

## Children First Action Fund General 2022 Survey Results

The Children First Action Fund is surveying all candidates for Pennsylvania House and Senate to learn more about their views on issues affecting the lives of children. We invite you to learn more by reviewing their responses below; by contacting their campaigns; and by following them on social media. Let me know your views on the importance of ensuring young children in Pennsylvania get the early education supports they need and deserve.

**Name:** Elizabeth Fiedler

**Website:** [www.elizabethfiedler.com](http://www.elizabethfiedler.com)

**Current Job:** State Representative

**Social Media:** Fiedler4Philly

**Campaign Contact Person:** Sarah Nenadovic

**Campaign Contact Cell Phone:** 805-668-1460

**Campaign Contact Email Address:** [elizabeth@elizabethfiedler.com](mailto:elizabeth@elizabethfiedler.com)

**You are running for election in which district?** House District 184

**Q: What are your views on the benefits, or drawbacks, of allocating additional state funds for high-quality pre-k education?**

A: Pa. is underfunding our public education system, and the current unfair distribution of basic education funding disproportionately hurts black and brown students. Schools need additional dollars, and that money must go through the Fair Funding formula, so that children and young people receive a high-quality education regardless of their zipcode. We also need to invest in remediating toxins from school buildings in Philadelphia and across Pa. This is a top issue for me and one that I have worked very hard on during my time in the legislature.

**Q: How important, or unimportant, are increased public resources to expand access and affordability to high-quality child care to working families in your district?**

A: It is vitally important. I support universal pre-k. Care within the home is not simply an issue of care, but one of labor: homecare workers are some of the lowest paid workers, rarely have union representation, are most often women, and are likely to be people of color. These intersecting factors result in an industry that is largely exploitative. To achieve universal availability of affordable childcare, we must protect homecare workers through access to unionization and fair pay and benefits. We must prioritize the needs of people and families over profits.

**Q: Should the wages for child care workers and preschool teachers be commensurate with those of other educators with similar qualifications and experience?**

A: Yes. Often, care workers lack union representation. Further compounding their oppression, care workers are most often women, and are likely to be people of color. The wages and protections of child care workers and preschool teachers need to be improved.

**Q: Will you support the expansion of state investment dollars to serve those in your district who can benefit from home visiting?**

A: Yes.

**Q: In addition to making child care more accessible and affordable, what other policies would you champion to help businesses facing a workforce shortage?**



A: Employers must pay living wages: we must pass the Fair Work Week Legislation I introduced, and implement a \$15/hour minimum wage.

**Q: What other government resources or policies would you consider for families that are struggling with keeping costs, especially child care, under control?**

A:

Put simply, we need to prioritize people over profits. The commodification of these basic needs has allowed private profiteers and the super rich to exploit us and endanger our neighborhoods, our lives, our livelihoods, and our planet.

**Q: Which mental health supports are needed most in your district and how will you work to increase access to families that need them?**

A: Mental healthcare is vital healthcare. Many of the problems our communities face involve a mental health element. I support health care for all, including mental healthcare.

**Q: Would you support the creation of a refundable State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)? Why/why not?**

A: Yes. I prioritize the needs of working people. EITCs help working families afford necessities like healthcare coverage at more affordable rates.

**Q: What would you do, if elected, to expand the access to affordable broadband internet?**

A: The class disparity when it comes to internet access is harming our communities, and especially our children. I am in favor of measures increasing internet access, and would like to discuss how we can achieve this together.