



2020 Public Policy and Legislative Priorities

- Promote and support tax policy that empowers community solutions through nonprofits.
 - Support existing, enhanced and new tax and other incentives (including a universal non-itemizer deduction) at the federal, state and local levels that encourage individuals to volunteer their time and contribute money to the missions of all charitable nonprofits and oppose floors, caps or limits on existing charitable giving incentives.
 - Oppose the imposition of fees, payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTs) and other taxes and fees on tax-exempt nonprofit organizations.
 - Maintain and – where appropriate – expand nonprofit exemptions from paying state and local property, sales and use taxes and from collecting sales and use taxes.
(Charitable Giving, Nonprofit Exempt Status Protection, Economic and Workforce Development)
- Promote and support executive action or legislation that furthers the sector’s efforts to streamline nonprofit contracts with government, as outlined in the final recommendation of the Government Contracting Task Force (issued November 15, 2016).
(Nonprofit-Government Relations, Economic and Workforce Development, Best Practices and Accountability)
- Advocate for thoughtful state budget decisions and tax reform that encourage solutions that promote fiscal stability and growth, while ensuring that the work of nonprofits on behalf of the communities and people they serve is sustained and protected.
(Nonprofit Sector Awareness, Nonprofit-Government Relations, Economic and Workforce Development)
- Advocate for protection of the spirit of volunteerism and programs that promote volunteering activities that mutually benefit individuals and the people served through nonprofits.
(Volunteerism, Nonprofit Sector Awareness, Nonprofit-Government Relations, Economic and Workforce Development)
- Oppose proposals or legislation that impose increased costs, burdens and liabilities on nonprofits – negatively impacting their ability to effectively accomplish their core mission.
(Volunteerism, Nonprofit Sector Awareness, Nonprofit-Government Relations, Economic and Workforce Development)
- Advocate for an accurate and complete 2020 U.S. Census.
 - Engage with other nonprofits through the Count Me in KY Nonprofit Census Coalition, the state Complete Count Task Force and local Complete Count Committees to create awareness of the importance of the census and secure a complete count.
(Civic Participation, Economic and Workforce Development)
- Promote, support and protect nonprofit advocacy rights and civic participation.
 - Preserve the integrity of charitable nonprofits by supporting the tax-law ban on electioneering and partisan political activities.
 - Oppose restrictions on the advocacy rights of charitable nonprofits.
(Advocacy and Lobbying Rights, Civic Participation)



Public Policy Agenda

Kentucky Nonprofit Network's public policy agenda provides clear principles common to all nonprofits regarding policy priorities at the federal, state and local levels. The following agenda represents our annual framework for addressing public policy that impacts and strengthens nonprofits in Kentucky.

Nonprofit Sector Public Awareness – Educate policy makers and the general public on the breadth, scope and economic importance of the nonprofit sector in Kentucky and in the United States.

Nonprofit Exempt Status Protection – Support actions to preserve and protect the tax-exempt status of nonprofits and promote policies that strengthen the nonprofit economy.

Charitable Giving and Volunteerism – Preserve and enact policies that effectively incentivize citizens to donate and volunteer to support the work of Kentucky's charitable organizations.

Nonprofit-Government Relations – Improve and strengthen the nonprofit-government relationship through reforms to the contracting and grant making processes. Advocate for government's payment of the full cost of services provided on its behalf by nonprofits. Encourage all nonprofits to be meaningful participants in the state and local budget processes.

Advocacy and Lobbying Rights, Civic Participation – Protect the rights of all 501 (c)(3) organizations to advocate for their respective missions and strengthen the ability of Kentucky nonprofits to engage in the public policy arena. Protect nonprofits' right to promote democracy and civic participation, including voting, on a non-partisan basis.

Best Practices and Accountability – Support actions which provide fair and reasonable expectations of accountability within the nonprofit sector. Enhance the ability of Kentucky nonprofits to function at the highest levels of governance, integrity, efficiency and transparency and be accountable to the public they serve, while working to ensure that registration and disclosure requirements are necessary, reasonable, and non-burdensome.

Economic and Workforce Development – Support actions to expand and strengthen incentives that encourage growth in the nonprofit community and promote educational and professional development opportunities for nonprofit staff and volunteers. Oppose legislation or actions that adversely impact the effectiveness of nonprofits, including employment laws and rules, alternative funding mechanisms and independence of the sector.