



Sacramento's First Annual

Children's Champion Award Celebration

October 30, 2025 | 6–8pm

Our Place Event Space
1107 Firehouse Alley, Old Sac

Dear Friends and Supporters,

We are writing to ask for your support for the first annual Children's Champion Award Celebration. This celebration will take place on Thursday, October 30th from 6 to 8 pm at the Our Place event venue in Old Sacramento.

For this first award celebration, we will recognize Sacramento City Councilmember Mai Vang. Mai is the daughter of Hmong refugees from Laos, a proud native Sacramentan, and the eldest of 16 siblings. Prior to being elected, she co-founded Hmong Innovating Politics through which she organized on issues affecting children and families. In 2016 she was elected to the Sacramento City Unified Board of Education. In 2020 and 2022, she partnered with Sac Kids First and Youth Forward to co-lead ballot measure campaigns to establish the Sacramento Children's Fund. In 2020, voters in District 8 elected her to serve as their city councilmember and then reelected her in 2024. Mai is a consistent and strong voice for children and youth in Sacramento's most marginalized communities.

In addition to recognizing a public official, each year we will recognize outstanding young leaders. This year we recognize Angelina Hinojosa and Alan Santos. Angelina is a proud member of the Pinoleville Pomo Nation and a leader of Native Sisters Circle. She has been a strong advocate for the Sacramento Children's Fund and for indigenous peoples at the State Capitol. Alan is a member of the Big Valley Pomo Nation and a leader in Youth Forward's tribal youth group in Del Paso Heights where he has helped create a community garden and to promote food sovereignty.

Thank you for being a part of this new annual tradition in Sacramento!

Sponsorship Opportunities

To honor our community-based roots and our grassroots organizing values, we'd like to offer our partners an equitable sponsorship model

All sponsors will be recognized with the following:

- Highlighted acknowledgement at the event
- Logo displayed on program materials
- Logo on Youth Forward website event page
- Featured in Youth Forward email updates to 2,135 local child advocates

 **CHILDREN'S CHAMPION: \$10,000**

 **CHILDREN'S ADVOCATE: \$5,000**

 **CHILDREN'S DEFENDER: \$2,500**

 **CHILDREN'S BACKER: \$1,000**

 **CHILDREN'S ALLY: \$500**

 **INDIVIDUAL TICKET: \$50**

To become a sponsor, please visit
<https://www.youth-forward.org/what-we-do/childrens-champion-award>



Youth Forward is a leading policy organization for children and youth in Sacramento and statewide. Youth Forward has dedicated itself to building the field of child and family services. Its efforts have led to the creation of multi-million dollar funding streams for children's services at the local and state levels.

Youth Forward serves as the coordinator of Sac Kids First, the region's largest youth advocacy coalition. In 2022, Sac Kids First led the campaign to establish the Sacramento Children's Fund, a multi-million dollar annual fund that supports youth-serving nonprofits and public agencies. The Children's Fund works to prevent child and family homelessness, to reduce youth violence and to support youth mental health.

Since 2018, Youth Forward has been a leading voice in state policy in developing substance use prevention efforts and childcare funding through its advocacy on cannabis tax revenue. As a result of Youth Forward's efforts, California has invested several hundred million dollars in youth prevention programs and child care statewide. Youth Forward has also led efforts to stop the marketing of cannabis and intoxicating hemp products to children.

Youth Forward's Tribal Department supports tribal nations in Northern and Central California with efforts to address youth substance use prevention and to improve the environment on tribal lands. The Department also supports a native youth group in North Sacramento/Del Paso Heights.

To learn more, please visit: <https://www.youth-forward.org/>