



The Statewide Poverty Action Network is a catalyst for economic justice. We work alongside low-income communities and communities of color in Washington state to support emerging leaders, mobilize voters, and advance equitable policy solutions. We believe that by centering the voices of those impacted by poverty and injustice, we can build an equitable Washington free of poverty.

2022 Policy Priorities

Our policy priorities are informed by the conversations and feedback that we hear from people of color and low-income residents across Washington state.

Basic Needs

We all deserve to have what we need to survive and live healthy lives.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

- Preserve equity outcomes created by COVID-19 protections by reinstating broad hardship exemptions for TANF recipients beyond the 60-month lifetime Federal limit.

Aged, Blind, and Disabled (ABD)

- Increase the ABD monthly cash grant (\$197) to at least the same level as the TANF monthly cash grant per recipient (\$417).

Dental Care Access

We all deserve a healthy smile, no matter our race, where we live, or what insurance we can afford.

Dental Therapy

- Expand dental therapy statewide to improve access to dental care.

Medicaid Adult Dental Coverage

- Protect investments made to the Medicaid Adult Dental program in 2021.

Removing Barriers to Re-entry

We should have what we need to support our families regardless of whether we have been impacted by the criminal justice system.

Legal Financial Obligations (LFOs)

- Eliminate mandatory fines and fees at sentencing and expand eligibility for waiving interest.

Cash Assistance

We are each the experts in our own lives and know how to meet our needs better than anyone else.

Working Families Tax Credit (WFTC)

- Increase funding and expand eligibility for the WFTC.

Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI)

- Implement a GBI in Washington to ensure a baseline of financial stability for the most economically marginalized and stop the cycle of generational poverty.

Safety & Civil Rights

We should all be able to live with safety, dignity, and power over our own futures.

Property Seizure

- End unfair property seizure by police and invest in community programs.

Improve Police Accountability

- Strengthen and expand measures passed in 2021 to increase police accountability.



Illustration by Ana Vonhuben