

From: [Satavia Jones](#)
To: [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Chanelle Brown](#); [Low, Jen \(BOS\)](#); [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MandelmanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Waltonstaff \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: My Public Comment on Early Childhood Education in San Francisco
Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024 8:20:20 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good afternoon Members of the Budget and Appropriations Committee:

My name is SaTavia Jones writing you on behalf of the Black Early Educators Policy Council, a group that advocates on behalf of Black early educators and children in San Francisco, convened by Children's Council of San Francisco. I'm a constituent in the Bayview District 10 neighborhood .

In this budget season, it's critical to uplift and center the needs of Black children and our Black early educators to support the aspirations of our children and their villages, and to produce equitable outcomes for our state and nation's future.

While we are heartened to see proposed investments in child care, we still have a long way to go. This ordinance proposes moving Baby Prop C funding to be used for other purposes not approved by the voters. We oppose this ordinance and ask for it be continued to allow for further discussion.

It is imperative that our children are educated by culturally competent adults. In San Francisco, I personally know Black early educators come few and far between! Because of economic disparities, our Black family child care centers often struggle and can't serve as many children as they would want to. Our children deserve to be affirmed, supported and nurtured by culturally diverse educators that look like them. It helps with their self-esteem and self-efficacy, and can help instill in them that they are capable and valued in this world.

Child care is key to San Francisco's economic prosperity. Without child care and Baby Prop C, Black parents cannot work, our Black children cannot thrive, our Black family child care centers cannot keep their doors open and our city cannot reach its full potential.

With investment by the San Francisco Department of Early Childhood, the Office of Economic & Workforce Development and Children's Council of San Francisco, we are being the change we wish to see by advocating for policy solutions and system changes to provide Black families with quality child care. We implore the city to continue to make Black early educators and Black children a priority, by prioritizing them in the City budget.

Thank you for your time!

SaTavia Jones an early childhood educator and city and county of San Francisco employee

From: [Abiba Bola](#)
To: [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Low, Jen \(BOS\)](#); [MandelmanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Waltonstaff \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Chanelle Brown](#)
Subject: My Public Comment on Early Childhood Education in San Francisco
Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024 10:09:02 AM

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Good afternoon Members of the Budget and Appropriations Committee:

My name is Abiba Bola writing on behalf of the Black Early Educators Policy Council, a group that advocates on behalf of Black early educators and children in San Francisco, convened by Children's Council of San Francisco.

In this budget season, it's critical to uplift and center the needs of Black children and our Black early educators to support the aspirations of our children and their villages, and to produce equitable outcomes for our state and nation's future.

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Thank you for your time!

Abiba Bola

Early childhood educator at Congregation Emanu-El Preschool

From: [Leshanti Smith](#)
To: [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Low, Jen \(BOS\)](#); [MandelmanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Waltonstaff \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Chanelle Brown](#)
Subject: My Public Comment on Early Childhood Education in San Francisco
Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024 12:20:21 PM

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Good afternoon Members of the Budget and Appropriations Committee:

My name is Leshanti Smith writing you on behalf of the Black Early Educators Policy Council, a group that advocates on behalf of Black early educators and children in San Francisco, convened by Children's Council of San Francisco. I'm a constituent in Bay View Hunters Point, District 10.

In this budget season, it's critical to uplift and center the needs of Black children and our Black early educators to support the aspirations of our children and their villages, and to produce equitable outcomes for our state and nation's future.

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Thank you for your time!

Leshanti Smith
Infant and Toddler Lead Teacher
WuYee Children Services

From: [Lisa Alexander](#)
To: [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Chanelle Brown](#); [Low, Jen \(BOS\)](#); [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MandelmanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Waltonstaff \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Board of Supervisors Budget and Appropriations Committee
Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024 1:01:23 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good afternoon Members of the Budget and Appropriations Committee:

My name is Lisa Alexander writing you on behalf of the Black Early Educators Policy Council, a group that advocates on behalf of Black early educators and children in San Francisco, convened by Children's Council of San Francisco. I'm a constituent in district 10, in San Francisco.

In this budget season, it's critical to uplift and center the needs of Black children and our Black early educators to support the aspirations of our children and their villages, and to produce equitable outcomes for our state and nation's future.

