








-  Fiscal Ask
-  Integrated strategy
-  UWCI Lead
-  Local advocacy strategy
-  OpportUNITY
-  Policy
-  Support

# ADVOCACY

## AGENDA 2023




### UNITED to THRIVE

The five elements of a thriving community are interconnected areas of focus United Way of Central Iowa uses to create strategies and set goals to improve the lives of every person in our community.



### EARLY CHILDHOOD SUCCESS



Support maternal-child home visitation programs and their expansion to ensure a healthy start for children through prenatal and maternal health care.



Lead efforts to build investment in the childcare workforce to support quality, affordable childcare for all.



### EDUCATION SUCCESS



Support the recommendations of the Task Force on Growing a Diverse K-12 Teacher Base to enhance career pathways for paraprofessionals to fill critical roles in the education system.



Support dual-language learners in opportunities to gain skills and earn employer-ready credentials for bilingual job skills.



### ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY



Support quality job creation that provides the necessary training, education, and professional development to ensure workers are equipped to succeed in their work and career.

**Support the recommendations of the Iowa Skills2Compete Coalition including:**



Lead efforts to increase affordable access to quality childcare and promote stabilization in the childcare workforce.



Support efforts to expand equitable access to broadband across central Iowa.

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Maintain current investments in Future Ready Iowa, adult basic education, PACE programs, pathway navigators, industry sector partnerships, and GAP tuition assistance.

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Expand PACE programs to include apprenticeships and other work-based learning opportunities.

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Lead efforts to expand engagement with the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment & Training program (SNAP E&T).

**Support the recommendations of the OpportUNITY Re-entry Taskforce:**

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Support efforts to address identity theft among those entering incarceration through assistance in financial counseling and credit report freezes.

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Support local ordinances and agency rules that require landlords to demonstrate how tenant application fees are utilized to discourage misuse.



## HEALTH & WELL-BEING

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Lead children's mental health and well-being by leading the Coalition to Advance Mental Health in Iowa for Kids (CAMHI4KIDS).

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Educate policymakers on the importance of overall oral health in partnership with the Oral Health Iowa coalition.

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Lead the recommendations of the Well Kids of Central Iowa Coalition.

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Support the recommendations of the Iowa ACEs 360 Coalition (Adverse Childhood Experiences).



## ESSENTIAL NEEDS

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Lead efforts to begin state investment in the statewide 211 coalition for health and human services resource referral, disaster recovery, and a tool to address social determinants of health.

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Support the efforts of the OpportUNITY Affordable Housing Workgroup to address affordable housing and reduce cost-burdens for families seeking homeownership.

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Support a direct appropriation for the Double Up Food Bucks program allowing SNAP participants better access to healthy, nutritious fruits and vegetables.

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Support efforts to increase SNAP access post-pandemic by bringing Iowa's income eligibility more in line with federal guidelines.

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Support sustainable funding for public transportation systems in the central Iowa region and statewide.