

In the long history of the world, only a few generations have been granted the role of defending freedom in its hour of maximum danger.

I do not shrink from this responsibility—I welcome it.

– John F. Kennedy, *Inaugural Address*, January 20, 1961

Children didn't get a say in this election.  
But they will bear the brunt of the consequences.  
The kids we see at **WestCoast Children's Clinic** already are.

The day after the election, Alex said to his therapist, "Will I have to say goodbye to you because we won't have health insurance anymore?"

For Luisa, the promise of a "deportation force" is more than campaign rhetoric. "If they take my Mom, who will take care of me and my brother?"

Eight and eleven year olds should not have to ask questions like these.  
**But they do, because for them, this is the hour of maximum danger.**

The incoming administration has proposed a war on America's poorest children, disproportionately targeting kids of color.

Their policies will reverse guarantees that have been in place for 50 years—among them, the right to healthcare that Alex, Luisa, and millions of other children and families depend on.

**These worries are taking their toll on our kids—an added burden to the long list of adversities they already face.**

At WestCoast we help children every day with their worries.  
We help them find their way in the world.  
And we are committed to them for as long as they need us.

Our mission extends beyond mental health service.  
We train thousands of clinicians to help kids and families.  
We publish innovative research to inform policy and system change.  
We advocate for legislation to uphold children's right to grow up safe, healthy, and free to realize their potential.

**Rolling back progress 50 years is not an option.**

We've made a promise to Alex, Luisa, and the 1,700 kids we see each year.  
We will fight on their behalf.  
Here in California, and in Washington, D.C.

We do not shrink from this responsibility.  
We welcome it.

**Join us.**



Stacey Katz  
WestCoast Children's Clinic