



## IOWA STATE OFFICE CANDIDATE SURVEY ON SUPPORTING ESSENTIAL WORKERS IN CAREGIVING AND EDUCATION

The Iowa Helping Community Policy Group is asking all candidates for state office to respond to three questions regarding essential workers in caregiving and education. We will post responses on our website ([www.iowahelpers.org](http://www.iowahelpers.org)) beginning August 10, 2022. We are asking for yes/no/other responses and welcome any other comments on each of the questions. We are providing a brief context for asking these questions (more information about us and this workforce is on our website), followed by the questions. To respond, please complete the survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DKV3JLY>

**Context.** Covid-19 raised much greater attention to the role that essential workers – particularly in helping, caregiving, and education roles – play in society and the need to value and support them. These include doctors and nurses and classroom teachers – but they also include frontline direct care and community health workers and child care workers and educators.

These workers are vital to Iowa’s well-being in social terms and as a workforce behind the workforce. They also are a part of the workforce and economy and in the highest demand for new workers.

When well-resourced and supported, these workers can build careers that enable them to raise their own families and contribute to the economy. This workforce, however, relies upon government to provide much of its financing, as part of society’s human infrastructure. Currently, despite the essential nature of the work these direct care and child care workers do, they are under-resourced and among the lowest paid of workers in society.

The Iowa Helping Community Policy Group advocates for increased policy attention to and commensurate public (state and federal) investments to support this workforce. We are asking all candidates for state office to respond to the following questions.

### Questions

1. Do you support investing additional state funds to raise the compensation of **child care workers** while making the cost to working families more affordable?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_ Additional Comments \_\_\_\_\_

2. Do you support investing additional state funds to raise the reimbursement **direct care workers and home health aides** receive within state-funded Medicaid coverage?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_ Additional Comments \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you support investing additional state funds for **community health workers** within public health to improve health outreach and response in poor and medically-underserved communities?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_ Additional Comments \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Legislative District/State \_\_\_\_\_ Office (Rep/Sen/State) \_\_\_\_\_

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Survey can be completed at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DKV3JLY>

Responses (or questions) also can be emailed to: [bruner@childequity.org](mailto:bruner@childequity.org).

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