

We work side by side with communities to achieve an equitable future where everyone has a safe place to call home, enough to eat, a quality education, and access to the resources they need. Racial justice guides our work.

United Way of King County is advocating for policies that promote our community's ability to thrive today and for policies that address the drivers of systemic inequities affecting communities of color. We call on the Legislature to ensure adequate funding streams to proactively create equitable access to a high quality of life and resources for people at the intersection of racism and poverty.



Advancing Economic Mobility

- Fund one full-time on-campus navigator at public 2- and 4-year colleges to address basic needs barriers and support students' pursuit of higher education.
- Support Undocumented workers by creating and fully funding a parallel unemployment and Medicaid system.
- Prohibit the denial of professional licenses and certifications based solely on a person's immigration or citizenship status.
- Provide financial relief to families with youth involved in the justice system by eliminating the victims' penalty assessment and DNA collection fees charged to families of adjudicated youth.
- Create and fund the Evergreen Basic Income Trust account to pilot and evaluate the impacts of providing a guaranteed income to families in poverty.
- Help workers keep more of their hard-earned income by maximizing the Working Families Tax Credit to include those with ITIN numbers and young adults.
- Support child care small businesses by increasing subsidy rates and stopping the collection of overpayments except in cases of fraud.



Promoting Housing Stability

- Increase tenant rental protections to prevent evictions.
- Expand funding to the Covenant Homeownership Account program and related programs to make homeownership accessible for people affected by government-supported discriminatory housing policies, increasing intergenerational wealth-building opportunities for people of color.
- Expand the Real Estate Excise Tax on the most expensive homes to generate revenue for rental assistance and backfill the Document Recording Fee revenue that supports eviction prevention.
- Require public benefits for renters in return for residential and commercial development near public transit to make housing more affordable and ease transportation burdens.
- Expand the Homeless Student Stability Program, which funds rental assistance for families of students facing homelessness.



Disrupting the School-to-Prison Pipeline

- Include barrier reduction funding for Open Doors re-engagement programs to support students persisting in their education.
- Eliminate the use of student restraint and isolation in K-12 schools and increase multi-tiered systems of support instead.
- Increase access to dual/tribal language for all Washington students in grades K-8.
- Fund the ninth grade success program designed to keep students at risk of dropping out engaged in high school.
- Fund universal free school meals.