

2022 Policy & Advocacy Agenda



AT GREATER TWIN CITIES UNITED WAY, WE SEEK TO DISRUPT INEQUITIES AND FOSTER A REGION WHERE EVERYONE THRIVES, REGARDLESS OF INCOME, RACE OR PLACE.

No one navigates poverty in isolated systems. We recognize the deep disparities in life outcomes predictable by race as evidence of long-standing systemic racism and oppression, and we believe we must both support necessary services which respond to immediate need and work further upstream to advance policies that address the root of the challenges we face as a region. Informed directly by our stakeholders, our advocacy agenda enacts a series of interrelated policy issues that address these challenges and enables long-term, system solutions.

LEARN MORE AND BECOME AN ADVOCATE AT [GTCUW.ORG/ADVOCACY](https://gtcuw.org/advocacy).



**Greater Twin Cities
United Way**

LEAD ISSUES

- Advance policies that **remove systemic barriers and mitigate the impacts of the “cliff effect”** to support working families as they progress toward economic independence.
- Promote and expand culturally-sensitive wraparound social services to help low-wealth households **maintain stable homes and prevent homelessness**.
- Increase public funding flexibility to **support employment services and career pathways** within high-demand industries that are responsive to changing labor market needs and support family-sustaining wages.

SUPPORT ISSUES

- Promote policies that remove barriers and **provide opportunities to thrive for individuals with justice system involvement**.
- Increase current investments and expand access to **high quality, culturally competent early care** and education to all families from low-wealth households with children prenatal to age five; stabilize and sustain the early childcare sector’s workforce.
- Establish funding to sustain nonprofits’ ability to effectively meet immediate community needs and **support long-term recovery due to COVID-19**.
- **Preserve and increase the supply of affordable housing** for households with an income at 30-60% of the area median income (AMI), including the creation of a dedicated funding source for the construction of affordable homes.
- Expand funding and policies to **ensure young people are prepared to succeed** by supporting programming that incorporates trauma-informed, culturally responsive care, access to mental health supports and pathways to wealth building careers.

ENDORSE ISSUES

- **Advance eviction reforms**, including pre-eviction notice and record expungement, to expediate access to resources that prevent evictions due to nonpayment of rent.
- Improve program flexibility and expand **reliable access to healthy, nutritious meals** that meet the needs of individuals and families.
- **Protect and expand** charitable giving tax incentives.