

Michigan Association of United Ways 2009 - 2010 Public Policy Platform:

United Way engages decision-makers and policy leaders at the local, state and national levels to help address the most important community needs with the goal of increasing self sufficiency. The Michigan Association of United Ways is dedicated to mobilizing partners for sound public policy in the following areas:

Education - Help children and youth achieve their potential

- Opportunities must exist to ensure that all children enter school ready to learn, achieve age-appropriate benchmarks, complete high school and make a successful transition to post secondary education and/or vocational training.
- Out-of-school time programs must be available to ensure safety and promote youth development.

Income - Promote financial stability and independence

- Public institutions must play a key role in educating youth and adults on the basics of personal finances and their relationship to long term financial well-being.
- Movement toward economic stability requires policies that help individuals and families increase income, build savings, and gain and sustain assets.
- Michigan must ensure a comprehensive continuum of employment training that meets current and future economic needs.

Health - Improve people's health

- Michigan must increase the number of children and adults who have access to and receive health and dental care.
- Healthy lifestyles are a key to long term health and all people must have the opportunity for a healthy progression through life.
- Michigan must streamline systems so all people can connect with health and human services with the greatest possible efficiency.

