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VOICES FOR OHIO'S CHILDREN ENDORSES RAISE THE REVENUE CAMPAIGN
Advocates Urge Balanced Approach to State Budget Crisis

CLEVELAND, May 15, 2009—Today, in response to Ohio's growing state budget crisis, Voices for Ohio's Children joined forces with the Campaign to Protect Ohio Future and urged Governor Strickland and the Ohio General Assembly to pursue new sources of revenue to support the budget priorities that Ohio's children need.

"Ohio's fiscal year 2010-2011 budget crisis is unprecedented, and many of the services suffering the greatest proposed cuts serve children and families" said Amy N. Swanson, executive director of Voices for Ohio's Children. "We applaud the efficiencies that have been identified as ways to save taxpayer funds, but we also call upon the Governor and General Assembly to exert their leadership by pursuing sources of revenue that can maintain the essential programs our children need."

"Ohio's families are bearing the brunt of this recession," continued Swanson, "and we must invest in the essential safety net services that can help children survive tough economic times and thrive in the long run. And when children grow up healthy and strong, we save money down the road by preventing the kinds of problems no one wants to pay for."

"When we invest in children, we invest in the future of Ohio's economy and workforce. Raising revenue to care for our children is the right thing to do, but it's also smart economic policy. When Ohio invests in children, we all receive the return for generations to come."

Voices for Ohio's Children is a non-partisan voice of Ohio's nearly 3 million children. With more than 100 collaborative partners, we advance changes in public policy that improve the health, safety, education, family stability and childcare of all Ohio children and their families. To learn more about Voices for Ohio's Children, please visit www.vfc-oh.org.

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