

## 2019 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Heartland Alliance advocates for policies, programs, and sustainable revenue to end poverty, advance human rights and justice, reduce inequity and create opportunity for all. Our unique organization brings policy, research and program experience that guides us in creating change.

426,000 TOTAL PARTICIPANTS SERVED

85 PROGRAMS

5,000,000+ IMPACTED BY POLICY

47 LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT ILLINOIS

11 COUNTRIES SERVED GLOBALLY



### JUSTICE

**Human Rights Act (HB3227)** This bill will prohibit the use of an arrest, juvenile record, and records ordered expunged, sealed or impounded by landlords in sale and rental decisions. It also aligns human rights protections in housing to Illinois law that has existing provisions in employment.

**Tax Incentives for Landlords (HB3332)** Encourages landlords to offer housing opportunities to people with criminal records, this bill provides a tax credit to any owner of rental property that enters into or renews a lease with a person with a conviction record.

**Employee Background Fairness (HB3056)** Creates standards for private employers considering criminal history information when hiring, increasing job opportunity.

**License to Work Act (HB3052/SB1786)** This bill would keep Illinoisans on the road by eliminating driver's license suspension as a penalty for most non-moving violations, so Illinoisans can continue to work and support their families.



### FINANCIAL JUSTICE

**The Fair Lending Act (HB2468/SB85)** The Fair Lending Act will cap interest rates on title loans at 36%. This will help ensure that title loans are more fair and affordable and end predatory interest rates.

**Children's Savings Accounts (HB2237/SB1393)** The legislation will help make college a reality for more Illinoisans by automatically depositing \$50 into a college savings account for every child born or adopted in Illinois.



### HEALTH

**Medicaid Eligibility Reforms (SB2021)** Improves how Medicaid applications and renewals are processed so that families can get Medicaid health coverage in a timely way and keep that health coverage if they remain eligible.

**Opioid Crisis Response (SB1828)** Addresses the opioid epidemic by authorizing proven public health interventions such as syringe access programs, better supporting overdose prevention programs, and developing a plan to improve treatment capacity.



## INCOME & ECONOMIC SECURITY

**Minimum Wage (SB1)** Raises the state's minimum wage to \$15/hour, increasing wages for 1.4 million Illinois workers and growing the state's economy.

**SNAP E&T (SB1791)** Encourages the expansion of SNAP employment and training programs and prevents people from being mandated to participate in such programs when there are not enough program slots available in a given county.

**SNAP Prepared Meals (HB3343)** Allows SNAP recipients who are elderly, disabled or experiencing homelessness to use their LINK cards to purchase prepared meals at participating restaurants.

**College Student Hunger (SB1641)** Requires the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to work with Illinois institutions of higher education to notify potentially SNAP eligible students.

**Strengthening TANF (HB3129)** Strengthens the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program (TANF) and implements fixes to help families in extreme poverty better meet their basic needs.



## SAFETY

**VTTTC Program Extension (HB2118)** Provides medical, food, and cash assistance to foreign-born survivors of human trafficking, torture and other serious crimes by continuing a life-saving program.

Heartland Alliance, one of the world's leading anti-poverty organizations, works in communities in the U.S. and abroad to serve those who are homeless, living in poverty, or seeking safety. We provide a comprehensive array of services in the areas of health, housing, jobs and justice – and lead state and national policy efforts, which target lasting change for individuals and society. By influencing lawmakers, strengthening partnerships in the community, and lifting up the voices of those we serve, we create and fight for policy that promotes equity and opportunity for all.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HEARTLAND ALLIANCE, OUR ADVOCACY WORK,  
AND OUR PROGRAMS, CONTACT ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF POLICY & ADVOCACY,  
KIM DREW, AT [KDREW@HEARTLANDALLIANCE.ORG](mailto:KDREW@HEARTLANDALLIANCE.ORG).

For a full list of our programs, and to learn more about Heartland Alliance, visit [www.heartlandalliance.org](http://www.heartlandalliance.org).