

Mat-Su Public Policy Agenda 2011

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 Worldwide Standards of Excellence state that “because government is a critical decision-maker and the major provider and funder of health and human services, 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. To advance this work, and in accordance with UWMSB’s public policy guidance, the following policy agenda identifies the issues where UWMSB will assist policymakers in crafting the best possible government policies in the areas of education, income, and health.

	Lead/Active Partner	Participate to Support/Not Support	Track
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best-Beginnings: Early Learning Partnership of Mat-Su 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support HB 49: Parents and Teachers Support HB 51: Child care centers Support SB 6: Preschool within districts Support funding for Head Start, Imagination Library, ILP and Best Beginnings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review received (grants/fund raisers) for BB partnership. Passage of bills
Income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family Wise Rx Savings Emergency Food and Shelter Program Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program Mat-Su Coalition on Housing and Homelessness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support Mat-Su Homeless Connect and Unaccompanied Youth. Support low-income tax clinics (AARP). Support SB 3: funding for school lunch/breakfast Support SB 21, HB 16, and HB 48: extend Senior Benefits Support HB 31: transportation fund (WILSON) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of families who receive Earned Income Tax Credit Prescription drug savings Passage of bills

Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mat-Su Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition (MSAPC) • Revisions to MSBSD Health Curriculum. • Mat-Su Borough Health & Social Services Board • Breathe Free Mat-Su • 2011 Mat-Su YRBS • 2012 Mat-Su Community Needs Assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Support Mat-Su Health Fairs</i> • <i>Support SB 5 to expand DenaliKid Care</i> • <i>Support HB 7: synthetic marijuana ban</i> • <i>Oppose HB 125: move ABC Board</i> • <i>Support HB 7: insurance coverage for autism spectrum</i> • <i>Promote exercise and nutrition</i> • <i>Support HB 57 to increase bicycle access</i> • <i>Support HB 78: loan repayment for providers</i> • <i>Support HB 44 and 46: Rx Drug programs</i> • <i>Support HB 15: TBI/Athletes</i> • <i>Support HB 68 and 22: Cell phones while driving</i> • <i>Support HB 21: Suicide Prevention Council</i> • <i>Support Smoke-Free Ordinances</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of funds (grant/fundraising) for coalition. • District adoption of evidence-based prevention programming for health • # of free screenings provided at health fair. • Passage of bills • # of coalition contacts • Youth substance use rates (YRBS/AHKS) • Injury rates (vital stats). • Youth Risk Behavior Data • Adult Risk Behavior Data • # enrolled in DenaliKid Care
211	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mat-Su Resource Guide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support 211 via advertising, promotion, appropriations and word of mouth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # of referrals made • % (types of assistance requested)
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for Social Justice Issues • Mat-Su Seniors Regional Services Delivery Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Support Human Service Matching Grants</i> • <i>Support SB 8 for passive consent on student questionnaires.</i> • <i>Support SB 4: volunteer appreciation day</i> • <i>Support HJR: gender neutral references</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number and amount of grants awarded. • Passage of bills.

italics = pending legislation or appropriation

Lead/Active Partner: UWMSB will assume a proactive, leadership role and will devote resources to research, policies, development, outreach, and advocacy.

Participate to Support/Not Support: UWMSB will develop positions and will advocate the positions individually or with others on an as-needed basis.

Track: UWMSB will monitor and consider/respond to requests through vehicles such as sign-on letters.