



EVERY TEXAN

Social justice requires public policy.

Every Texan is the exciting new name of the Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPP). Our long-standing mission remains the same – to make Texas the best state to live in, where Texans of all backgrounds have a fair opportunity to thrive.

At Every Texan, we envision a Texas where people of all backgrounds can contribute to and share in the prosperity of our state. We advance social justice through public policy because it is one of the most effective ways to deliver strategic and systemic change. We are proven experts in strengthening public policy to expand opportunity and equity for every Texan.

In Texas, opportunity isn't the same for everyone – despite our state's wealth. Texans are working hard to support their families and contribute to our state, but millions lack access to affordable health care, healthy food, a quality education, and good jobs. Policies that favor profits over people created these systemic gaps, which left Texans more vulnerable when the COVID-19 pandemic hit.

Through fact-based public policy, Every Texan is rewriting the rules to build a more just and equitable Texas.

We are proud of our 35-year history of advancing social justice in Texas. Ever since we were founded by the Benedictine Sisters of Boerne, Texas, we have pursued our vision of social justice through public policy.

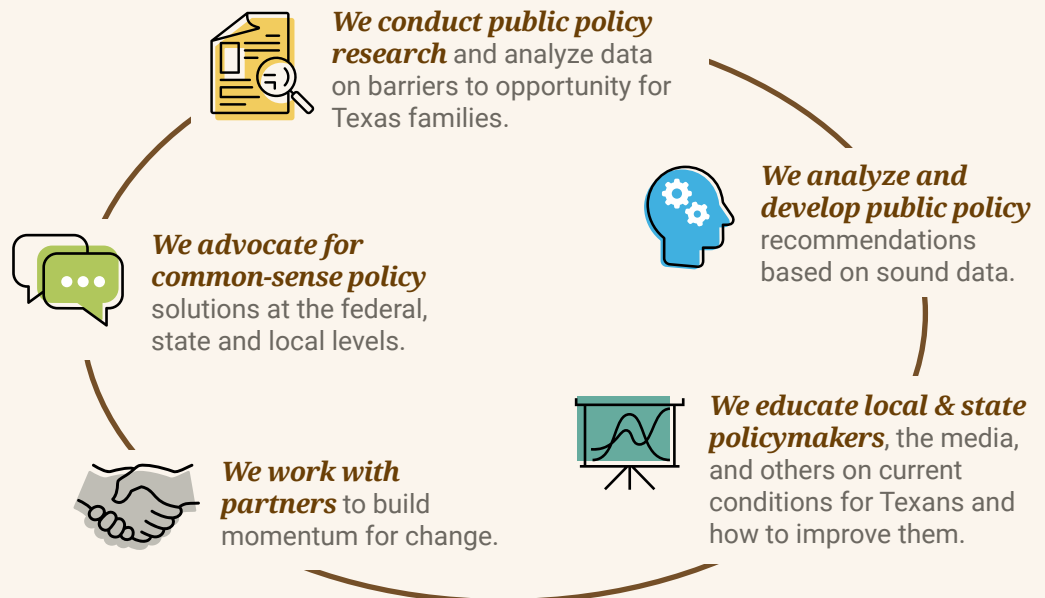
We focus on policies that enable Texans of all backgrounds to thrive, and expose unfair barriers faced by people of color, low-income Texans, immigrants, women, children, and other systematically disenfranchised populations.

Our work has never been more critical. Every Texan is leading on the front lines, with short-term policy solutions to save lives and livelihoods during the pandemic, and a long-term policy road map that helps Texans of all backgrounds thrive.

Our new name focuses on our state's greatest resource -- our people.

How We Work

Every Texan offers knowledge, solutions, and tools to help you more easily and thoroughly understand, discuss, and make decisions about public policy.



Policy Roadmap for a Just and Equitable Texas

LONG-TERM POLICY ROADMAP

For a just and equitable Texas

COVID-19 SOLUTIONS

To save lives and livelihoods during the pandemic



Every Texan has affordable, quality health care access

- End the barriers to equitable opportunity that exist when Texans are either unable to afford medical care or face massive debt when they do get care.
- Expand Medicaid for low-income adults and new mothers, and ensure continuous coverage for children.
- Protect consumers from medical debt.
- Spread the word that free COVID-19 testing should be available for both insured and uninsured Texans, without regard to immigration status.
- Expand Medicaid to cover as many of the Texans as possible who are becoming uninsured as they lose jobs due to COVID.



Every Texan has access to healthy food, and no Texan goes hungry.

- Reduce hunger by making it easier for people to access food.
- Increase public or policymaker awareness of racial and ethnic disparities in food security systems.
- Improve access to child nutrition programs (school meal based programs, WIC, and Child and Adult Care Food Program).
- Reduce red tape and barriers that deter Texas families from accessing the food they need to stay healthy.
- Increase SNAP benefits for every eligible Texan to better reflect the true cost of a healthy diet and extend Pandemic-EBT to cover summer meals and beyond.



Every Texan has a quality job and can participate fully in our economy.

- Increase the minimum wage.
- Enact paid parental, medical, family and sick leave.
- Enact statewide paid sick leave or allow local communities to decide if they want to offer much-needed benefits to workers and families.
- Drop the lawsuit against local paid sick day ordinances filed by Texas Attorney General Paxton and special interests.
- Reduce administrative burdens for receiving Unemployment Benefits and ensure workers do not lose benefits if they do not feel safe returning to their workplace.



Every Texan has a robust public and higher education.

- Implement a sustainable, long-term revenue model for public schools.
- Increase funding for pre-K, low-income students, and English Language Learners.
- Expand affordable access to college by fully funding Texas financial aid grants, reducing student loan debt, and eliminating tuition & fees for low-income families.
- Sustain current funding levels for public schools.
- Use federal stimulus dollars to support college students struggling with forced housing evacuations, food insecurity, unemployment, and student loan debt with a particular focus on aiding undocumented/DACAmented students excluded from federal support.
- Implement state-level student borrower protections to safeguard student loan borrowers as they recover from the financial ramifications of the COVID-19 crisis.



Every Texan is supported by a just and equitable tax system.

- Close corporate tax loopholes.
- Modernize our tax system and eliminate wasteful tax breaks to improve equity.
- Improve the fairness and accuracy of the property tax appraisal process.
- Advocate for federal stimulus dollars to help close state and local revenue gaps and support critical services.
- Use the Economic Stabilization Fund to maintain critical services and reduce the state revenue gap.