



**OHIO ORGANIZING  
COLLABORATIVE**



# ACTIVATING OHIO'S GRASSROOTS LEADERS

OOC 2024 Q1 Update

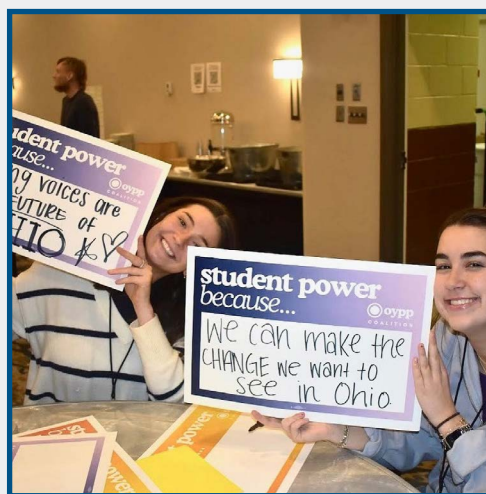
# Building An Ohio Powered By and For Young People

## Launching The Ohio Young People's Platform & Statewide Campaigns

In February, Ohio Student Association **organized hundreds of students** to launch the [Ohio Young People's Platform \(OYPP\)](#), a proactive vision for Ohio's future that centers young Ohioans.

This evergreen platform will **guide collective, strategic action** across the state, **engage candidates, and hold elected officials accountable** on pressing issues that matter to young Ohioans. These issues include economic justice, racial justice, bodily freedoms, LGBTQIA+ rights, climate justice, voting rights, and higher education.

A statewide coalition of student leaders **launched the platform in preparation for the 2024 presidential elections**. The launch also served as a jumping-off point for students to **kick off their own campus campaigns** throughout the state.



# Fighting Against Collateral Sanctions & Developing Felony-Impacted Leaders

Felony-impacted and formerly incarcerated leaders are **leading the fight for community safety** in Ohio. Our member organization Building Freedom Ohio (BFO) is organizing people directly impacted by the criminal legal system to **fight back against collateral sanctions**.

BFO recently launched the **Felony Impacted Liberation Movement**, a statewide initiative that will ensure **returning citizens have community restoration and meaningful civic participation**. The FILM Movement is focused on organizing communities across Ohio to fight back against

collateral sanctions and restore dignity for formerly incarcerated Ohioans.

Collateral sanctions are legal, social, and economic barriers that **block returning citizens from full reintegration into their communities**. These include being turned down for specific jobs, being unable to access safe and secure housing, and more. There are **over 2,000 collateral sanctions in Ohio**, and over a million Ohioans are currently living with these barriers. BFO leaders have been **activating our communities to fight for fairness, justice, and true restoration**.





# Securing Federal Child Care Support & Protecting Early Childhood Education

Child care leaders with the CEO Project recently **secured major changes to the federal Child Care & Development Block Grant**, thanks to powerful storytelling and organizing. Last fall, **providers shared their stories with the Office of Child Care** and outlined ways in which the federal government can better support providers and families.

The updated grant will now remove co-pays for all American families (not to exceed more than 7% of their income), expand family eligibility, improve provider compensation, and provide direct services for kids in underserved geographic areas and kids with disabilities. This national win is the **direct result of providers reclaiming their power and fighting for their communities.**

Child care leaders and supporters also **canvassed in support of Issue 6**, a successful levy initiative that will **renew universal kindergarten in Dayton**. Providers are growing their leadership, attending organizing trainings, campaign workshops, and more to prepare for the 2024 Day Without Childcare in May.

# Expanding Public Education Support in Columbus & Developing Parent Leaders



All in for Ohio Kids (AOK) is **mobilizing parents across the state to defend Ohio's public education funds** by demanding our legislators fully implement the fair school funding plan and properly fund public education.

AOK has launched listening sessions in Columbus City Schools (CCS) with parents and family ambassadors to **understand parents' priorities and concerns regarding their students and public schools**. These listening sessions will inform **an upcoming campaign around community schools**. AOK is also expanding our parent group to include Spanish-speaking parents as part of a growing demographic in Columbus.

In addition, parent leaders **helped launch the CCS Board Watch to hold our elected school board and district officials accountable**. The Board Watch is made up of parents, teachers, and community members who want a thriving school district.



