



## Priorities

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### Child protection

Promote child well-being and achieve positive outcomes for county-involved youth by standardizing practice models, investing upstream in early interventions, and stabilizing the child protection system.

### Mental health

Support systems redesign to meet the needs of individuals with mental illness, including expanded supportive housing options and services required for stabilizing individuals in the community.

### Systems modernization

Simplify and streamline Health and Human Services Program requirements to improve and modernize their technological systems, including METS.

### Safety-net health services

Ensure access to the full continuum of health care services for all by supporting policies that increase the financial stability of Hennepin Healthcare System, reduce health disparities, and support the capacity of the healthcare workforce.

### Housing

Support the creation of a renewable capital investment fund and other alternative financing mechanisms for development of necessary community housing options for vulnerable individuals.

### Disparity reduction

Expand resources and strengthen partnerships to reverse racial and other disparities that drive poverty, poor health, involvement in the criminal justice system, transportation access, and low achievement.

### Transportation

Invest in a robust multi-modal system (roads, bridges and transit) to move people and goods equitably and efficiently in ways that strengthen communities and enhance Minnesota's competitiveness.

# Platform

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## Bonding

Mental health treatment facility — \$12 million

## Criminal justice and public safety

Preserve and protect public safety through state-county partnerships that address funding challenges and support reform.

- Support increased funding to the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) to reimburse Hennepin County for two BCA agents to perform timely processing of micro crystal drug chemistry evidence in order to expedite the administration of justice at the county level and to make permanent the existing pilot program between Hennepin County and the BCA.
- Increase Community Corrections Act (CCA) funding to ensure adequate state funding for supervision of offenders in the community.
- Support the unique needs of female and juvenile offenders in the community by strengthening collaboration with and funding for community corrections systems.
- Support legal options such as vacatur (elimination of previous plea) to reduce barriers in housing and employment for the survivors of human trafficking.
- Clarify state financial responsibility for state wards in juvenile court.
- Support the restoration of voting rights to persons on probation or parole for a felony conviction.

- Expand expungement statute to support individuals with housing or employment barriers and who have demonstrated a commitment to rehabilitation and community enhancement.

## Data practices

Improve the delivery and coordination of supportive services through the use of data-driven strategies.

- Support legislation that promotes streamlined service coordination and data sharing across health, education, public safety and human services organizations.
- Support legislation that provides local governments flexibility over retention of electronic official records and correspondence.
- Improve county response to data breaches by aligning state mandates for local governments with those for the private sector.
- Improve cybersecurity response by clearly identifying a sole state agency that is accountable for investigating data breaches and responding to applicable reporting requirements.

# Environment and energy

Protect the environment and conserve resources through responsible management of waste and natural resources and promotion of environmental stewardship.

- Restore SCORE funding to its original purpose (funding county waste reduction, recycling and composting efforts to meet state solid waste goals) by eliminating the diversion of SCORE revenues to the General Fund.
- Ensure that Hennepin County receives a fair share of revenues from the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment.
- Support the efficient, transparent and accountable management of water resources, which maximizes the use of financial and technical resources.
- Support legislation and state funding to local jurisdictions within quarantine areas for planning and response to the loss of trees due to invasive pests and pathogens, such as emerald ash borer.
- Support the Partnership on Waste and Energy 2019 Legislative Platform.

# General government

Partner with the State of Minnesota to improve government services delivery, reduce mandates on local government, re-prioritize government spending and promote effective management of county programs by allowing local control.

- Support improved efficiency of election administration through the use of e-poll books with electronic signature and improvements to in-person absentee voting.
- Amend state statute to allow local governments to publish official documents electronically rather than in print.
- Support renewal of the allocation of Legacy/ Arts and Cultural Heritage funding and other state sources of financial support for libraries with a priority on technology and collection.
- Modernize election statutes by amending outdated voter accessibility technology statutes and repealing 383B elections provisions that are inconsistent with other state statutes.
- Support legislation to align in-person absentee voting with in-person early voting.
- Ensure veterans remain eligible for the veterans property tax exclusion regardless of when they purchase their primary residence.
- Modernize outdated sale/lease statutes to more effectively reach potential customers and reduce the county's administrative burdens.
- Modernize Hennepin County Human Resources statutes to align them with current rules and practices and to minimize duplication of efforts.

# Hennepin Healthcare System

Ensure access to the full continuum of health care services for all by supporting policies that increase the financial stability of Hennepin Healthcare System, reduce health disparities, and support the capacity of the healthcare workforce.

## Increase the financial stability of Hennepin Healthcare.

- Advance efforts to maximize Medicaid reimbursement and supplemental funding sources in support of financing the mission of Hennepin Healthcare, as the state's largest Medicaid provider system, including the promotion of new payment mechanisms, in both fee for service and managed care, that recognize the higher cost of care associated with serving a disproportionate number of Medicaid patients who have greater social and medical complexities.
- Advance legislation to mitigate funding losses to Hennepin Healthcare System as a result of the state's implementation of new federal requirements for the Medicaid program, including the Medicaid Outpatient Drug Rule which will reduce payments to the 340(b) Pharmacy Rebate Program and result in approximately \$2 to \$2.5 million in financial losses to the Hennepin Healthcare's pharmacy program
- Promote efforts to protect the state's Medicaid and MinnesotaCare programs when proposed changes would reduce access to coverage for Hennepin Healthcare System patients and increase uncompensated care costs to Hennepin Healthcare System, including any changes that would restrict an individual's eligibility for coverage based on employment status.
- Promote efforts to strengthen value-based-payment arrangements in Medicaid between providers and the state, including new state investments in short-term stabilization payments for safety-net provider systems intending to

expand these arrangements with the state.

