

“In 1990, the U.S. ranked 6th in the world in its levels of education and health care; today it ranks 27th. Some 54 countries have lower infant mortality rates than the U.S. While levels of extreme poverty worldwide have dropped dramatically, 1 in 5 American children today are poor, about the same rate as 30 years ago.”

~ From [America \[and Indianapolis\] should not lag behind protecting the global human rights children](#)

Recognize the global human rights of our children and youth

Children and youth in Indianapolis have global human rights. The children and youth of Indianapolis must know they have global human rights. Adults here must know children and youth have these birthrights and validate them. This is foundational and non-negotiable.

Today, the community needs to understand the definition of [Global Human Rights](#) and [why children need to be taught more about their global human rights](#).

Children’s rights are human rights

Here is the [UN Convention on the Rights of the Child](#).

“All children are entitled to protection from abuse; provision of education, health care and an adequate standard of living; having their views heard, and; children vulnerable to discrimination are entitled to specific protections.”

~ Children’s Rights are Human Rights, [Canada's Campaign 2000 to End Child Poverty](#)

Proposed Action Item: Recognize the global human rights of children and youth and publish an Indianapolis version

ACCI will plan and convene the first meeting and there and then draw a timeline around an organized effort that will create and publish a local version on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). An Indianapolis version is needed because the US has signed UNCRC, but is the only UN member state that is not a party to it. Read more at: [U. S. ratification of global human rights of children](#).

The membership of the effort will be 2 5th-6th graders, 2 7th-8th graders, and 4 9th-12th graders from the Mayor Hogsett’s charters and traditional IPS schools; an IPS board member and an Indy Charter Board member; a representative of IUPUI School of Ed.; 1 state legislator and 1 Indy City-County Council member; 1 youth worker from Indy Boys & Girls Clubs; a lawyer; and, 1 representative each from MCCOY, and the Children’s Policy and Law Initiative.

The group will study the question: [What are human rights?](#) and collaborate with the [Ella Baker Center for Human Rights](#) and the [Youth for Human Rights](#) organization. The group will also study the [history child rights](#) and [why children's rights matter](#). Studying the answers to [frequently asked questions: Child rights convention](#), the [Children’s Rights in Ireland](#) movement, and the connection between [recognizing human rights and bullying and discrimination](#) will inform the consciences of members.

The study group will analyze and share for critique the research showing the positive academic outcomes of [education based on the global human rights of children](#).

Finally, the group can appreciate and share 35 art lessons and activities that explore children’s rights through drawing, photography, sculpture and collage as reviewed in [Understanding the Human Rights of Children through the arts](#). There’s also a [stop motion animation](#) created by a grade 10 student for elementary students on UNCRC.