

HLC 2019 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 2019 seek to address a broad range of issues that influence health and wellness in Southwest Washington communities.

1. Increase the Housing and Essential Needs rental assistance program.
2. Implement eviction reform and require cause to terminate tenancy to prevent homelessness.
3. Increase the medicaid reimbursement rate.
4. Funding for school Nurses, counselors, family and community engagement coordinators, and school nurse corps - \$60 million for K-12 comprehensive supports.
5. Increase Working Connections Child Care reimbursement rates - ensure they cover the cost of meeting state standards.
6. Opioid prevention - Comprehensive package addressing prevention, treatment and recovery supports.
7. Invest \$200 million in the Housing Trust Fund to create affordable homes
8. Support the priorities of the Children's Mental Health Workgroup - Priorities will likely include increasing the medicaid rate, addressing workforce issues, increasing school based mental health services, including suicide prevention and expanding partial hospitalization programs.
9. Funding to support school-based health centers - Potential pilot funding for Southwest Washington.
10. Home visiting - Invest an additional \$9 million in state funding to expand home visiting to 1200 more families.