

# 2023 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 trauma-sensitive, culturally responsive policies. 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.



## LEAD ISSUES

- . Increase investments to stabilize the early child care and education workforce and expand access to culturally responsive, trauma-sensitive early child care and education for all children prenatal to age five.
- . Advance policies that remove systemic barriers and mitigate the impacts of the “benefits cliff” to create pathways toward economic independence for working families.
- . Provide holistic services to prevent homelessness and build pathways to stable housing for populations experiencing high risk of housing instability, such as those exiting the foster system and transitioning out of incarceration.

## SUPPORT ISSUES

- . Ensure young people are prepared to succeed through high-quality out-of-school programs and pathways for college readiness and career success.
- . Support stable, affordable housing access for households with an income at 30-60% of the area median income (AMI) through eviction reforms and the preservation and construction of affordable housing.
- . Establish support and allocate resources to sustain a strong nonprofit sector.

## ENDORSE ISSUES

- . Strengthen and expand access to 24/7 resource referral services, including United Way’s 211 resource helpline and 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.
- . Expand reliable access to fresh, healthy meals that meet the needs of individuals and families.
- . Increase flexibility for state grant requirements issued by state agencies.

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