



PROMISE 4

The government will spend public money well and in the best interest of children and youth

Government has a responsibility to effectively and efficiently manage all of its resources, to be a good steward, maximizing resources and directing them where they are needed most. Internal operational fixes must be a priority of the city's new leadership; these fixes will ultimately lead to better outcomes and results for children and youth, particularly since the necessary fixes involve systems reforms and a meaningful and transparent budget process.

The new administration and City Council can take decisive action in their first 100 days to keep the "government accountability" promise by

- **Improving the Children's Budget Report.**
 - > The community has made a number of specific recommendations; the suggestions are available from DC Action for Children.
- **Dramatically improving the transparency of, utility of and access to the city's budget documents.**
- **Maximizing federal funding to better serve children and youth and directing local funds to other initiatives.**
- **Including measurable outcome indicators in the budget.**
- **Setting aggressive goals for the city's children and youth.**
- **Improving accountability by linking the budget to goals; increasing collaboration to improve efficiency and strengthen inter- and intra-agency collaboration.**

These recommendations are achievable. To date, DC Action for Children has done its part to support the fulfillment of this promise by successfully advocating for

- The creation of an annual Children's Budget Report.
- Increased transparency in the budget.