While we are heartened to see proposed investments in child care, we still have a long way to go. This ordinance proposes moving Baby Prop C funding to be used for other purposes not approved by the voters. We oppose this ordinance and ask for it be continued to allow for further discussion.

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Black families with quality child care. We implore the city to continue to make Black early educators and Black children a priority, by prioritizing them in the City budget.

Thank you for your time!

Lisa Alexander

Owner and Operator

Sprouting Seeds Academy

From: [Rachel and Alessandra Church](#)
To: [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Maria Luz Torre](#); [DPH-amaykowski](#)
Subject: Baby C interest is a hedge against inflation. Do not take \$50 Million in interest from Baby C
Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024 3:08:21 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Connie Chan
Rafael Mandelman
Myrna Melgar
Shamann Walton
Aaron Peskin,

I've been here since 1pm and need to leave to pick up my daughter.

My name is Rachel Church and I'm a parent leader with Parent Voices San Francisco. I'm a single, low-income mother and depend on subsidized child care.

Additionally, I am receiving preventative cancer treatments and depend on this subsidized child care to attend my appointments.

I'm from the Mission District and stand for others like me who struggle to earn a living wage to raise our children. Without subsidized childcare, we cannot work to pay rent, bills, clothe and feed our children.

Taking millions from Baby C to balance the budget for purposes outside of what the voters intended is not the right thing to do.

The solution is to use the \$50 million in reserves to balance the budget deficit. Do not balance the budget on the backs of babies.

Thank you for your careful consideration in causing the least harm to those who need most help but cannot speak for themselves - our babies.

Thanks,
Rachel Church

From: [Maria Luz Torre](#)
To: [Rachel and Alessandra Church](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [DPH-amaykowski](#)
Subject: RE: Baby C interest is a hedge against inflation. Do not take \$50 Million in interest from Baby C
Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024 6:47:30 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Just minor corrections.

Maria Luz Torre | **Parent Voices Organizer**
Children's Council of San Francisco
445 Church Street, San Francisco, CA 94114
415.343.3383 | fax 415 392-2399 | cell 415.722.6229
Visit us at [childrenscouncil.org](https://www.childrenscouncil.org) / www.parentvoices.org
<https://www.facebook.com/ParentVoicesSF>

From: Rachel and Alessandra Church <firsttimemommy2016abc@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 13, 2024 3:08 PM
To: Brent.Jalipa@sfgov.org
Cc: Maria Luz Torre <mariat@childrenscouncil.org>; Alexander Maykowski <amaykowski@childrenscouncil.org>
Subject: Baby C interest is a hedge against inflation. Do not take \$50 Million in interest from Baby C

Connie Chan
Rafael Mandelman
Myrna Melgar
Shamann Walton
Aaron Peskin,

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Additionally, I am receiving preventative cancer treatments and depend on this subsidized child care to attend my appointments.

I'm from the Mission District and stand for others like me who struggle to earn a living wage to raise our children. Without subsidized childcare, we cannot work to pay rent, bills, clothe and feed our children.

Taking \$50 million from Baby C to balance the budget for purposes outside of what the voters intended is not the right thing to do.

The solution is to use the \$800 million in reserve to balance the budget deficit. Do not balance the budget on the backs of babies.

Thank you for your careful consideration in causing the least harm to those who need most help but cannot speak for themselves - our babies.

Thanks,
Rachel Church

From: [BreAnn Weaver](#)
To: [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Low, Jen \(BOS\)](#); [MandelmanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Waltonstaff \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Chanelle Brown](#)
Subject: My Public Comment on Early Childhood Education in San Francisco (6/20)
Date: Thursday, June 20, 2024 7:42:35 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good afternoon Members of the Budget and Appropriations Committee:

My name is BreAnn Weaver writing you on behalf of the Black Early Educator Policy Council, a group that advocates on behalf of Black early educators and children in San Francisco, convened by Children's Council of San Francisco. I'm a constituent in district 10.

In this budget season, it's critical to uplift and center the needs of Black children and our Black early educators to support the aspirations of our children and their villages, and to produce equitable outcomes for our state and nation's future.

