

Empowering Families to Lead Change: Join the Family Action Network

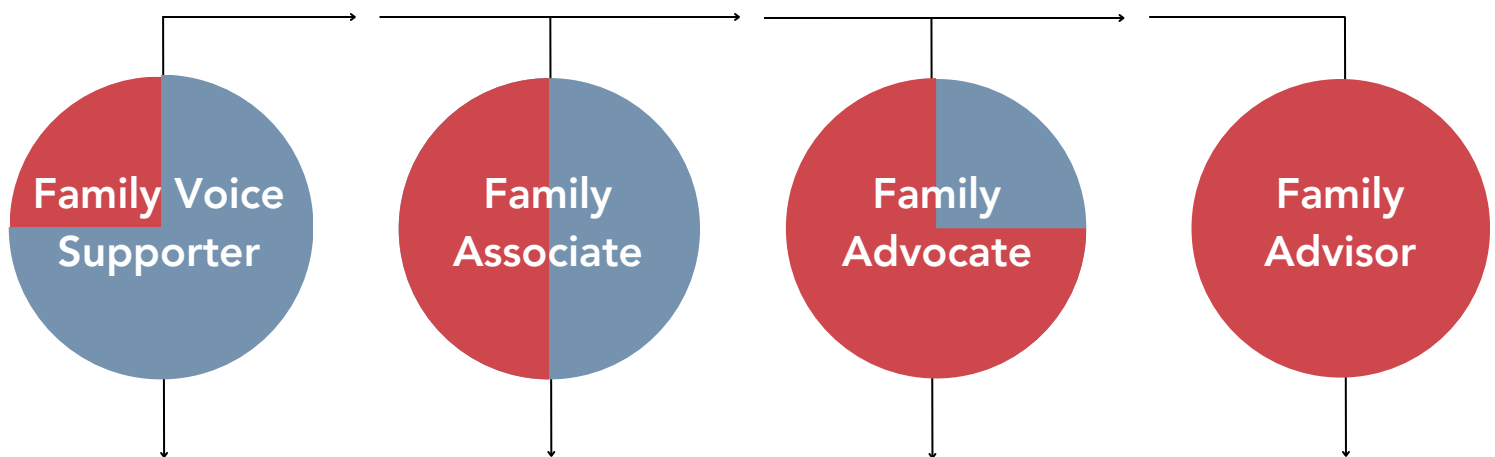


Groundwork Ohio recognizes the critical importance of elevating family voices in shaping policies that directly impact the well-being of young children.

Through its Family Action Network, Groundwork Ohio empowers parents and caregivers to actively participate in the policymaking process, ensuring that their lived experiences and insights are reflected in decisions that affect their families. By fostering a diverse and inclusive coalition, Groundwork Ohio amplifies the voices of those who have historically been excluded, working to create a system where families have a genuine influence in shaping Ohio's early childhood policies and practices.



Continuum of Engagement



Families and organizations interested in Groundwork Ohio's Family Voice work can stay updated by subscribing to the Family Voice Newsletter. This newsletter provides valuable insights, upcoming events, and opportunities to engage in advocacy efforts that shape policies impacting young children and families across Ohio.

To join the Family Action Network (FAN), families must have at least one child aged 0-5 when expressing interest. Being part of FAN offers opportunities to gain knowledge through various webinars, helping members stay informed and equipped to advocate for early childhood policies.

Families who want to share their personal stories and experiences will play a vital role in supporting advocacy efforts through Groundwork Ohio's Family Action Network. By sharing their stories, they contribute unique perspectives that help shape policies and initiatives designed to improve the lives of children and families across the state.

This family has previously engaged in advocacy work with Groundwork Ohio and is eager to take on a greater leadership role within our advisory councils and other initiatives. Participation is by invitation only, recognizing their commitment and passion for furthering the advocacy efforts that impact Ohio's children and families.

The Amplification Effect

The **“Amplification Effect”** refers to the powerful connection between elevating family voices and creating meaningful social change.

By actively involving families in decision-making, Groundwork Ohio strengthens the link between family engagement and improved outcomes for children and parents, fostering environments that reduce the risk of trauma and promote overall well-being. This effect amplifies the impact of family leadership, resulting in positive changes at individual, programmatic, and systemic levels.



Groundwork Ohio's Family Action Network is built on authentic partnerships with diverse family leaders to improve policies and practices at the systems level.

Guiding principles include:

Operationalize Equity

Address barriers related to income, race, and privilege by placing family voices at the center of policy development.

Build Trust

Create meaningful relationships where families feel valued and know their input influences decisions.

Honor Relationships

Partner with community organizations that have trusted connections with families, compensating families for their time and expertise.

Respect Experts

Recognize families as the experts of their own lives and include their voices in decision-making.

Shift Culture

Adopt the mantra “nothing for us without us,” empowering families to move from engagement to leadership in policymaking.

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