



UNITED WAY OF DANE COUNTY PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA

2022-2023 POLICY PRIORITIES

Education:

Support public policies that:

- **Expand access to affordable, high-quality early care and education** for under-resourced families and early learning opportunities that meet children's developmental, cultural, and linguistic needs for all children in Dane County.
- **Provide effective professional development and equitable compensation to early childhood educators** and help the early care and education industry respond to the Covid-19 pandemic and beyond.
- **Close educational achievement and opportunity gaps**, particularly for children of color.
- **Increase access to affordable, high-quality post-secondary education and training** programs to ensure all Dane County students are prepared for college, career, and community life.
- **Expand broadband services** to increase children's access to educational opportunities and bridge the digital equity divide in learning.

Financial Stability:

Support public policies that:

- **Strengthen access to job training and workforce development** programs and supports (including expanded access to childcare, transportation, and broadband services) that align to jobs with family supporting wages, benefits, and stable work schedules.
- **Promote equitable, anti-racist labor market practices and work environments** that provide opportunities for career advancement for all.
- **Promote economic stability**, decrease income inequality, help individuals and families increase their earning potential and build wealth, with particular focus on addressing the racial wealth gap.
- **Expand access to affordable housing** and address disparities in homeownership rates.
- **Prevent eviction** and support housing stability.

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Health:

Support public policies that:

- **Protect and improve access to affordable, high-quality health care coverage** and increase the provision of culturally safe, trauma-informed care to achieve health equity.
- **Expand access to healthy food** by addressing food deserts and inequities in food security and ensuring basic nutritional programs are available to everyone.
- **Address bias and racial inequities in health care** and help grow and diversify the health care workforce.
- **Support and promote health equity** initiatives that address the social determinants of health.

Nonprofit and Community Strengthening:

Support public policies that:

- **Protect and expand existing charitable giving tax incentives** that incentivize philanthropy and provide support to the nonprofit sector in Dane County and nationwide.
- **Promote and invest in United Way of Dane County 211** as our community's most comprehensive health and human services information and referral resource.
- **Promote civic engagement**, voter education, representational leadership, equity, and social justice.
- **Promote trusted and community-centered policing best practices** and remove discriminatory barriers for our immigrant, refugee and BIPOC communities.

