

Could a vaccine rejectionist become the next US president? Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. announces bid for 2024 election

Robert F Kennedy Jr, an anti-vaccine activist and scion of one of the most famous American political families, is running for president.

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Kennedy, a nephew of President John F Kennedy and son of the US attorney general and New York senator Robert F Kennedy, was once a bestselling author and environmental lawyer who worked on issues such as clean water.

But more than 15 years ago he became fixated on a belief that vaccines are not safe. He emerged as one of the leading voices in the anti-vaccine movement, his work described by public health experts and members of his own family as misleading and dangerous.

Kennedy's efforts intensified amid the Covid-19 pandemic and the development of a vaccine.

His anti-vaccine charity, Children's Health Defense, prospered, with revenues more than doubling in 2020 to \$6.8m, according to filings with charity regulators.

The organization has targeted false claims at groups that may be more prone to distrust the vaccine, including mothers and Black Americans, experts have said, which could have resulted in deaths during the pandemic.

[**This is an excerpt. Read the original post here**](#)