

Advocacy Agenda

Our commitment to health equity

The Providence family of organizations recognize that historical and systemic injustices contribute to health disparities and inequities for people of color and all minority and oppressed communities. That's why we're investing \$50 million to improve health equity in our communities. We will listen to and partner with our local communities to understand and reduce structural, racial and cultural barriers. We call on lawmakers to join us and reform the drivers of significant health, social and economic disparities. This kind of change can only happen when we all work together.

Our policy priorities for 2021-2022

Respond to COVID-19

- **Maintain flexible policy frameworks for staffing and telehealth:** Enable providers to use clinical expertise in the best, most affordable care settings.
- **Strengthen our public health infrastructure:** Increase rapid, collaborative strategies for outreach, testing, treatment, immunization and data collection.
- **Reduce health disparities:** The impact of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases should not be disproportionate on people of color and minority communities.
- **Increase readiness for infectious disease:** Quickly detect and respond to outbreaks through national surveillance systems and alerts.

Preserve affordable access and coverage

- **Sustain Medicaid and Medicare:** Protect the health and well-being of 130 million Americans.
- **Expand private and public health insurance:** Grow Medicare Advantage and advance 'primary care for all' coverage.
- **Continue to adopt value-based payment models:** Enable increased integration between payers and providers.
- **Reduce medication costs:** Increase visibility into pricing and protect the 340B Drug Pricing Program.

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Our policy priorities (continued)

Improve care delivery and coordination

- **End racial disparities:** Policy can improve health outcomes and culturally competent care.
- **Support innovative care models:** Enable more affordable, nimble care such as telehealth.
- **Increase interoperability:** Connected care brings many benefits to entire populations.
- **Protect nonprofits' ability to care for all:** Preserve existing tax-exempt policies.
- **Increase mental health and substance use care:** Enable community-based solutions.
- **Reduce provider shortages and increase workforce diversity:** Focus first on rural and underserved communities.

Promote social and environmental justice

- **Reduce social and economic inequities:** Improve nutrition and other social services for better health.
- **Decrease and prevent homelessness:** Increase access to affordable housing and extend eviction moratoriums.
- **Improve stewardship of our environment:** Expand policies on clean renewable energy to lessen the impact of climate change.
- **Support common-sense gun safety:** Reduce injuries and deaths.
- **Seek justice for the most vulnerable:** Advocate for immigrants and victims of human trafficking.
- **Advance global health:** Promote international development to improve health outcomes.

OUR VISION

Health for a Better World.

OUR CORE VALUES

Compassion, Dignity, Justice,
Excellence, Integrity.

[providence.org](https://www.providence.org)



We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in our health programs and activities.

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