



United Ways of Washington State 2018 State Legislative Agenda

United Ways of Washington represent 21 local United Ways that are committed to improving lives by mobilizing the caring power of communities to advance the common good. We believe that to keep our communities strong, we need to prioritize services to help vulnerable populations. Because it also takes state and local support for our communities to thrive, we are focused on these areas:

Increase Resources and Quality in Early Learning and Education Programs

- Expand Home Visiting Services to help parents provide safe and supportive environments for their children and better prepare children for school
- Increase Working Connections Child Care reimbursement rates for providers serving our lowest-income children
- Pass a capital budget that includes ECEAP facilities funding and expands eligibility for specific vulnerable populations

End Homelessness and Increase Access to Affordable Housing

- Invest at least \$106M in the Housing Trust Fund to build and preserve affordable housing
- Make permanent document recording fees to fund programs that prevent and end homelessness
- Prevent discrimination against renters by prohibiting landlords from rejecting applicants solely because they pay with housing vouchers or other public income

Build Financial Stability

- Pass Breakfast After the Bell to require schools with a high percentage of hungry students to provide breakfast during the school day
- Restore TANF grant cuts to 2011 levels and increase asset limits to help vulnerable families with children meet basic needs
- Reduce the impact of the “benefits cliff” that cuts critically needed services such as child care subsidies for hard working low-income families
- Support tax credits for low-income working families to reduce poverty and help meet basic needs.



United Ways of Washington partner with 2-1-1 programs across our state to connect people in need with the resources they need. 2-1-1 serves as a one stop shop that increases the efficiency of our faith-based, nonprofit and public resources by quickly connecting people with the right resource before they become costly emergencies. We advocate for better access to services through increased funding for 2-1-1 in the next biennial budget.