

STATE POLICY AGENDA 2021

United Way of King County is proud of **donor support that allows us to invest over \$30 million** to build a community where people have homes, students graduate and families are financially stable.

We know that state policy affects our community's ability to thrive. We need to address barriers that prevent sufficient funding to protect families from the triple pandemics of COVID-19, the economic downturn and structural racial inequities that exacerbate both.

Helping Students Graduate

- **Help young people get their education back on track.** Educational equity for youth of color can be improved through changes to Open Doors legislation.
- **Improve online access for home visiting through grade 12.** Remote learning has starkly highlighted disparities in online access. Passing a Digital Equity Initiative will improve student of color access to education services.



• Ensure homeless families have access to 12 months of subsidized child care.

Break the Cycle of Poverty

- **Support the Working Families Tax Credit** to all Washington families struggling to meet basic needs to boost our economy.
- **Protect increases in Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).** Washington's lowest-income families face significant hardships as we recover from the pandemic's economic impacts. Ensuring access to TANF is part of a range of economic recovery measures needed to protect families during times of high unemployment.
- **Increase access to adequate food** through school meals, food banks, and farmers' markets. Pandemic-fueled school closures and high unemployment have revealed how overburdened our food assistance system is in Washington.

Fight Homelessness

- Avoid a surge in homelessness through increased rental assistance when the eviction moratorium ends.
- Increase housing stability through tenants' rights protections.

Other

- United Way capital funding request for roof replacement and other facility improvements
- Avoid human services cuts and austerity budgeting