

## **Support Access to Basic Needs and Health Services**

### **Notes Summary 8/26/20**

*Due to time constraints, groups were not able to answer every question.  
Here is a summary of the main takeaways.*

**In looking at these survey results, what are your thoughts related to:**

#### **This category – basic needs and health services?**

- Difficult to rate because they are all important and unsure of what is on the legislative agenda
- Housing assistance and rental assistance are missing
- Cash assistance rated high – hierarchy of needs with food being the basic and main need

#### **The additional policy and budget issues suggested?**

- Echoing housing and rental assistance and elevating food assistance - need to pay attention to people's wellness and nutrition; housing and food are closely connected: rental moratorium helps families focus on food, but concern about when this will be lifted; need for SNAP benefits
- Add transportation and access to transportation to the housing and food assistance

#### **The priorities that cut across all categories?**

- Good to have preserving funding for human services at the top of the list
- Echoing housing and food assistance as immediate needs especially with the winter approaching- focus on basic needs

#### **What got missed?**

- Current donation levels are good, but there is concern that donations are drying up and we may not be able to sustain needed donations long-term
- Include equity at the forefront of advocacy efforts
- Concern about feeding kids with distance learning; families need to pick up food from the schools
- People had food insecurities before COVID and now with COVID, numbers have increased; there are many people who do not know where to access food

