



Family Council's **VISION & GOALS** *September 2023–September 2024*

VOTER'S GUIDES

Distribute Thousands of Voters Guides for the 2024 Elections. For more than 30 years, voters have relied on our voter's guide for information on where candidates stand on issues like abortion, school choice, guns, critical race theory, marijuana, the LGBT agenda, and more. We survey the candidates, publish their answers, and let the voters decide who reflects their values. See beyond the ads and political spin, and know where candidates really stand.

HOMESCHOOLING

Stand Up for 35,000 Arkansas Homeschoolers. Since 1998 our Education Alliance homeschool division has fought for homeschool rights at the legislature, worked with the Department of Education to create more homeschool opportunities, and provided services ranging from how to get started to how to graduate and get into college. We take every call from every homeschooler who needs our help with legal issues, athletics, curricula, or issues with the local public school or the Department of Human Services. We are in regular communication with the Governor and Department of Education to be certain that homeschoolers are treated fairly under the new LEARNS Act. Funding up to \$6,000 for approved expenses will be available to all homeschoolers who apply beginning in the 2025–2026 school year.

ABORTION

Save Unborn Children by Providing Millions in Funding for Arkansas Pregnancy Centers. Now that abortion is mostly prohibited, we need to make it irrelevant and unthinkable. In 2022 we worked with the legislature and the governor to secure \$1 million in funding for pregnancy centers. We did the same for 2023, and we plan to be back at the State Capitol in 2024 to work for an even larger appropriation. In addition, this year we've raised more than \$100,000 in private funds to give to Arkansas pregnancy centers. Over 50 centers are helping thousands of women in Arkansas, and we are glad to help them do even more.

INDECENCY

Blunt the LGBT Agenda by Stopping Activists From Using Libraries and Schools to Hurt Children. We are working to pass laws and empower citizens to clean up their schools and libraries. Drag Queen Story Hours, obscene library books, vulgar reading assignments, and critical race theory have no place at school or at the library.

A LARGER STAFF

Grow Our Team So We Can Do Much More Good. We've pretty much reached the limit of how much work can be done by me and a staff of eight people. We need more help. We need a larger staff to meet the challenges and opportunities ahead of us. Here are the positions we would like to fill soon:

- **A church liaison** to work with pastors and churches to help them address the moral issues of our day and to encourage churches to get involved.
- **A staff attorney** to help us draft legislation, review bills at the capitol, and work with attorneys at the national level so Arkansas can lead the way in passing laws that are biblically sound.
- **An assistant bookkeeper** to help us handle the growing volume of financial data we process.
- **A person who can handle Internet and computer issues** and help with social media and our growing presence online.

We also need to expand our network of households and churches across the state so we can make a bigger impact on the local level as well as at the capitol in Little Rock.

STATEWIDE NETWORK

Continue Informing, Educating, Equipping, and Activating People Across Arkansas. Sometimes citizens want to do what is right, but they don't know how. That's where Family Council can help. Our monthly update letters, regular email alerts, online videos, media interviews, events, and toolkits provide a biblical perspective on issues. When people want to make a difference, we are here to help them become active in standing against harm that may come to their community or our state.

PRO-LIFE CITIES AND COUNTIES

Establish Pro-Life Cities and Counties all over Arkansas. Already, 21 of Arkansas' 75 counties and 15 cities have passed resolutions affirming that they are pro-life, and we hope to double that number over the next year. Abortion is illegal in Arkansas, because the public is against it. To keep it that way, we need to help future generations understand this truth. The passage of these resolutions keeps the issue alive.

MARIJUANA

Stand Ready to Fight Marijuana at the Ballot Box. Arkansas' medical marijuana growers and sellers have lobbied relentlessly for recreational marijuana in the state. Last year we helped successfully defeat recreational marijuana at the ballot box. This year, we helped pass a law making Delta-8, an addictive marijuana derivative, illegal. There is so much money to be made in the marijuana industry that we will have to keep fighting their efforts.

ABORTION

Stand Ready to Fight Abortion at the Ballot Box. Compared to other states, it is easy to circulate petitions and place a proposed constitutional amendment on the ballot in Arkansas. We're watching pro-abortion forces to see if they may attempt to hire canvassers and place a proposed state constitutional amendment on the 2024 Arkansas General Election Ballot. If so, we will fight it with all of our strength.

GRASSROOTS ORGANIZING

Build Our Rapid Response Network by Empowering Hundreds of People to Make a Big Difference. In 2019 we formed the Family Council Rapid Response Team, a network of 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. This network consists of over 500 people, with members in every state legislative district. We want to double this number over the next year.

EMPOWERED CITIZENS

Provide Free Toolkits to Equip Citizens.

- **Objectionable Material in Libraries Toolkit** that tells how citizens can deal with objectionable material in their library.
- **Faith at School Toolkit** that tells how students, parents, and teachers can exercise faith at school.
- **Homeschool Toolkit** that tells how to get started homeschooling.

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

Speak the Truth by Addressing Current Issues Through Media Interviews and Online Publications. We're here to use the news to proclaim the truth. Whether it's in a soundbite on the evening news, on a national news program, a Christian news outlet, or in the morning newspaper, we are here, ready to be interviewed. This is all part of changing our culture from darkness to light. We're also producing a steady stream of videos and blog posts to spread the truth about important issues like marijuana, the LGBT agenda, and sex-trafficking.

READY TO TAKE A STAND

Stand Firm by Keeping Our Unwavering Commitment to Do What's Right. When unforeseen threats to biblical values arise, we're here to stand in the gap. None of us knows what new threats will arise in the coming year. By the grace of God, we plan to be here and be ready. A lot has changed since Family Council started in 1989. One thing that never changes is our mission to promote, protect, and strengthen traditional family values in Arkansas. We do that no matter who's in the White House or which party controls the capitol. As Family Council celebrates its 35th anniversary next year, we remain committed to standing for what is right no matter the cost.