- Support the repeal of the sunset of the provider tax to prevent an estimated \$800 million loss to the state budget for the Medicaid program over the next biennium.

## Improve population health and health equity through innovation and reform.

- Promote efforts to address the state's opioid crisis, including increasing access to medication assisted therapy and alternative pain management therapies.
- Advance the development and funding of new innovative health care delivery models aimed at addressing social determinants of health, including, but not limited to, seeking federal approval to allow Medicaid to cover medical respite care for people experiencing homelessness and expanding the definition of the state plan benefit for care coordination under Medicaid in Minnesota.
- Advance efforts to expand Project ECHO in Minnesota through the Medicaid program with Hennepin Healthcare System as one of the state's central specialty care hubs for providing real-time learning for front-line providers on conditions like addiction, Hepatitis C, and mental health disorders.
- Support new state investments in grant programs to reduce health disparities, including, but not limited to, legislation that invests in programs that expand trauma-informed approaches to care and/or address the cultural and racial gaps in women's access to prenatal care.

## Support the capacity of the health care workforce to ensure the delivery of exceptional care.

- Promote efforts to improve access to care that also support the policies and/or investments needed to address any existing workforce and provider shortages in Minnesota, especially in the behavioral health care system.

- Support efforts to improve care coordination for complex patients and managing care transitions from the hospital to the most appropriate setting of care to avoid hospital readmissions and improve patient outcomes, especially in the behavioral health care system.
- Support efforts to maintain or increase current state investment in medical education and health care workforce development funding for Hennepin Healthcare System.
- Support policies that support increasing staff capacity in the health care workforce through telehealth opportunities.

## Health and human services

Ensure that mental health, chemical health and public health systems work to improve outcomes for all residents, especially the most vulnerable. Support preventative models of care and early intervention service to avoid over-reliance on crisis care and response.

### Administrative and technical improvements

- Simplify and streamline Health and Human Services Program requirements and improve technological systems, including METS, MAXIS/MEC<sup>2</sup>, SSIS, PRISM and MnCHOICES.
- Support reforms to safety-net programs that streamline and align eligibility determination with other income support programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and child care assistance.
- Oppose cost shifting to local governments for clients released from state human services facilities and state operated services (e.g. Anoka Metro Regional Treatment Facility, Minnesota Security Hospital in St. Peter and

Community Behavioral Health Hospitals). Support adequate state funding for county services when such clients are placed by the state in community-based settings.

- Strengthen data sharing between state and local public health agencies to support HIV/AIDS response. Target available funding to data-driven local prevention, care, and treatment strategies endorsed by local planning bodies.

### Investment in well-being of our children

- Promote child well-being and achieve positive outcomes for county-involved youth by standardizing practice models, investing upstream in early interventions, and stabilizing the child protection system.
- Substantially invest in, reform, and eliminate fraud in early childhood development programs, including basic sliding fee child care, foster care child care, early learning scholarships, Head Start and evidence-based targeted home visiting as a means to reduce disparities and invest early in child outcomes.

### Investment in health through mental health and chemical health improvements

- Support systems redesign to meet the needs of individuals with mental illness, including expanded supportive housing options and services required for stabilizing individuals in the community. Expand access to waiver-funded services to meet condition-related needs.
- Support efforts to integrate mental health, chemical health and criminal justice interventions to address the needs of justice-involved persons, to ensure better outcomes for residents, and to reduce recidivism.
- Support legislation and that promotes and sustains efforts to develop a comprehensive and integrated model of health and human services delivery (similar to Hennepin Health) to outcomes for residents.

- Support continuation of the provider tax to ensure long-term stable funding for affordable coverage and access to community-based care.

## Housing

Leverage limited resources more efficiently and advance stable housing for individuals and families.

- Support the creation of a renewable capital investment fund and other alternative financing mechanisms for development of necessary community housing options for vulnerable individuals.
- Maintain funding for homeless prevention, outreach and emergency shelters.
- Increase access to affordable long-term housing for low and moderate income residents.
- Support legislation and administrative reforms that provide a continuum of services and housing, including 24-hour supervised care options for persons with acute and chronic care needs.

## Taxes

Protect state funding for mandated services and assure flexibility to serve our residents without undue reliance on property taxes.

- Protect essential County Program Aid (CPA) that supports county-mandated services and reduces reliance on property tax.
- Oppose tax cuts relative to federal tax conformity that deplete state funding for local government mandates.

## Transportation

Strengthen the long-term value of neighborhoods and communities through strategic public investments in infrastructure that improve mobility and safety and connect people to jobs.

- Extend to the Bottineau Light Rail Transit line the liability and insurance provisions that currently exist for the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) line.
- Support a comprehensive transportation package that provides new revenue for roads, bridges and transit.
- Support elimination of the prohibition on state funding for long-term capital maintenance for the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) project.
- Modify the special distribution of leased vehicle sales tax in the metro area to fairly include Hennepin and Ramsey counties.
- Oppose any increase in weight or size limits for commercial trucks and other motor vehicles.

# Workforce development

Meet the future workforce needs of Hennepin County and other employers and address persistent economic and racial disparities by connecting well-trained and qualified individuals to high demand jobs in our region.

- Support expansion and flexibility of state programs to provide enhanced training and employment opportunities to better address persistent employment disparities.
- Seek funding to increase training and employment services to clients in correctional programs such as Productive Day, Sentencing to Service (STS), STS Homes, probation, and electronic home monitoring.
- Support reforms to the SNAP's Employment and Training Program that streamline program administration and restructure participation sanctions, while enhancing program integrity as a means to increase work participation rates.

# Non-profit requests

Support the following non-profit organizations by serving as the fiscal agent for state bonding proceeds.

- Avivo — \$10 million
- Children's Theatre Company — \$4 million
- Catholic Charities—\$10 million

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