



United Way for  
Greater Austin

**LIVE UNITED**

## 2020-2021 Public Policy Agenda

United Way for Greater Austin brings people, ideas and resources together to fight poverty in our community. Together with community leaders and partners, we're leading the charge to create sustainable and lasting solutions to poverty and the cycle that holds people in it. We believe active participation in policy is critical, not just to furthering the impact of our work, but to driving lasting systemic change.

This 2020-21 policy agenda addresses the root causes of poverty through support of our three focus areas -- **Education, Health and Financial Stability**. In the upcoming legislative session, maintaining support for core health and human services will be critical, as will be addressing structural racism and historical inequities. In addition, our agenda includes these priorities:

### EDUCATION

Increase access to and quality of child care and out-of-school programming for working families with low income.

Build relationships with local Independent School Districts and Austin Community College Trustees and leadership to more closely align our work.

Increase access to and quality of public school Pre-K for eligible families with three- and four-year-old children in school and community settings.

### HEALTH

Increase access to health and mental health supports and services for families with low income.

Increase support for pregnant women and families of infants and toddlers, including sustainable funding for Family Connects and other developmental screening systems.

Cultivate awareness of and support for the United Way ATX Navigation Center and our collective-impact and systems-change work in collaboration with public officials.

### FINANCIAL STABILITY

Increase support for families experiencing financial challenges due to COVID-19, including unemployment benefits and small business supports.

Increase access to livable wages for families with young children through education initiatives for parenting students or workforce development projects.

Support affordable housing and food access initiatives for families with young children and low income.

Support digital equity including distribution of devices for families and affordable internet access.