

# Advocacy Priorities

Fiscal Year 2024

## Working toward the Common Good of all Alaskans

*Catholic Social Services compassionately serves those in need, strengthens individuals and families, and advocates for social justice. Across multiple programs, through state and federal advocacy efforts, we're working for the betterment of all Alaskans by supporting...*

*\*State advocacy objectives*

*\*Federal advocacy objectives*

### Vibrant Neighborhoods

- 1. Housing Security:** Create a more accessible housing environment
  - Promote supportive housing initiatives and increase access to rental vouchers.*
- 2. Food Security:** Create a more resilient food support network
  - Continue expanding access to food assistance through Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).*
  - Advocate for continued senior nutrition and The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) through USDA funding.*
- 3. Transportation:** Provide accessible transportation for all people
  - Promote the importance of buses, bike lanes, and clear sidewalks.*

### Strong Communities

- 1. Equity:** Address historical disadvantages
  - Advocate for local language resources.*
- 2. Welcoming Community:** Make Anchorage a safe and supportive environment for all
  - Promote Welcoming Anchorage and further opportunities for the public to build relationships with the refugee and immigrant community.*
  - Advocate for legislation that removes barriers to employment.*
  - Advocate for clear pathways to citizenship for new arrivals.*



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### Comprehensive Healthcare and Social Services

- 1. Healthcare (physical):** Ensure access to affordable treatment and aftercare
  - *Support legislation that improves healthcare access for at-risk populations.*
- 2. Healthcare (mental):** Ensure access to affordable treatment
  - *Support public investment in substance use disorder treatment.*
- 3. Social Services:** Expand avenues helping clients exit crisis and address life challenges
  - *Advocate for a multi-faceted homelessness response network including safety net services and access to healthcare, treatment, and supportive housing resources.*



### Resilient Families

- 1. Economic Assistance:** Keep families from falling into crisis
  - *Advocate for well-funded and robust Basic Homeless Assistance Program (BHAP) and Beneficiary and Special Needs Housing Grant (SNHG) programs.*

