

CHELSEA KIENE

Director of
Communications
& Stakeholder
Engagement

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Groundwork
OHIO

Chelsea Kiene supports Groundwork Ohio's mission and advocacy efforts through strategic communications, press outreach, and engagement with diverse stakeholders. Through her efforts, Chelsea helps advance Groundwork's policy agenda to serve Ohio's youngest and most vulnerable children and the families that support them. Chelsea holds nearly a decade of experience in nonprofit communications, policy research and advocacy, and issue campaigns.

Prior to joining the Groundwork Ohio team, Chelsea worked as the Communications Director at For Our Future Ohio Action Fund, a nonprofit organization dedicated to issue advocacy and empowering people and community-based organizations to drive positive change in their communities. As Communications Director, Chelsea led For Our Future Ohio's communications, earned media, and digital programs, leveraging a variety of paid and organic tactics to advance campaigns and the organization's mission.

Chelsea also previously worked as the Senior Media Coordinator at the Center for American Progress (CAP), a nonpartisan policy research and advocacy institute in Washington, D.C. In her role, Chelsea oversaw the communications and media strategy for the organization's Women's Initiative, advocating for state and federal policies to support women and families such as paid leave, reproductive health care, high-quality child care, and equal pay. While at CAP, Chelsea also led the organization's op-ed strategy and radio media outreach for all policy teams. Together with the Director of Broadcast Communication, Chelsea helped design and lead dozens of media trainings for policy experts and advocacy organizations, including the National WIC Association.

Chelsea also interned at The Huffington Post's Washington, D.C. bureau, where she covered events and legislation on Capitol Hill as well as stories impacting the District of Columbia. Prior to interning at The Huffington Post, Chelsea served as press secretary for a U.S. congressional campaign in Ohio's 5th congressional district.

Chelsea graduated cum laude from Miami University (Ohio) with a B.A. in Strategic Communication and Political Science. During her time at Miami, Chelsea interned at Equality Ohio and worked as a writing consultant at the Howe Center for Writing Excellence.

Chelsea's passion for issue advocacy and helping underserved communities extends beyond her professional work. She is actively involved with Mid-Ohio Food Collective, where she has volunteered hundreds of hours toward ending hunger and food insecurity in central Ohio. Chelsea also serves on the board of Columbus Young Professionals Club (CYP) Club Cares, where she helps organize community service events and panel discussions for young professionals in the Columbus region. A proud northwest Ohio native, in her free time Chelsea can often be found exploring Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks where she enjoys running, hiking, and taking walks with her rescue dog.

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