



Groundwork OHIO



TROY HUNTER

Senior Policy Director
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As Senior Policy Director, Troy leads the implementation and strategy for early learning policy, oversees the development of research and evaluation conducted by Groundwork Ohio, and supports the development of effective partnerships and relationships among families, community organizations, and local stakeholders across the state to support shared early childhood policy and advocacy goals.

Prior to coming to Groundwork, Troy worked at The Ohio State University Nisonger Center. There he supported the inclusion of children receiving early intervention and special education services in general education programming. In addition to supporting children with and without disabilities, Troy worked to elevate equity issues within the early childhood workforce and the impact on quality early learning experiences for children. Troy served as Social Work Faculty for the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) training program at the Nisonger Center, where he mentored and supported graduate trainees working in infant and early childhood mental health and developmental diagnostic clinics.

Troy received both his undergraduate and graduate degrees from The Ohio State University, graduating with a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in social work. Troy is currently a doctoral student of educational studies at The Ohio State University. Troy's research interest lies in the

intersectionality between social justice and education, and he is specifically interested in policy issues that impact early childhood education.

Troy is also a lecturer for The Ohio State University College of Social Work and serves on The Ohio State University College of Social Work Alumni Society Executive Board. Troy is passionate about his community and serves as a board member for both the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children, and volunteers with the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio.

Troy has expertise in early learning, infant and early childhood mental health, and disabilities. Troy is a committed leader in the early childhood space and is dedicated to promoting positive outcomes for young children and their families. Troy has worked with families and young children in many roles, including as an early childhood educator, an early intervention provider, a licensed social worker, and an infant mental health practitioner. Troy is passionate about supporting families and has extensive micro and macro practice with early childhood systems.

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