

LIVE UNITED

United
Way



United Ways of Iowa

United Ways at a Glance

A network of 24 local United Ways serving Iowa communities. Each UWI member is governed by a board of local volunteers who convene communities to determine local needs, set priorities and make investment decisions.



2019 Legislative Priorities

EDUCATION

United Ways of Iowa supports policies that promote a strong start to education and emphasize early grade reading skills to serve as a foundation for lifelong success.

Early Grade Reading – support state funding for the Iowa Reading Corps AmeriCorps Program, a five-year-old program serving over 1,500 K-3rd graders in 50 Iowa communities every year with a \$1.5 million federal grant. Nearly 70% of students in this program exit it reading at grade level or higher.

Access to Preschool – support policies that expand access and create wraparound services to serve more Iowa four-year-olds to receive this critical early education.

FINANCIAL STABILITY

United Ways of Iowa supports policies that encourage Iowans to achieve the skills and supports necessary to obtain and maintain self-supporting work.

Childcare Cliff – support policies to eliminate the childcare cliff effect by increasing the eligibility threshold for the program; creating a tiered exit and stabilizing provider reimbursement rates.

Future Ready Iowa Initiatives – support these initiatives to grow Iowa's workforce through new investments to build on the solid foundation of programs and funding currently in place.

Retaining Adult Basic Ed Investments – maintain current investments in adult basic ed programs, PACE programs, pathway navigators, industry-sector partnerships and GAP tuition assistance at \$12.5 million.

Protecting Safety Net Programs – oppose policies that will add undue burden to Iowans who are working and accessing safety net programs which allow them and their families to make progress toward financial self-sufficiency.

HEALTH

United Ways of Iowa supports policies that ensure a full continuum of healthcare services for vulnerable Iowans.

Mental Healthcare for Children and Adults – support policies that build an accessible system of care for Iowa children and maintain funding support for quality mental health services for Iowa adults.

Effective Delivery of Medicaid Services – support policies that require accountability and efficacy in Iowa's managed care system.

Access to Affordable Food – support a sales tax exemption for food banks and pantries serving low-income Iowans.

CRITICAL SERVICES

United Ways of Iowa supports policies that ensure the critical needs of the most vulnerable Iowans are met.

2-1-1 Awareness – Increase awareness of the services provided to Iowans by 2-1-1.

www.uwiowa.org | 515-777-1501