






NATIONAL Drinking Water ALLIANCE

A network of organizations and individuals across the country working to ensure that all children in the U.S. can drink safe water in the places where they live, learn and play.

ADDRESSING CRITICAL ISSUES

 **SAFETY** — Before we encourage kids to drink water, we need to make sure that it is safe. Ninety-five percent of public water systems supply safe drinking water. By advocating for water-quality testing at the tap, the Alliance helps vulnerable communities protect their children from unsafe water – and reassures the vast majority that their water is perfectly good to drink.


 **ACCESS** — Even where drinking water is safe, access for children is a challenge. Too few schools and childcare sites have made this a priority, resulting in broken, limited and often dirty fountains. The Alliance is working to help child-based institutions around the nation improve access to inviting sources of drinking water.

 **CONSUMPTION** — Even when water is freely accessible, too many children choose sugar-sweetened beverages. Sugary drinks are the top source of added sugars for all children and the single largest source of calories for teens ages 14–18. The Alliance is working to make zero-calorie water *First for Thirst*.


DRIVING OUR ACTION AREAS

Successfully addressing the systemic problems and issues related to drinking water for children demands a multi-pronged, collective and strategic approach. The Alliance works in four interrelated action areas:


POLICY PRIORITIES

 Among its activities, the Alliance is leading an ongoing national campaign to persuade the USDA to place an icon for water on the MyPlate graphic.


RESEARCH

 Alliance partners work together to identify knowledge gaps. Priority topics include assessment of effective drinking water access in schools and investigation of water quality in school and childcare settings.

ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER

 The Alliance promulgates evidence-based best practices for drinking water delivery to children in the places where they live, learn and play, including areas with complex water access issues.

EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

 The Alliance actively shares strategies and resources to educate people about and promote drinking water.