

2025-2027 Federal Policy Agenda Survey

Thank you for participating in this survey. Your insights are invaluable in shaping the 2025-2027 Social Current Federal Policy Agenda. Our focus is on enhancing the growth, sustainability, and health of the human service sector, particularly through contracting and grant reform. Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability.

Section 1: Participant Information

1. **Name:** (Optional)
2. **Organization:**
3. **Role/Position:**
4. **Years in the Human Service Sector:**
 - Less than 1 year
 - 1-3 years
 - 4-6 years
 - 7-10 years
 - More than 10 years

Section 2: Current Challenges

5. **What are the top three challenges your organization faces in securing government contracts?** (Select up to three)
 - Complex application processes
 - Inadequate funding levels
 - Stringent compliance requirements
 - Lack of access to information
 - Competitive bidding
 - Delayed payments
 - Other (Please specify)
6. **What are the top three challenges your organization faces in securing government grants?** (Select up to three)
 - Complex application processes
 - Inadequate funding levels
 - Stringent compliance requirements
 - Lack of access to information
 - Competitive grant landscape
 - Delayed payments
 - Other (Please specify)

Section 3: Contracting and Grant Reform

7. **What specific changes in government contracting processes would most benefit your organization?** (Select up to three)
 - Simplified application procedures
 - Increased funding amounts
 - Longer contract durations
 - Reduced compliance requirements
 - Improved access to information
 - Timely payments
 - Other (Please specify)
8. **What specific changes in government grant processes would most benefit your organization?** (Select up to three)
 - Simplified application procedures
 - Increased funding amounts
 - Longer grant durations
 - Reduced compliance requirements
 - Improved access to information
 - Timely payments
 - Other (Please specify)
9. **How can the government better support small and medium-sized human service organizations in securing contracts and grants?** (Open-ended)

Section 4: Growth and Sustainability

10. **What are the key factors that contribute to the growth and sustainability of your organization?** (Select up to three)
 - Access to funding
 - Skilled workforce
 - Effective leadership
 - Community partnerships
 - Technological infrastructure
 - Reduced administrative burdens
 - Other (Please specify)
11. **What types of support or resources would most enhance the growth and sustainability of your organization?** (Open-ended)
12. **How can the federal government improve its support for the human service sector to ensure long-term sustainability and health?** (Open-ended)

Section 5: Health of the Human Service Sector

13. **What are the primary health and well-being challenges faced by your organization's workforce?** (Select up to three)

- Burnout and stress
- Inadequate salaries
- Lack of professional development opportunities
- High workload
- Inadequate benefits
- Workforce shortages
- Other (Please specify)

14. **What initiatives or policies would help improve the health and well-being of the human service sector workforce?** (Open-ended)

Section 6: Policy Goals from the Previous Agenda

15. **Advancing Equity and Justice:**

- How important is it to continue advancing equity and justice across populations and systems? (Rate on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being not important and 5 being very important)
- What specific equity and justice issues should be prioritized? (Examples: policies addressing racial disparities in healthcare, education, and employment; legislation promoting LGBTQ+ rights; initiatives to combat systemic racism) (Open-ended)

16. **Engaging Voices with Lived Experience:**

- How important is it to engage voices with lived experience in policymaking? (Rate on a scale of 1 to 5)
- What methods can be used to effectively engage these voices? (Examples: advisory boards composed of individuals with lived experience, community town halls, participatory action research) (Open-ended)

17. **Promoting Early Interventions and Prevention Strategies:**

- How important is it to promote early interventions and prevention strategies? (Rate on a scale of 1 to 5)
- What types of early interventions and prevention strategies should be prioritized? (Examples: home visiting programs for at-risk families, preventive healthcare services, early childhood education initiatives) (Open-ended)

18. **Breaking Down Silos:**

- How important is it to break down silos across federal agencies and programs? (Rate on a scale of 1 to 5)
- What specific silos should be addressed? (Examples: coordination between health and social services, integration of mental health and substance use services, collaboration between education and workforce development programs) (Open-ended)

19. Creating Access and Opportunity:

- How important is it to create access and opportunity for all? (Rate on a scale of 1 to 5)
- What areas should be focused on to create better access and opportunities? (Examples: affordable housing initiatives, expanding access to quality education, workforce development programs) (Open-ended)

20. Ensuring the Health and Resilience of the Social Sector:

- How important is it to ensure the health and resilience of the social sector? (Rate on a scale of 1 to 5)
- What measures should be taken to support this goal? (Examples: funding for mental health support for social sector workers, reducing administrative burdens, ensuring sustainable funding models) (Open-ended)

21. Strengthening the Social Sector Workforce:

- How important is it to strengthen the social sector workforce? (Rate on a scale of 1 to 5)
- What initiatives would most effectively strengthen the workforce? (Examples: student loan forgiveness programs, competitive salaries, professional development opportunities) (Open-ended)

22. Promoting Financial Health and Sustainability of Organizations:

- How important is it to promote financial health and sustainability of organizations? (Rate on a scale of 1 to 5)
- What policies or actions would help achieve this? (Examples: increasing reimbursement rates in state and local government contracts, multiyear grant agreements, universal charitable deduction) (Open-ended)

23. Improving Health and Well-Being Through Trauma-Informed Approaches:

- How important is it to improve health and well-being through trauma-informed approaches? (Rate on a scale of 1 to 5)
- What trauma-informed approaches should be prioritized? (Examples: training for staff on trauma-informed care, policies supporting mental health services, community-based prevention programs) (Open-ended)

24. Responding Effectively to Behavioral Health Needs:

- How important is it to respond effectively to behavioral health needs? (Rate on a scale of 1 to 5)
- What specific behavioral health needs should be addressed? (Examples: funding for community mental health services, integration of behavioral health and primary care, crisis intervention programs) (Open-ended)

25. Integrating Cross-Systems Approaches to Address Health Equity:

- How important is it to integrate cross-systems approaches to address health equity? (Rate on a scale of 1 to 5)
- What specific cross-systems approaches should be implemented? (Examples: Medicaid coverage for social determinants of health, coordinated care models, partnerships between healthcare and social services) (Open-ended)

26. Increasing Economic Opportunity and Mobility:

- How important is it to increase economic opportunity and mobility? (Rate on a scale of 1 to 5)
- What policies or programs would most effectively increase economic opportunity and mobility? (Examples: expansion of the Child Tax Credit, paid family leave, job training programs) (Open-ended)

Section 7: Additional Comments

- 27. Do you have any additional comments or suggestions for the 2025-2027 Social Current Federal Policy Agenda?** (Open-ended)

