

# You're Invited to Join Groundwork Ohio's Family Action Network!



Whether you're a parent, grandparent, foster parent, or caregiver to a young child, you are the expert of your story and know what your family needs to thrive. Too often, however, you aren't included in the policymaking process that deeply affects the lives of your family members. Groundwork Ohio is on a mission to change this, because **we believe every family deserves to be respected, valued, and heard.**

**That's why Groundwork Ohio is building a statewide Family Action Network, made up of Family Ambassadors like you!** As a Family Ambassador with our Family Action Network, you'll be part of a powerful and diverse coalition of Ohio families from across the state. We want to invest in your leadership and provide opportunities to engage with policymakers on the issues that matter most to you and your family.

## If you're with us... join us!

Nominate yourself to be a Family Ambassador with our Family Action Network and join us for a Family Action Network **launch event on Wednesday, May 18, 2022** at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus, Ohio! Visit [www.GroundworkOhio.org/Nominate](http://www.GroundworkOhio.org/Nominate) to get started!

## Frequently Asked Questions:

### What does it mean to be a Family Ambassador with the Family Action Network?

Family Ambassadors are members of the Family Action Network. To become a Family Ambassador, you must live in Ohio, be caring for at least one child under the age of 5, and attend the launch event of our Family Action Network on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at the Ohio Statehouse.

Before the launch event, you will also participate in three 90-minute virtual training sessions to network with other Family Ambassadors, build your leadership skills, and get the tools you need to feel comfortable sharing your

story with policymakers. Each training will be offered at three different times to accommodate your schedule.

**The virtual training sessions are scheduled during the following dates and times:**

	TRAINING #1	TRAINING #2	TRAINING #3
Option 1:	April 11 1:00-2:30 PM	April 25 1:00-2:30 PM	May 9 6:00-7:30 PM
Option 2:	April 11 6:00-7:30 PM	April 25 6:00-7:30 PM	May 10 1:00-2:30 PM
Option 3:	April 14 9:00-10:30 AM	April 26 9:00-10:30 AM	May 11 9:00-10:30 AM

## **FAQs: (continued)**

### **Can you tell me more about the Family Action Network launch event?**

The Family Action Network launch event—called *Strolling Thunder Ohio*—will take place on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus, Ohio. The day will begin at 10:00 AM with an energizing breakfast program featuring guest speakers and kid-friendly activities for you and your children. At the conclusion of the breakfast program, Family Ambassadors will meet with state legislators at the Ohio Statehouse to share their stories.

Following the meetings with state legislators, Family Ambassadors will then “stroll” to the Statehouse lawn, where lunch will be served. During lunch, families will have the opportunity to participate in child-friendly activities and rally in support of Ohio’s infants, toddlers, and their families. The event will end at 2:00 PM.

The Statehouse is “The People’s House,” which is why we’re dedicated to making *Strolling Thunder Ohio* a family-friendly event! In addition to kid-friendly activities, there will be on-site accommodations for families such as diaper changing stations, nursing areas, quiet spaces, and stroller parking.

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### **What if I’ve never engaged with policymakers in the past?**

We welcome families with all levels of experience! Even if this is your first time ever engaging with your policymakers, we will provide you the support you need to be a successful Family Ambassador. Not only will you receive trainings from the Groundwork Ohio team and opportunities to meet your fellow Family Ambassadors, but you will also be paired with trusted Community Ambassadors from your community to provide you with support before, during, and after the *Strolling Thunder Ohio* event.

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### **Will I be compensated for my time?**

Yes! We value you as experts and understand that participating in the virtual training sessions and the *Strolling Thunder Ohio* event may be a challenge for families. Groundwork Ohio will provide Family Ambassadors a stipend for each virtual training session and for attending the *Strolling Thunder Ohio* event at the Ohio Statehouse.

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### **I’m interested in being a Family Ambassador! What do I do next?**

Thank you! To become a Family Ambassador, please complete our nomination form at [GroundworkOhio.org/Nominate](https://GroundworkOhio.org/Nominate)

If you would prefer to complete the nomination form by hand, please contact your Community Ambassador to receive a paper copy of the nomination form. If you need assistance identifying your Community Ambassador, email us at [familyaction@groundworkohio.org](mailto:familyaction@groundworkohio.org). Paper copies of the nomination form or further questions can be sent to your Community Ambassador or sent via email to [familyaction@groundworkohio.org](mailto:familyaction@groundworkohio.org).



**Learn more and access the nomination form:**

[GroundworkOhio.org/FamilyAction](https://GroundworkOhio.org/FamilyAction)



@GroundworkOhio