

Virginia United Ways

Legislative Priorities

2026

United Ways of Virginia are committed to advancing public policies that create lasting change and Strengthen the foundation of our communities. Our legislative priorities support our goal to ensure all Virginians can thrive through key priority areas: improving Youth Opportunity; enhancing Financial Security; ensuring Healthy Communities; and fostering Community Resilience.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITY

GOAL: To ensure every child has access to high-quality early childhood education and affordable childcare, laying the foundation for lifelong learning and economic stability.

ADVOCACY

Early Childhood Education: Invest in early education programs that help every child exceed educational benchmarks.

Childcare: Expand affordable high quality childcare solutions to support parents in workforce and foster early childhood development.



FINANCIAL SECURITY

GOAL: To promote financial stability and upward mobility by expanding access to workforce supports and affordable housing, ensuring that individuals and families thrive.

ADVOCACY

Housing: Increase funding and policy support to expand affordable, safe housing development and preservation

Workforce Solutions: Provide tools and training to support the long-term financial growth of ALICE households across Virginia.



HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Goal: To reduce food insecurity across Virginia by expanding access to nutritious food and addressing systemic barriers that leave families vulnerable to hunger.

ADVOCACY

Food Security: Ensuring the promotion of equitable access to food and nutritional programming that improves health outcomes for ALICE individuals and families and the continuation of Emergency Food and Shelter (EFSP) Programming.



COMMUNITY RESILIENCY

Goal: To strengthen Virginia communities through multi-sector collaborations, implementing proactive planning, and strategic resource coordination.

ADVOCACY

Collaborative Approaches and Strategies that build communities and ensure resources such as disaster services

Tax credits: Supporting legislation for charitable giving tax deductions.

