

2024 Policy & Advocacy Agenda

Greater Twin Cities United Way works to disrupt inequities and create a region where everyone thrives, regardless of income, race, or place.

No one navigates poverty in an isolated system. Evidence of systemic racism, class inequality and oppression shows that disparities in life outcomes are predictable by race. In response, we support necessary services which address immediate needs and advance trauma-sensitive, culturally responsive policies rooted in equity and mental health. Our stakeholder-informed advocacy agenda highlights interrelated policy issues that address these challenges and enable long-term, systemic solutions.



LEAD ISSUES

- Remove barriers to safe, affordable housing, by prioritizing populations at highest risk of homelessness.
- Provide young people the tools to graduate high school in a position to enter high-wage, high-demand careers through career pathways programs and high-quality out-of-school programs.
- Remove governmental barriers to wealth-building opportunities for families and individuals to achieve economic stability.
- Secure sustainable funding for United Way's 211 resource helpline to provide reliable access to statewide services.

SUPPORT ISSUES

- Stabilize and encourage a robust and diverse workforce through recruitment, retention, livable wages, and mental health support, specifically in Early Childcare and Education.
- Increase access to affordable, trauma-sensitive, culturally responsive childcare and early childhood education.

ENDORSE ISSUES

- Support a strong nonprofit sector by increasing flexibility and administrative fees for state grant funding.
- Support thriving and equitable food systems where all people have physical and economic access to the food that meets their cultural, dietary, and nutritional needs.
- Increase access to and availability of mental health services for individuals, children and families, including the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.

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