We deeply appreciate the amendments proposed to this ordinance that will save over \$30 million in Baby Prop C funding for our children and families, and preserve dedicated funds for the purpose it was intended. I ask it be sent to the full Board with a positive recommendation.

It is imperative that our children are educated by culturally competent adults, but our Black early educators need more economic supports so they can thrive and continue to give our children quality care. In San Francisco, Prop C dollars can help close the gap in economic disparities for Black family child care centers to serve more children. Our children deserve to be affirmed, supported and nurtured by culturally diverse educators that look like them. It helps with their self-esteem and self-efficacy, and can help instill in them that they are capable and valued in this world.

BabyProp C funding means the world to our children, families and providers. It offers the opportunity to expand critical services that allow parents to work, children to have a brighter future, specialized services for all of our children and families who need them, our providers to do their critical work with a dignified wage and our city to thrive. Please help us save these funds.

With investment by the San Francisco Department of Early Childhood, the Office of Economic & Workforce Development and Children's Council of San Francisco, we are being the change we wish to see by advocating for policy solutions and system changes to provide Black families with quality child care. We implore the city to continue to make Black early educators and Black children a priority, by prioritizing them in the City budget.

Thank you for your time!

BreAnn Weaver

From: [A Yang](#)
To: [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Low, Jen \(BOS\)](#); [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MandelmanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Waltonstaff \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment 6/20: Early Childhood Education in San Francisco
Date: Thursday, June 20, 2024 11:45:21 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good afternoon Members of the Budget and Appropriations Committee:

My name is Amy Yang, writing you as a constituent in District - Pacific Heights.

In this budget season, it's critical to uplift and center the needs of Black children and our Black early educators to support the aspirations of our children and their villages, and to produce equitable outcomes for our state and nation's future.

We deeply appreciate the amendments proposed to this ordinance that will save over \$30 million in Baby Prop C funding for our children and families, and preserve dedicated funds for the purpose it was intended. I ask it be sent to the full Board with a positive recommendation.

It is imperative that our children are educated by culturally competent adults, but our Black early educators need more economic supports so they can thrive and continue to give our children quality care. In San Francisco, Prop C dollars can help close the gap in economic disparities for Black family child care centers to serve more children. Our children deserve to be affirmed, supported and nurtured by culturally diverse educators that look like them. It helps with their self-esteem and self-efficacy, and can help instill in them that they are capable and valued in this world.

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Thank you for your time!

Amy Yang

Dear SF Budget & Appropriations Committee members

We urge you to understand the significant negative impact resulting from the recent funding decisions by the San Francisco Department for Children Youth and Families (DCYF) to not fund youth sex trafficking prevention or support in our city.

We represent Freedom Forward, a San Francisco nonprofit organization serving young people who are vulnerable to sex trafficking. Everyday children and youth in San Francisco are sexually exploited and we are seeing a rapid influx of transitional aged youth (TAY) ages 14-24 being trafficked and experiencing homelessness due to systemic and economic barriers. These youth deserve safety and support; however, the proposed funding landscape leaves this population underserved and ripe for repeated exploitation. Neither Freedom Forward nor the HART program, run by our partner Huckleberry Youth Programs, received any DCYF funds for our prevention work.

Freedom Forward's HYPE Center (Helping Young People Elevate) is San Francisco's only multi-service drop-in center serving young people 14-24 focused on preventing commercial sexual exploitation. Based in the Mission/Potrero Hill area of SF, HYPE Center co-locates a variety of services and resources from community organizations in one youth-focused space – services like mental health, legal services, housing access, showers and food – to ensure vulnerable youth have a coordinated web of support. Rather than reinventing the wheel, HYPE serves as a connection point to leverage the expertise of over 20 youth-serving partners to benefit our community of over 500* unduplicated existing HYPE members (*and growing daily), primarily representing BIPOC LGBTQ+ and homeless youth.

