



## 2010 Legislative Priorities

### **Maintain Safety-Programs**

#### **New revenue is needed to secure our safety net**

1. We want to live in a Washington where all people have access to affordable, comprehensive care.
2. New revenue resources are needed both to deal with this immediate crisis, and to ensure long-term stability in our social safety net. Our spending is not out of control, our revenue stream is inadequate.

### **Basic Health**

Basic Health is a critical component to the healthcare safety net. For some, it serves as a transition between state sponsored and private insurance coverage and provides a vehicle for low income individuals (many working) to access coverage on a sliding fee basis. In short, it addresses the largest growing number of uninsured, low income adults who are not eligible for any other programs.

- Preserve and retain Basic Health as currently exists
- Identify new revenue streams to support infrastructure

### **General Assistance for Unemployable**

GAU is a state-funded program that provides small cash grants and medical coverage to low-income persons who are disabled and unable to work due to a physical or mental disability. The Governor proposed eliminating the GAU program to help address the deficit in her biennial budget. Elimination would have a detrimental effect on the men and women who rely on GAU and would have created higher costs in other areas of the budget.

- Restore funding for GAU

### **Children's Access**

Maintain Washington State's investment in children's health. These programs are vital for families, providing a needed safety net to maintain health coverage.

- Maintain Apple Health For Kids at current levels
- Ensure access to Provider One for Community Collaboratives
- Restore cuts to interpreter services programs