

FEDERAL POLICY AGENDA 2025

We are working side by side with communities to build an equitable future where everyone has a safe place to call home, enough to eat, a quality education, and access to the resources they need. Racial justice guides our work.

As Congress works to keep communities healthy, safe, and secure, we urge you to pass budgets and implement policy designed to make the economy work better for all people. There needs to be resources for disaster relief, investments in basic needs like education, affordable housing, food and health care, changes to our tax system, and efforts to build a strong economy.



YOUTH OPPORTUNITY

- Pass the Childcare Stabilization Act to extend funding to keep providers' doors open and the Childcare for Working Families Act to make childcare affordable for working families and increase wages.
- Increase funding for opportunity youth through the Open Doors for Youth Act, Youth Build, Reentry Employment, and expanded Department of Commerce youth grants.
- Ensure every school is a safe, thriving environment for students with disabilities by passing the Keeping All Students Safe Act and the IDEA Full Funding Act.
- Strengthening student support, including mentorship programs, tutoring, addressing learning loss, counseling, and equitable access to digital technology.



HOUSING STABILITY

- Support housing and affordability legislation that provides new funding and technical assistance for communities to reform zoning and development codes, modernize structures, and create housing action plans.
- Increase tenant protection policies and fully fund Capitalize Eviction Protection Grant Program.
- Expand the Housing and Urban Development Department's definition of homelessness to match the Department of Education's definition.
- Address inequities in homeownership by passing and fully funding the Downpayment Toward Equity Act, Native American Direct Loan Improvement Act and Tribal Housing Program.
- Expand rental assistance funding and fully fund HOME Investment Partnerships Program, Community Development Block Grant, and Homeless Assistance Grant Programs to keep tenants in safe, affordable homes.



FINANCIAL SECURITY

- Strengthen tax credits and tax assistance to support workers and families through things like: increasing earned income tax credit and expanding eligibility for low wage working adults with no kids, and Individual Tax Identification Number filers, reinstating the child tax credit at a higher rate, and fully funding the volunteer income tax program.
- Reauthorize and strengthen the Farm Bill, including lowering barriers and increasing access and eligibility for college students and increasing benefits to reflect the increased cost of nutritious foods.
- Pass The Healthy Meals, Healthy Kids Act (Child Nutrition Act Reauthorization) including fully funding Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, and keeping the fruit and vegetable benefit.
- Improving accessibility and affordability of healthcare coverage for all Americans by increasing funding for Affordable Care Act, and protecting and expanding Medicare and Medicaid services, and promoting and funding mental and behavioral health programs.



COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

- Pass bills that support access to critical health and social services for immigrants and refugees like the Lifting Immigrant Families Through Benefits Access Restoration Act and the Healthy and Equity Access Under the Law for Immigrant Families Act.
- Support a legislative solution that provides citizenship and security for the more than 800,000 individuals and families that benefited from Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals.
- Support the legislative priorities of communities of color, including dual/tribal language access, health equity, investing in Black, Indigenous, and people of color educators, and cultural resilience programs. And ensure equitable access to all resources and community infrastructure.
- Increase the federal investment for national service programs and double the education award to encourage participation of members from underserved and low-income communities.
- Support strategic investments in 211 operations by fully funding the program to operate in every state through the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Act and increase to 211 disaster services through Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- Supporting the infrastructure for a robust nonprofit sector by increasing the charitable deduction and support for individual and corporate tax incentives for charitable giving.