



Family Council **VISION & GOALS** *April 2022 – May 2023*

1. Voter's Guides; Helping Voters Reshape Arkansas Politics.

We are helping voters reshape the face of politics in Arkansas by empowering them with information about where candidates stand on abortion, school choice, guns, critical race theory, vaccine mandates, and other important issues. For more than 30 years our nonpartisan voter's guide has helped people see through the political spin and cast a wise vote. Family Council plans to distribute thousands of voter's guides by mail and online for the May Primaries and the November General Election.

2. Pro-Life Cities and Counties; Making Every County and City Pro-Life.

Since we secured passage of a law in 2021 affirming the right of counties and cities to pass pro-life resolutions, at least 19 county quorum courts and a dozen city councils have declared their county or city to be pro-life. We have written and published a booklet as a guide for citizens to use in passing these resolutions. Between now and the end of April 2023 we plan to double the number of pro-life cities and counties in Arkansas.

3. A Million Dollars for Pregnancy Resource Center Funding; Saving Lives by Reducing the Demand for Abortion.

In February 2022, we worked with Governor Hutchinson and leaders in the Arkansas Legislature to secure a \$1 million appropriation for state grants to pregnancy help organizations such as the 44 Arkansas pregnancy resource centers. Now we are ready to help pregnancy centers navigate the grant process, receive these funds, and use this money to save the lives of unborn children. By the end of April 2023, we hope to see all this money in use, and we are planning to work with lawmakers to secure another larger appropriation for the following budget cycle.

4. Religious Freedom Amendment; Protecting Religious Freedom for Generations to Come.

In 2021 we worked with Arkansas Lawmakers to place the Arkansas Religious Freedom Amendment on the November 2022 General Election ballot. This proposed State Constitutional Amendment will prevent the government from burdening anyone's free exercise of religion. With so many attacks on religious freedom, Arkansans need all the help they can get. That is why we are working to reach voters and spread the word about the Arkansas Religious Freedom Amendment between now and November.

5. Legislation for 2023; Making Arkansas a Better Place Through Laws that Uphold a Biblical Standard.

By the end of this year we plan to have about 20 good laws drafted and ready to pass in the 2023 legislative session. Here is what we are working on. We need to prevent any movement toward assisted suicide or mercy killings by improving laws pertaining to the treatment of people who are near the end of life. In the age of COVID, we need to strengthen our laws so loved ones can visit in the hospital or nursing home. Critical race theory and the LGBT/Transgender issues at school need to be addressed so our public schools are not teaching these harmful messages. In addition, we need to be ready to pass good pro-life laws.

6. Recreational Marijuana Amendments; Protecting People from Harm by Stopping the Legalization of Marijuana in Arkansas.

Arkansas' medical marijuana growers and sellers have pooled their money, and they are gathering petition signatures for a State Constitutional Amendment to legalize recreational marijuana. If this amendment is placed on the November General Election ballot, we will work against it.

7. The Education Alliance; Changing the World by Enabling Parents to Teach Their Children at Home.

Home schooling may be the most potent weapon against the cultural decay and immorality that afflicts our society. The faith and strong academics instilled in children at home makes them points of light once they enter the adult world. As a division of Family Council, the Education Alliance goes to the State Capitol and fights for home school rights and for the passage of new laws that help home schoolers. In addition, we work with the Arkansas Department of Education to be certain that home school rights are respected. We provide a wide variety of services ranging from how to get started, how to graduate, and how to get into college. We are serving the needs of over 35,000 Arkansas home-schooled students and their families.

8. The Pro-Life Fight; Building a Culture of Life.

Arkansas is ranked as the most pro-life state in the nation, and we intend to keep it that way. If the U.S. Supreme Court overturns *Roe v. Wade* this summer, abortion in Arkansas will likely be illegal except to save the mother's life. If the court does not overturn *Roe*, we will be ready to pass whatever pro-life laws the court allows. No matter what happens with *Roe v. Wade*, Planned Parenthood, the ACLU, and the abortion industry will continue their fight for abortion. In addition these groups and others will continue pushing for assisted-suicide and other practices that go against the sanctity of human life. That is why we will keep working for the passage of laws that protect human life, why we will keep educating the public, and why we will keep working to fund and strengthen pregnancy resource centers across Arkansas.

9. Rapid Response Network; Empowering Hundreds of People to Make a Big Difference.

In 2019 we formed the Family Council Rapid Response Team, a network of over 400 people in every area of Arkansas. Every time we ask them to call their lawmakers about legislation at the Capitol in Little Rock, they call. When we activate them on some local issue in their city or county, they step up and make their voices heard. On average, we have about three Rapid Response Team members in each of Arkansas' 100 State House Districts. Our goal by the end of 2022 is to grow the size of this network to at least six in each House District—or about 600 statewide.

10. Keeping Arkansans Informed; Empowering People with the Truth about Current Issues.

At Family Council we specialize in speaking the truth about issues. We help people develop a Christian worldview on complex subjects like critical race theory, gender identity, pandemic lockdowns, parental rights, and other issues. In addition, we tell the truth about what's going on in politics at the State Capitol. Through monthly update letters, regular email alerts, online videos, media interviews, and speaking engagements, we provide a biblically-based perspective on issues, and we provide an honest assessment of Arkansas politics.

11. Helping Local Citizens; Empowering Local Citizens to Oppose Immorality in Their Community.

Drag queen story hour for kids at the public library, transgender-affirming counseling at school, atheists threatening to sue city councils for praying, and all the other threats to morality need to be addressed by people who live nearby. That is why we are ramping up our effort to provide information from the nation's best advocacy organizations to help people know what to say and how to say it when they speak up. In addition we stand ready to activate our Family Council Rapid Response Team to contact policymakers at the local level.