



Kent County
**Essential Needs
Task Force**

2025 Advocacy Priorities

We envision a bright, prosperous future where systems are people-centered and ensure equitable access to opportunities, tools, networks, and resources to meet their current and emerging needs. We work toward equitable systems by advocating for policy and process change to increase financial stability and economic mobility and address the impacts of Social Determinants of Health.

High Activation Issues

We will lead discussions, build awareness, support solutions, and engage decision-makers on:

- Expanding tax credits for working families and ALICE populations
- Expanding food as medicine through In Lieu of Services (ILOS) and healthy food prescription programs
- Expanding and streamlining food recovery efforts
- Developing supports and establishing career pathways for food and farm workers
- Expanding residential energy efficiency through increased home repair and weatherization workforce initiatives
- Improving routes to healthy food access
- Improving access to healthcare through increasing Medicaid enrollment

Supporting Issues

We will build awareness and engage decision-makers on:

- Reinstating Adult Literacy Opportunity Fund
- Increasing child care workforce initiatives
- Improving early childhood education and care scholarship programs
- Establishing dedicated regional county-wide transportation funding
- Increasing access to affordable high-speed internet
- Reforming payday lending
- Establishing state-wide access to community solar
- Reforming driver's license access