One compelling success story involves Shanté (she/they; 19) who was immediately struck by the sense of calm positivity at the Center. "Wow - this is all for us?" She shared that she'd been navigating youth shelters and homeless programs but was constantly running around the city, struggling to stay on top of her appointments and applications. She'd been homeless on and off for 2 years, resorting to sex work to earn money for food and basic essentials. Shanté told us she dreamed of a fresh start in life. Upon joining HYPE Center, Shanté first accessed our Basics, which includes access to do laundry on site, "shop" for new clothing, hygiene supplies, and beauty products, and take a private shower. "I feel like my old self!" After attending a sex trafficking education group at HYPE, Shanté realized she'd been groomed and exploited as a minor. "I always thought what happened to me wasn't ok - but I didn't know it had a name, or that it was illegal." She accessed specialized counseling at HYPE for the first time since becoming homeless and, based on what she shared, was connected to HYPE's on-site legal and housing providers. Shanté was eligible for an SRO and moved in within two weeks, visiting HYPE to express her gratitude to our team. "HYPE has helped me turn my life around. I can bring any issues I'm dealing with and they will listen and connect me with the services I need. And it's all right here at HYPE!"

Shanté is just one of the hundreds of youth members in HYPE Center's community. Notably, 75% of our 534 unique members are either vulnerable to being, or have been sexually abused, assaulted, or exploited. Our team firmly believes that providing access to services and opportunities, addressing basic needs, and fostering a safe, inclusive space for belonging are pivotal in shielding San Francisco young people from vulnerabilities that could lead to sexual exploitation and trauma.

HYPE Center was initially launched in 2019 as part of SF SOL, a continuum of pilot models designed to target and reduce exploitation of youth in San Francisco by providing a variety of services and foster-care placement options. Spearheaded by Freedom Forward and supported by Senator Scott Wiener and Assemblymember Phil Ting, SF SOL was funded by the California Department of Social Services, bringing over \$16.3 million to San Francisco between 2019-2025. We partnered with the SF Department on the Status of Women (DOSW) along with Huckleberry Youth Programs, WestCoast Children's Clinic, and other anti-trafficking experts to design and implement SF-SOL for two 3-year pilots spanning from 2019-2025. Mayor Breed publicly supported our efforts by stating: "Any young person who is homeless or experiencing exploitation in our streets is one too many. We must do better in San Francisco. This funding will allow us to develop programs and provide services that help our most vulnerable residents and survivors of commercial sexual exploitation, and prevent chronic homelessness in our City."

Unfortunately, the CDSS grant funds have been exhausted and the HYPE Center requires independent funding to sustain our programming to prevent youth trafficking. **We respectfully request an annual \$875,000 investment for 2025 and 2026 via add-back dollars.** This will allow the HYPE Center to continue serving our vulnerable community through 2026 and secure a permanent funding stream. **Without these funds, HYPE Center will have no choice but to close our doors,** leaving our 534 members without a dedicated space to address their basic needs, access specialized services, and be part of a community of support.

This is a valuable opportunity for the city to invest directly in sex trafficking prevention and to protect our vulnerable children and youth. We welcome an opportunity to share more about what makes Freedom Forward's HYPE Center uniquely positioned to continue filling this gap in San Francisco's direct service landscape. Our team will happily host you and your staff for an in-person tour at the HYPE Center or gladly attend a visit to your offices.

With deep gratitude for your service and leadership

Francesca Gonzalez
Executive Director
francesca@freedom-forward.org

Natasha Dolly
Co-Founder and Board Chair
nddoby@gmail.com

In Community,



From: [melva bosley](#)
To: [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [Low, Jen \(BOS\)](#); [Chanelle Brown](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [MandelmanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Waltonstaff \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Long time D11 resident's PUBLIC COMMENT on ECE in SF
Date: Thursday, June 20, 2024 7:58:57 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good afternoon Members of the Budget and Appropriations Committee:

Happy First day of Summer. My name is Melva Bosley. I am writing you on behalf of the Black Early Educator Policy Council, a group that advocates on behalf of Black early educators and children in San Francisco, convened by Children's Council of San Francisco. I'm a constituent in D11 and have been for the last 40 years.

In this budget season, it's critical to uplift and center the needs of Black children and our Black early educators to support the aspirations of our children and their villages, and to produce equitable outcomes for our state and nation's future.

We deeply appreciate the amendments proposed to this ordinance that will save over \$30 million in Baby Prop C funding for our children and families, and preserve dedicated funds for the purpose it was intended. I ask it be sent to the full Board with a positive recommendation.

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Thank you for your time!

Respectfully,
Melva Bosley