



# 2025-2026 Advocacy Agenda

## Advocating for the communities we serve

The Providence family of organizations advocates for the health and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. Grounded in our Mission and inspired by our belief that health is a human right, we work with lawmakers and community partners to remove the causes of oppression and promote justice for all. Core to this work is advancing policies that increase equitable access to high-quality care, strengthen the health care workforce and address social and environmental justice.

## Our Policy Priorities

### Preserve affordable access to care

- **Sustain Medicare and Medicaid:** Protect health care coverage and support reimbursement rates that appropriately reflect the cost of delivering care, especially for vulnerable populations.
- **Reduce medication costs:** Increase pharmaceutical pricing transparency and protect the 340B Drug Pricing Program, which provides access to life-changing medications for low-income patients.
- **Increase care accessibility:** Promote care delivery innovation, including maintaining telehealth flexibilities and hospital-at-home programs.
- **Protect the ability of nonprofit health care to care for all:** Preserve tax-exempt status to support community needs and promote sustainable financial assistance programs.

### Improve health system sustainability

- **Promote collaboration and accountability with insurers:** Increase partnerships between payers and providers to strengthen value-based care and lessen the burden on patients.
- **Ensure sustainable health care cost growth:** Ensure reasonable cost growth targets don't penalize providers for costs outside our control, like labor and pharmaceutical costs.
- **Preserve rural health care:** Enhance funding to protect rural clinics and prevent hospital closures.

(continued on back)

# Our Policy Priorities (continued)

## Strengthen and develop our workforce

- **Grow the physician and provider workforce:** Increase funding for scholarships, loan forgiveness and residency training programs.
- **Expand the nursing and caregiver pipeline:** Support recruitment, retention and advanced education for nurses and other allied health professionals.
- **Reform the physician payment system:** Support reimbursement rates that reflect the increased cost of delivering high-quality care.
- **Reduce administrative burden:** Remove barriers to licensure for health care workers and reduce the unnecessary prior authorization and coverage denials to help address burnout and support caregivers at the bedside.
- **Eliminate violence against caregivers:** Support continued health care workplace safety and fund support programs to keep caregivers safe.

## Advance care delivery and innovation

- **Improve hospital capacity:** Develop solutions to reduce unnecessary lengths of stay and ensure patients receive care in the appropriate settings, including improving access to post-acute care services.
- **Increase access to behavioral health services:** Improve access along the continuum of care, including treatment for patients in crisis, community-based services, and preventative services.
- **Advance health IT:** Protect health systems from cybersecurity threats and promote appropriate regulation of AI in health care to allow for innovation.
- **Improve coordination of care:** Bolster palliative care and long-term services, including the Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE).

## Promote social and environmental justice

- **Advance health equity:** Support policies that seek to address inequities in health care delivery, especially for underserved populations, including immigrants.
- **Address social determinants of health:** Improve access to housing, transportation, healthy food, education, and employment.
- **Improve stewardship of our environment:** Increase funding and support policies to decarbonize the health care sector and address environmental justice and climate resiliency.

### Our Mission

As expressions of God's healing love, witnessed through the ministry of Jesus, we are steadfast in serving all, especially those who are poor and vulnerable.

### Our Vision

Health for a Better World.

### Our Core Values

Compassion, Dignity, Justice, Excellence, Integrity.