



2020 STATE POLICY AGENDA

Each year, the Healthy Living Collaborative of Southwest Washington identifies a policy agenda based on input from its broad coalition of community stakeholders. Recommendations for 2020 seek to address a range of issues that influence health and wellness in Southwest Washington. The following items are not listed in order of priority.

Active Policy Advocacy:

- Integrate behavioral health specialists into early care and early learning.
 - Related bills: HB 2661, HB 2456, SB 6253
- Advance timely and equitable access to behavioral health services (including mental health and substance use disorder support) grounded in best practices by ensuring that Medicaid rates are sufficient to support competitive salaries. Prioritize treatment codes that will increase access for children and youth.
 - Related bills: HB 2584, HB 2728, HB 2737, SB 6588
- Increase Working Connections Child Care rates so that more programs can provide quality child care for more vulnerable children and families.
 - Budget ask
- Bring wages for child care educators up to parity with kindergarten teachers via an early childhood education pay scale to reduce turnover.
 - Related bills: HB 2661, HB 2456, SB 6253
- Support the \$10 Million Housing Trust Fund appropriation for preservation of affordable homes.
 - Budget ask
- Require move-in fee installment payment plans over 3 months if a tenant requests it.
 - Related bill: HB 1694
- Establish and fund a work group on school-based health centers.
 - Related bill: HB 2708