

2025 State Legislative Priorities

Hopelink is a nonprofit organization working to end poverty in King and Snohomish Counties.

As a Community Action Agency, our programs and resources are the foundation so many families and individuals depend upon as they gain stability and build skills to exit poverty. From July 2023 to June 2024, over 62,500 Washingtonians utilized our community services to this end. To support Hopelink's vision of a community free of poverty, we identify and support implementing policies that address the root causes of poverty, including systemic racism.

Community members are increasingly challenged to meet their basic needs. Individuals and families experiencing poverty need access to vital services such as housing, healthcare, transportation, financial assistance, employment programs, and healthy food to ensure stability.

Protect State Services and Benefit Programs

Washington State is facing a significant budget shortfall, which puts state-funded services at risk, especially those related to human services and health care. Hopelink's priority for the 2025 legislative session is to protect funding for the programs and services that support the basic needs of individuals and families in Washington. **We ask the legislature to prioritize protecting programs and services in the following areas:**



Economic Stability

Benefit programs like TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) are a lifeline to struggling families. Many Washington families rely on these programs to regain stability after hardship. We ask the legislature to protect funding for TANF and other programs that are critical to maintaining a household's economic stability.



Food Security

Food security programs are critical to overall stability. People experiencing food insecurities will often forgo other critical needs to keep food on the table, exacerbating related challenges like housing security, consistent health care, and other basic needs. We ask the legislature to protect funding for SNAP, school meals, and resources that allow for greater access to culturally relevant foods and fresh food options.



Affordable Housing

Affordable housing is key to household security and avoiding displacement. We ask the legislature to protect investments in affordable housing, subsidies to help families remain securely housed, and policies to address exclusionary zoning practices resulting in systemic inequities in housing access.



Transportation and Mobility

Hopelink firmly believes that mobility is an inherent right for all. We are committed to advocating for equitable, accessible, affordable, dependable, and safe mobility and infrastructure policies throughout Washington State. We ask the legislature to protect funding for transportation and mobility, including the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) program.



Access to Health Care & Behavioral Health

All Washingtonians should have access to healthcare that meets their needs. We ask the legislature to protect access to quality and affordable health care that addresses and ensures health equity for all community members. Additionally, we ask the legislature to safeguard community behavioral health and crisis response systems investments.

For More Information:

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