

The logo consists of a teal rectangular background. Inside, the word "Philadelphians" is written in a white, sans-serif font. Below it, the words "for a FAIR FUTURE" are written in a white, sans-serif font, with "for a" in a smaller, lowercase font and "FAIR FUTURE" in a larger, all-caps font.

Philadelphians
for a FAIR FUTURE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 19, 2016

**PFF MARKS ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF
CITYWIDE VOTE IN FAVOR OF UNIVERSAL PRE-K**

*One year after overwhelming public mandate to create Commission on Universal Pre-K,
Philadelphia can pass budget that expands access for 6,500 more children*

Philadelphia, May 19, 2016 – Philadelphians for a Fair Future today marks the one-year anniversary of the historic vote for universal pre-K by urging City Council to enact Mayor Jim Kenney’s proposed expansion of this critically important initiative through passage of the Sugary Drinks Tax.

On May 19, 2015, Philadelphians voted overwhelmingly to create The Commission on Universal Pre-Kindergarten for the purpose of expanding access to quality pre-Kindergarten programs for Philadelphia’s three and four year olds. The historic vote, which passed with 80% percent support or more than 120,000 votes citywide, received the most support of any ballot initiative in nearly a decade. Mayor Kenney’s FY2017 budget proposal would expand pre-K to serve an additional 6,500 three and four-year-old children all across Philadelphia and set us on a path to universal pre-K. To pay for expanded pre-K and other anti-poverty programs, including community schools and a revitalization of neighborhood parks, rec centers and libraries, the Mayor proposes a Sugary Drinks Tax that would generate approximately \$95 million a year.

“Today, exactly one year since Philadelphians voted overwhelmingly in support of universal pre-K, we are literally on the brink of giving our fellow citizens what they asked for and what our children need,” said PFF spokesman Kevin Feeley. “Voters have made it clear that they support the Mayor’s proposal, including his plan to pay for it, and we will continue to urge Council to help make expanded pre-K a reality for the sake of our children.”

About PFF

PFF now includes 81 partners whose members represent all walks of life in Philadelphia, including: Public Citizens for Children and Youth; the Philadelphia Parks Alliance; the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers; the Service Employees International Union; the Delaware

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Valley Association for the Education of Young Children; Aspira; Action United; the Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia; the Center for Science in the Public Interest; Lodge 5 of the FOP; Local 22, IAFF; District Councils 33 and 47, AFSCME; Universal Companies; and multiple small business owners from throughout the city.

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