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United Way IA Candidate Survey: District 93 Incumbent Rep. Phyllis Thede (D-Bettendorf)

United Way recently asked legislative candidates in Iowa and Illinois to complete a candidate survey so that we could share their stands on issues related to our priorities: education, income, health and equity.

While United Way does not participate in partisan or political activity, we are pleased to offer this information so that voters can assess each candidate's alignment with issues important to United Way as they prepare to cast their ballots.

All answers below are posted in their entirety, as submitted by the candidate. To see the full list of responses to candidate surveys ahead of the 2020 General Election, visit www.unitedwayqc.org/candidate-surveys.

1. What specific actions can the State of Iowa take to address the disparities in school achievement and graduation rates between African American students and their white peers?

Equalize funding in all school districts. Hire people of color in all positions in education. Quality staff training.

2. Would you support changes to the school-aid formula to provide additional support to districts with high rates of poverty, minority populations and English language learners to help stem the decline in academic success among these populations?

Yes

3. What role could the State of Iowa play in ensuring all K-12 students have access to broadband and technology to enable virtual learning?

Put broadband in everywhere

4. A network of quality, affordable childcare services – including wrap-around care for school-age children – is critical to parents remaining in the workforce and businesses

retaining staff. Do you support additional state investment in childcare services and, if so, what ideas do you have for strengthening the childcare system in Iowa during the COVID crisis and post COVID?

Yes,

5. Do you support state investment in the 211 system used for health and human service information and referral and disaster recovery? Why or why not?

Yes this is a one stop shop for information.

6. Do you support a state sales tax exemption for food banks and pantries to address food insecurity? Why or why not?

Yes , food banks service communities that have a high poverty population. Performing this service earns a tax exemption

7. Scott County has a high rate of poverty which dramatically impacts the health and stability of families and the community. What could the State of Iowa do to provide more opportunities for Iowans to achieve economic independence?

Training programs, educational programs, job programs these 3 things must be address to meet the stability of families

8. Describe what you'd like to see the State of Iowa do – perhaps in partnership with city and county governments – to address systemic racism.

Work with city and counties to Provide training for all city And county employees .

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About United Way of the Quad Cities

United Way is a community-based social change organization that puts opportunity in the hands of all Quad Citizens. Working with our determined partners, volunteers, advocates and donors, we lead the charge to improve education, income and health – the building blocks of opportunity. The result is a mobilized community where every Quad Citizen is living their best possible life. unitedwayqc.org

