



2020 Legislative Agenda

Building Changes supports **children, youth, and families experiencing** homelessness from a holistic perspective, focusing especially on their education, health, and social and economic outcomes.

Racial Equity Statement: *At Building Changes, we know that systemic and historical racism are root causes of homelessness and that racism results in people of color disproportionately experiencing homelessness. We commit to building an anti-racist culture in our organization and incorporating anti-racist practice in our work. Our efforts are not complete until we eliminate racial inequities in the systems that serve people experiencing homelessness.*



Continue to invest in the Homeless Student Stability Program (HSSP)

- Secure an additional \$1.3M for the OSPI grant program under HSSP to increase the number of grants and trainings



Continue to improve and invest in early learning for children and families experiencing homelessness

- Extend the Homeless Grace Period under Working Connections Child Care to 12 months
- Ensure categorical eligibility for children experiencing homelessness in the Early Childhood Education & Assistance Program (ECEAP)



Support the Project Education Impact Workgroup to improve education outcomes for students experiencing homelessness or in foster care

- Establish and affirm the workgroup's efforts
- Request annual report from the Education Research & Data Center (ERDC) to inform PEI's review of education outcomes
- Clarify the workgroup's responsibilities in providing recommendations for an optimal continuum of education support services, preschool to postsecondary, for children and youth in foster care or experiencing homelessness

2020 Support Agenda



Health

- Extend **postpartum Medicaid coverage** to 12 months
- Support comprehensive **sex education** in schools
- Invest in **Title X funding** for family planning and preventative health services
- Invest in the **Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)**



Social & Economic

- Ensure state agencies and departments that serve children, youth, and families experiencing homelessness are **aligned on the definition of homelessness**
- Increase investments in **safety net programs**
- Secure new, sustainable, and equitable **revenue sources**



Housing

- Invest \$10M into **Housing Trust Fund**
- Expand **tenant and housing rights and protections**
- Increase funding and availability of **affordable housing**



Youth

- Improve access to **“identcards”** for youth experiencing homelessness
- Increase funding to the Office of Homeless Youth to create **supportive housing options** for youth ages 16 and 17 who are not able to find stability after a short-term shelter stay