toolkit?** 1) Fact sheets you can share with people who want to learn about this issues; 2) Tips for communicating and meeting with elected officials; 3) Suggestions for speaking at public forums and writing a letter to the editor of a newspaper; and 4) sample messages to share on social media.

**What can I do?**

- Join the Kids Can’t Wait campaign by signing up at [The Children’s Agenda’s Early Childhood page](http://www.thechildrensagenda.org) (under the "Agenda" tab at the top of the home page).
- When you receive an advocacy action alert from TCA, click on it to send an email to your NYS elected official or a policymaker.
- If you are involved in a faith-based organization or congregation, sign up to advocate for kids in need during the Children’s Interfaith Weekend at [www.thechildrensagenda.org/partnerships/interfaith/](http://www.thechildrensagenda.org/partnerships/interfaith/).
- Use the sample social media (Twitter and Facebook) messages in the Advocacy Toolkit to raise awareness, keep attention focused on this issue, and promote solutions. Participate in special social media days when we’ll coordinate to amplify our message.

The Kids Can’t Wait campaign has already made a difference – both the New York State and Monroe County budgets have increased funding for developmental services! There’s much more work to be done, though. Thank you for concern – we look forward to advocating with you!