EverThrive IL works to improve the health of women, children, and families across the lifespan. The organization is guided by the following core values: health equity, diverse voices, and strong partnerships.

Our goal is to achieve health equity for women, children, and families by:

- Advancing access to quality, comprehensive health care and support services;
- Improving health outcomes of entire communities and populations; and
- Engaging communities to cultivate relationships, build power, and advance shared priorities.

**STATE PRIORITIES**

**Advancing access to quality, comprehensive health care and support services**

1. Advocate for changes to policies, systems, and program funding to address the root causes of maternal mortality and morbidity, and racial, ethnic, and geographic disparities in health and birth outcomes.

2. Increase knowledge and support amongst mothers and parents throughout the preconception, prenatal, postpartum, and interconception period.

3. Support policies and programs that promote healthy pregnancies and healthy infants, including the Special Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.

4. Support policies and programs that address the mental health and substance use treatment needs throughout pregnancy and in the postpartum period, including policies that expand access to services to treat perinatal and postpartum depression and uncapped mental health and substance use care.

5. Protect, support, and advocate for a range of comprehensive benefits in health care for individuals, including the full range of reproductive health services in all forms of insurance coverage. This includes ensuring health plans have robust coverage for pregnancy, abortion, and contraceptive care.

**Improving health outcomes of entire communities and populations**

1. Advocate for improvements to health care services, accessibility, quality, consistency, and affordability.

2. Advocate for an effective consumer focused system for managing enrollment and redetermination/renewal in Medicaid and other public benefits.

3. Support efforts to improve and increase consumer access to the Manage My Case portal.

4. Ensure transparent, accurate, and up-to-date information on networks, coverage, and cost-sharing in Medicaid Managed Care Plans.

5. Support efforts to stabilize the Illinois health insurance marketplace, including proposals that protect or increase consumer eligibility, affordability, and protections.

6. Support policies that promote, protect, and advance access to comprehensive, quality, affordable and confidential health services for adolescents.
7. Eliminate the barriers that youth face when attempting to access health care services. Ensure that the full range of pregnancy care and reproductive health services, including access to abortion, are accessible and confidential.

8. Support efforts to financially sustain all School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs) at a level that meets service need for mental, emotional, physical, and sexual health care and push for provider reimbursement of current services provided under Medicaid.

9. Monitor the full integration of SBHCs into all financial models, including Medicaid Managed Care and Integrated Health Homes.

10. Advocate for a state budget and income tax structure that adequately funds policies and programs that support the health and wellbeing of children, young people, parents, and families.

Engaging communities to cultivate relationships, build power, and advance shared priorities

1. Equip and empower health care providers, community partners, parents, and youth with evidence-based information on topics related to public health, including sexual and reproductive health, vaccinations, and disease prevention.

2. Improve access to vaccines for children and adolescents by addressing barriers to service provision for safety net health care providers and vaccine hesitancy amongst caregivers.

3. Engage with WIC providers, moms and caregivers who participate in WIC, and other stakeholders to identify program and policy solutions to participation barriers and low participant satisfaction.

4. Participate as a leader of the Chicago Collaborative for Maternal and Child Health with a broad set of stakeholders working to disseminate information about healthy pregnancies and infant care.

FEDERAL PRIORITIES

Advancing access to quality, comprehensive health care and support services

1. Support policies, programs, and funding that promote healthy pregnancies and infants, which include but are not limited to Title V (Maternal and Child Health Block Grant); Healthy Start; Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV); Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).

2. Prevent the further erosion of access to care through expanding rights of religious refusal.

3. Preserve an inclusive definition of sex discrimination, especially protections based on sexual orientation and gender identify, including by preserving and strongly enforcing Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act.

4. Defend access to abortion and reject policies that would restrict or delay access to abortion care.

5. Ensure affordable, timely access to the full range of contraceptive methods, especially through protecting Title X and the Affordable Care Act’s contraception coverage requirement.
Improving health outcomes of entire communities and populations

1. Support the MOMMA’s Act (HR 5977), the Maternal Health Quality Improvement Act of 2019 (HR 4995), and the Helping MOMS Act of 2019 (HR 4996), and Child Nutrition Act Reauthorization.

2. Defend access to high quality, affordable health care, especially by protecting the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid.

3. Support policies to stabilize the health insurance marketplaces, promote enrollment into high quality, affordable health insurance, and adequate funding for a robust network of enrollment assisters, including Navigators and Certified Application Counselors.

4. Reject any measure to restrict and eliminate access to vital health programs and social supports based on immigration status.

5. Reject programs, policies, or funding that promote or mandate abstinence only education.