

New Orleans City Council

District D
Councilmember
Cynthia Hedge-Morrell

Councilmember Hedge-Morrell Supported
The Children's Defense Fund
Freedom Schools Rally Held at City Hall

News Release

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New Orleans, LA - July 15, 2009 - The Children's Defense Fund (CDF) Freedom Schools® held a rally as part of a National Day of Social Action on the steps of City Hall.

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The purpose of the rally was to advocate for healthcare reform to include comprehensive, affordable and seamless coverage for all children and pregnant women. Youth and families from across the City were in attendance to express their support.

The City Council District "D" staff participated in the rally, reading a statement from Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell, Chair of the City Council Education Committee.

"I am a strong supporter of the mission of the CDF Freedom Schools. Providing quality after-school and summer programs for children is essential to our city. These programs enrich our children, while

keeping them from the boredom that leads to crime.

"I thank the Children's Defense Fund for their work at the Broad Street Storefront and other Freedom Schools, and for their work in advocating for comprehensive, affordable healthcare for children.

"No child in America should be without adequate medical care. Our current system has too many cracks for children to slip through. That's why we need a seamless program that encompasses all children. The Children's Defense Fund has taken the lead in pushing for this reform.

"On this National Day of Social Action, I stand with them to call on our legislators to fight for comprehensive, affordable, and seamless healthcare for all children in New Orleans, and America."

New Orleans City Council

The New Orleans City Council is the legislative branch of New Orleans city government. The Council considers and enacts all local laws that govern the City of New Orleans. The Council also approves the operating and capital budgets for the City, as recommended by the mayor, and continually monitors revenues and expenditures for local government operations. The City Council is also the regulatory body for public utilities. It also reviews and has final say on many land use and zoning matters, as well as considers major economic development projects for the City. As a Board of Review for Orleans Parish, the Council examines appeals of property tax assessments for real estate taxes, and certifies tax rolls to the Louisiana Tax Commission. Other responsibilities of the Council include overseeing the operation of the public access television in Orleans Parish.

The City Council is comprised of five districts and two councilmembers-at-large. Council President and Councilmember-at-Large Arnie Fielkow; Council Vice President and Councilmember-at-Large Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson; District "A" Councilmember Shelley Midura; District "B" Councilmember Stacy S. Head; District "C" Councilmember James Carter; District "D" Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell; and District "E" Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis.