



Family Council

VISION & GOALS

September 2022–September 2023

1. Our Three-Pronged Strategy Now That *Roe v. Wade* is Reversed: **Making Abortion Irrelevant.**

For nearly 50 years pro-life leaders worked to reverse *Roe v. Wade*. Now that the Court has overturned *Roe* and abortion is mostly illegal in Arkansas, Family Council has a three-pronged strategy for making abortion irrelevant and unthinkable.

- First, we plan to encourage the enforcement of our existing pro-life laws.
- Second, we plan to work with our friends in the Arkansas Legislature to pass any laws necessary to strengthen our existing pro-life laws and end abortion.
- Third, we intend to expand our efforts to assist pregnancy help organizations across Arkansas.

2. Voter's Guides: **Helping Voters Reshape Arkansas Politics.**

For more than 30 years our nonpartisan voter's guide has helped people see through the political spin and cast a wise vote. 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. Family Council plans to distribute at least 30,000 voter's guides by mail and online for the 2022 General Election in November. For more information, please visit www.ArkansasVotersGuide.com.

3. Millions of 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 a larger appropriation for the 2023–2024 budget cycle.

4. Religious Freedom Amendment: **Protecting Religious Freedom for Generations to Come.**

In 2021 we worked with 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. 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.**

We plan to work for passage of these good laws in 2023:

- Pass a stronger version of the Florida law that prevents the teaching of LGBT lifestyle and gender issues in public schools.
- Strengthen our laws against delivery of abortion drugs in Arkansas.
- Prevent the teaching of critical race theory in schools.
- Pass laws to prevent public libraries from providing obscene or pornographic material to children.
- Work for a school-choice law similar to the one passed in Arizona.
- Strengthen our No Patient Left Alone law that lets loved ones visit in hospitals and nursing homes during a pandemic.
- Prevent assisted suicide and other policies that result in a disregard for the lives of the elderly and disabled.

6. Pro-Life Cities and Counties: Making Every County and City Pro-Life.

Now that the U.S. Supreme Court has reversed *Roe v. Wade*, it is more important than ever for communities to stand against abortion. Between now and the end of September 2023 we plan to double the number of pro-life cities and counties in Arkansas. We have written and published a booklet as a guide for citizens to use in passing pro-life resolutions in their communities.

7. Preventing Marijuana Legalization: Protecting People from Harm by Stopping the Legalization of Marijuana in Arkansas.

Arkansas' medical marijuana growers and sellers have pooled their resources to lobby for recreational marijuana in Arkansas. We plan to block those efforts.

8. 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.

9. Standing Up to Planned Parenthood and the ACLU and Those Who Want to Weaken our Abortion Laws: Building and Maintaining a Culture of Life.

Pro-abortion forces are angry, and they are energized. They are in the fight more now than ever before. Now that abortion is illegal in Arkansas, we need to keep it that way. Already, some Arkansas lawmakers who have always voted pro-life are agreeing with pro-choice lawmakers, the ACLU, and Planned Parenthood on weakening our law against abortion to allow abortions in cases of rape or incest or possibly the health of the mother.

10. 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. When we ask them to call their lawmakers about legislation, 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. We plan to grow this network to at least six in each district—or about 600 statewide.

11. Keeping Arkansans Informed: Empowering People with the Truth about Current Issues.

At Family Council we specialize in speaking the truth about 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.

12. 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.