

# Policy focus areas



AUGUST 2026

1

## Accountable, effective safety net

**Our goal is to strengthen Ohio's public benefit systems so people can meet basic needs and move toward stability.**

There is a deep disconnect between policy narratives and lived reality. A strong safety net can lift Ohioans out of poverty and support people of all ages and circumstances. Accountable spending ensures that public benefit programs like SNAP, TANF, Medicaid, and child care remain effective and responsive to the realities of poverty and community conditions.

Our focus is on policy relating to hunger, health, income, and meeting basic needs. We continue to identify administrative and policy reforms that improve services while reducing waste and inefficiency.

2

## Identify and address gaps

**Our goal is to improve health, social, and economic outcomes for Ohioans across the lifespan.**

Policy decisions should ensure that people of all ages are supported to thrive and live healthy lives. Data show gaps in health and economic outcomes shaped by longstanding differences in access, opportunity, age, and geography. Successful systems and policies would mean that all Ohioans have a fair opportunity to thrive throughout their lives.

We build on our established expertise on issues impacting older adults, people in poverty, and women while providing reliable, useful data on community conditions.

3

## Stable, sensible tax and revenue policy

**Our goal is to evaluate policy choices to align government resources with the needs of Ohio communities.**

Some of this is math; some is policy reform. Now is the time to be clear on the role of publicly funded services. The people who live in our communities, the institutions that serve them, and the businesses that locate here rely upon one another and the public resources that make Ohio a great place to live. Every policy change involves tradeoffs. Leaders must make choices to fund their mandates and right-size programs to achieve goals and meet needs.