The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has provided protections for 2.8 million Arizonans living with a pre-existing condition and has provisions that extend care to former foster youth, school-aged children, and hundreds of thousands for Arizonans. However, the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act is under review by the Supreme Court. Do you support efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act?

No

Comments on the Affordable Care Act

As a cancer survivor I think it's incredibly important to make sure people have access to health care.

Medicaid is a major source of federal funds in Arizona, with every dollar of state investment drawing down $3.20 in federal funds. The Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) projects a major state budget shortfall in the next state fiscal year (FY2021). Would you support cuts to Medicaid provider rates, member eligibility, or covered benefits in order to make up for state budget shortfalls?

No

Comments on Medicaid

Especially now, given the economic circumstances and a global pandemic we need to protect programs that make sure children and the vulnerable has access to healthcare.
The Invest in Education Act is a ballot proposition that restores hundreds of millions of dollars annually in K-12 education funding to solve the teacher-shortage crisis, lower class sizes, hire aides and counselors, and expand career and technical education. It raises the state income tax rate for income above $250,000 for individuals and for income above $500,000 for households. Do you support the Invest in Education ballot proposition to raise new resources dedicated to public schools?

Yes

Comments on Invest in Education

Arizona’s schools are criminally underfunded and given the current circumstances they need to buy protective equipment, hire more nurses, and invest in online curriculum. They need more support.

The Arizona Education Progress Meter recognizes that children with access to quality, early learning opportunities are more prepared for kindergarten. As they go forward in school and in life, they are less likely to need special education or be held back a grade. They are more likely to graduate high school and go on to college. But many children start kindergarten already behind their peers. Only 21 percent of Arizona preschool-aged children today benefit from quality, early learning in child care and preschool compared to the progress meter goal of 45 percent by 2030. Will you support using state and federal child care funds to connect more young children with quality, early learning in preschool and child care to move Arizona toward the progress meter goal?

Yes

Comments on early learning

As mayor I worked with local organizations and leaders to establish an early childhood initiative, LAUNCH Flagstaff that specifically tries to address the lack of access to pre-K for working families.
In 2018, 13 percent of children in Arizona (204,363) were being raised by their grandparents or other relatives. In many instances, these relatives have stepped up to care for children who were being abused and neglected, keeping them safe and out of the foster care system. Nationally, informal kinship caregivers keep millions of children out of the overburdened child welfare system and save taxpayers more than $4 billion each year. Even prior to the COVID-19 crisis, these families faced barriers to securing adequate food, clothing, shelter, and medical care. Before the Great Recession, kinship caregivers were able to access “child-only” benefits through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (TANF), also known as cash assistance. These benefits helped these families meet the critical basic needs of the relative children in their care. Do you support restoring access to “child-only” TANF benefits for children who are being raised by kin?

Yes

Comments on kinship families

We should do all we can to keep children with family members and out of the foster care system. Not doing so is simply cruel.

The events over the last few weeks have brought widespread focus on the systemic racism that is deeply embedded in our society. If elected, would you hold your colleagues and other elected officials accountable to specific criminal justice and police reforms for systemic change.

Yes
Hello all,

I want to take a moment to acknowledge what’s going on here in Flagstaff and around the country. I understand the anger and the fear, I am a black mother and my heart breaks for the families of Dion Johnson, George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and so many more.

My twin brother is a black man, I grew up in the projects. I also have friends who are police officers. Reducing any group to a monolith is not helpful, we must acknowledge one another’s humanity.

This country was founded on revolutionary ideas, the idea that everyone is created equal and entitled to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Centuries later it is still a revolutionary idea that all of us, regardless of the color of our skin, are created equal. It is a promise that has yet to be met, but it gives us something to strive for.

The way forward requires us to respect each other’s anger, fear, and pain. It requires a radical acceptance of each other’s humanity and inalienable rights. We need to make sure every child, regardless of where they live, has access to a high quality public education so that they can grow up to be the innovators and citizens of tomorrow. We need to make sure that families can thrive and have economic security. We move forward by working together to make sure everyone has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

I ask that you be kind to one another, to be patient with one another. Get involved with our community and help build the bonds that will move us forward as a community. I would also encourage everyone to get involved with local governments. There is much we can do at a local level to shape the community we want and these elections are often decided by a small number of votes. There are policies we can put in place, reforms we can initiate. We can demand funding for schools and after school programs. Get involved, do the work, and together we can make change.

Love you Flagstaff,
Mayor Coral
To receive a record of your responses please provide your email

coral@corealevansaz.com