

Mat-Su Public Policy Agenda 2015



United Way of Mat-Su (UWMSB) assesses the aspirations and needs of Mat-Su residents and works to help achieve those community aspirations.

United Way must actively engage in public policy. Our detailed knowledge on local issues is a vital tool for policy makers at all levels of government. United Way of Mat-Su can only achieve community change at the scale needed to meet community aspirations by engaging with government partners to craft practical long-term solutions. United Way of Mat-Su can use its convening power to bring together all partners from all sectors to help find non-partisan policy compromises to advance the common good.

	Lead/Active Partner	Participate or Action to Support/Not Support	Track
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best-Beginnings: Early Childhood Partnership of Mat-Su Youth Risk Behavior Survey School Climate & Connectedness Readers Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support funding for Early Head Start, Head Start and Community Development Block grant (CDBG) program child care funding Support early childhood education, home visitations, early learning systems, comprehensive literacy programs, preschools within districts & child care assistance funding Support reauthorization for Elementary and Secondary Education Act funding for Title 1 Schools including McKinney-Vento Homelessness program Support early warning and interventions systems, academic re-entry, dropout recovery and STEM education Support Alaska State Academic Standards for alignment, federal support for wraparound service for students and their families & federal support for Pell grants to increase access for higher education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ADP scores for Kindergarten MSBSD Graduation Rates Early education task force 4th grade Reading Proficiency
Income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family Wise Rx Savings Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program Mat-Su Coalition on Housing and Homelessness Homeless Connect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), Emergency Food & Shelter Program (EFSP), Child Tax Credit (CTC), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP & WIC)), Section 8 Housing Vouchers Support funding for school lunch/breakfast (NSLP) Support Human Services Community Matching grant funding Support Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program funding Support Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) & Automatic Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of families who receive Earned Income Tax Credit Prescription drug savings Housing & Urban Development/Alaska Housing Finance Corp Section 8 vouchers # of Homeless Children/Adults
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thrive Mat-Su MSBSD Health Curriculum Mat-Su Borough HSS Board Breathe Free Mat-Su 2015 Mat-Su YRBS 2013/2016 Mat-Su Community Needs Assessment Alaska Wellness Coalition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support CHIP and expand Denali KidCare Support Statewide Smoke-Free Ordinances Support Medicaid expansion/Eligibility expansion Support Drug Free Communities funding, CADCA funding and health prevention funding Support Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF) & HSS funding for Prevention and Treatment Support Title IV State of Alaska change recommendations Support Foster Care program support & expansion Support Community Health Centers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District adoption of evidence-based prevention programming for health School Climate Data Injury rates (vital stats) Youth Risk Behavior Data Adult Risk Behavior Data # enrolled in DenaliKid Care
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for Social Justice Issues Mat-Su Seniors Regional Services Delivery Project Mat-Su Resource Guide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support UWW 2-1-1 system efforts Preserve charitable contributions deduction & support charitable giving incentives IRA Charitable Rollovers 	