# Expanding Ohio's Electorate & Registering High-Opportunity Voters

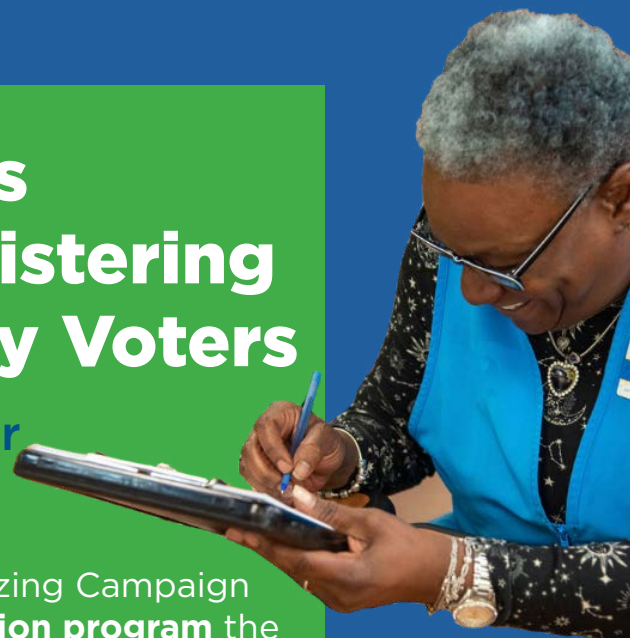
## Launching Our 2024 Voter Registration Program

Our sister organization Ohio Organizing Campaign launched their 2024 voter registration program the day after the primary!



**19,326**  
total voter  
registrations  
to date.

We plan to register about **180,000 voters** in Ohio communities this year and focus on **registering Black, low-income, and young voters.**



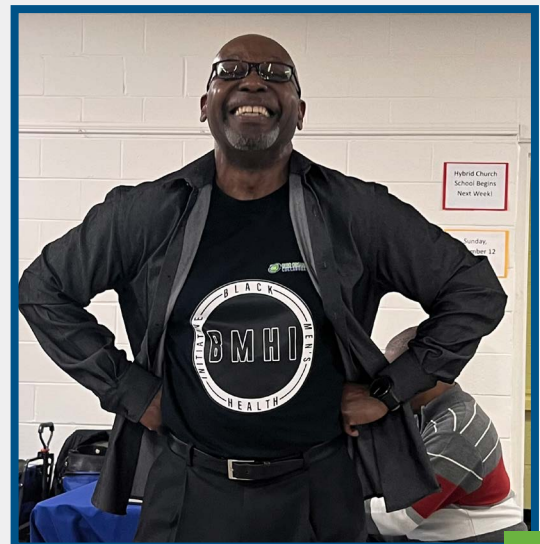
# Faith Organizing for a Healthy Democracy & Healthy Families

## Strengthening Black Female & Maternal Healthcare

Amos clergy and faith leaders are **organizing to strengthen our democracy and fight for equitable healthcare access** for all Ohio families – no matter their race, income or zip code.

Faith leaders are **organizing and surveying Black women in congregations** to learn more about the problems they are experiencing in the healthcare system and identify solutions.

The results will be turned into a report with our partners at Policy Matters Ohio to **inform our faith organizing and health advocacy strategy for 2024 and beyond.**



# Ensuring A Fair & Equitable Democracy in Ohio



## Securing An Independent Citizen-Led Redistricting Commission

The Citizens Not Politicians ballot campaign is underway in Ohio!

OOC has joined the executive committee of the campaign and we are on our way to collecting the signatures needed to **place an independent, citizen-led redistricting commission on the ballot** this fall.



## Enshrining Voting Rights Into Ohio's Constitution

OOC is helping **lead a new coalition fighting for an Ohio Voters Bill of Rights** in Ohio. This proposed amendment will **enshrine the freedom to vote for Ohioans in our state constitution**. It will ensure automatic voter and same-day voter registration, broadly expand voter access and convenience, and remove unnecessary voting restrictions **to ensure safe and fair elections**.

We are **currently pursuing litigation against the Ohio AG** for blocking this people-backed effort to expand voting rights. The AG recently turned down our proposed amendment due to his preference for a different amendment title, and **we are fighting back**.

