



# Groundwork OHIO



## ELIJAH SMITH

**Communications Associate**

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In his role as the Communications Associate for Groundwork Ohio, Elijah Smith looks to elevate the voices of children and families across the state of Ohio. As part of his role, he supports the planning and implementation of Groundwork's mission to provide a framework for lifetime success to children and their caregivers. In his work, he builds relationships with public policy professionals and advocates to build a strong network to fight for children and their caregivers.

Elijah has nearly five years of public service experience, working in various capacities at the local, state, and federal levels. His experience working as a Constituent Aide for the Ohio House of Representatives and Staff Assistant for Senator Rob Portman influenced him to take an active role in advocating for the future of Ohio. Working in constituent outreach in Sen. Portman's office, Elijah provided a voice to countless of Ohio's 11 million citizens. Providing a listening ear to stakeholders, families, and constituents and communicating that message effectively has equipped Elijah to be a reliable advocate for the most vulnerable constituents in Ohio.

Elijah is a native of Southwest Ohio, being raised in the greater Dayton area. As a high school student, Elijah was selected to represent Ohio as one of 28 United States Senate Pages from across the nation. He is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in Political Science from The Ohio State University with a focus in communicating messages effectively through mass media.

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