



2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

As advocates for social and racial justice, the Education and Advocacy Team promotes Colorado Coalition for the Homeless' mission of preventing and resolving homelessness, increasing access to healthcare and housing, and creating pathways to greater stability by shaping public policy, building strategic community relationships, and influencing the public narrative about the causes of and solutions to homelessness.

1 HOUSING

The Coalition will continue to prioritize investments in affordable housing development, property acquisition and conversion for transitional and long-term housing, and supportive services funding. The Coalition will advocate for federal and state resources to be directed toward those most in need, including the lowest income households living at or below 30% of area median income, people experiencing homelessness, communities of color that have historically faced barriers to housing stability, and those on fixed incomes. To keep people from falling into the cycle of homelessness, strengthening eviction prevention strategies -- including reducing barriers to tenants' participation in eviction proceedings and preventing automatic loss of their homes -- will also be part of the Coalition's housing advocacy strategy.

3 HEALTH

The Coalition believes that housing is healthcare and that housing stability is essential to and dependent on meaningful access to affordable healthcare. The organization will advocate for expanding access to, coverage for, and adequate delivery of integrated physical and behavioral healthcare options for Coloradans with limited resources. The Coalition supports improving access to effective Medication Assisted Treatment and harm reduction measures like Overdose Prevention Centers,

2 HOMELESSNESS

Expanding the programs and tools that help people experiencing homelessness secure housing and stay housed successfully remains a top priority for the Coalition. The organization will continue to advocate for a statewide homelessness resolution and prevention strategy, including additional, dedicated state-level funding. The Coalition will also support efforts to expand and fund supportive housing services such as behavioral healthcare, case management, vocational services, and financial management services to individuals experiencing homelessness, at risk of homelessness, and newly housed. The Coalition will continue to advocate for criminal legal reforms that impact people experiencing homelessness.

4 ECONOMIC STABILITY

Improving individuals' and families' economic stability is a key component of the Coalition's mission. The Coalition will support efforts to improve access to and value of essential public benefits, including strengthening the Colorado Necessary Documents Program which provides access to no-cost identification documents. These documents necessary to access public benefits, secure a job, get banked, and secure quality, stable housing.