

MOM PLATFORM

MOM CRAFTED,
MOM APPROVED



MomsRising.org | MamasConPoder.org





MOM PLATFORM: MOM CRAFTED, MOM APPROVED

You know. Moms know. We know. Every one of us knows what’s happening in our families, our lives, and our communities. We know we’re not alone. We know the truth about dealing with our healthcare system, about the cost of childcare, about what it takes to raise a family. We know that when women succeed, our economy and country succeeds. The candidates for President need to know our truth too.

That’s why we’re putting our truth on center stage in the following Mom Platform that’s Mom Crafted and Mom Approved. There are dozens of candidates running for President — and it’s critically important that each of them know what policies moms across our nation want them to champion.

Every candidate for President needs to know exactly what issues moms, not just corporate lobbyists, prioritize; so we can build a nation where everyone can thrive. That’s why we at MomsRising created, with our over million members, the following “*Mom Platform: Mom Crafted, Mom Approved*” policies platform for every candidate for President.

THE MOM PLATFORM TABLE OF CONTENTS

HEALTH CARE	2
VOTING RIGHTS & DEMOCRACY PROTECTION	4
GUN SAFETY	5
REPRODUCTIVE & MATERNAL HEALTH CARE (ex. Maternal Mortality and Access to Abortion Care)	7
FAIR TREATMENT OF ALL IMMIGRANT FAMILIES	9
SAFETY NET, TAX & BUDGET POLICIES	11
WOMEN AGAINST VIOLENCE	13
EARLY CARE & EDUCATION	15
WORKPLACE JUSTICE (ex. Paid Family/Medical Leave and Equal Pay policies and other workplace policies)	17
CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM	19

A. MOM HEALTH CARE PLATFORM

MOM CRAFTED, MOM APPROVED

The moms of America want candidates for public office to stand with families by putting forward policies that meet the Mom Healthcare Platform outlined below. We urge candidates for office to:

BELIEVE health care is a right – not a privilege and should be accessible to everyone in our country regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, immigration status, or socioeconomic status.

ENSURE that every woman, child, and family has access to quality, affordable health care coverage.

SUPPORT policies that will further the goal of reaching universal, quality health care coverage for every family by:

- **Ensuring a strong Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)** which provide health care coverage for more than one half of our nation's children and are essential to our nation's health and well-being.
- **Opposing proposals that arbitrarily cut Medicaid**, make structural changes to the program, create barriers to access, and shift a fiscal burden to the states.
- **Protecting the improvements and gains in coverage under the Affordable Care Act (ACA)** which has brought the percentage of uninsured people in the United States to a record low, eliminated harmful practices by insurance companies like annual or lifetime caps on coverage and discrimination based on preexisting conditions, and required the 10 essential health benefits to be covered in insurance plans – including maternity care, prescription drugs, and mental health care.
- **Opposing all efforts to repeal or replace the ACA with a less robust plan that would result in a larger number of uninsured people in the United States.**

"My daughter was born with Schizencephaly, Cerebral Palsy, Epilepsy, she's legally blind, non-verbal, uses a wheelchair, and has a feeding tube. Her medications, feeding supplies, and medical equipment/ supplies cost thousands every month. Her feeding supplies alone cost almost \$2,000, of which private insurance only covers a small portion. If she loses coverage and Medicaid is cut, she will die. There is no way anyone could afford the cost of her medical care, especially a family of five living on one income."

– Stephanie, Ohio

MEDICAID PROVIDES HEALTH CARE COVERAGE FOR 2 IN 5 CHILDREN IN THE UNITED STATES

SOURCE: <http://files.kff.org/attachment/fact-sheet-medicaid-state-US>

- **Ensuring that every woman and family have access to quality, affordable health care coverage** regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.
- **Reigning in health care costs for the economic security of our families, our communities, and our nation** by making access to care and medicines affordable and putting the public good ahead of corporate profit.



9 MILLION CHILDREN RELY ON CHIP FOR THEIR HEALTH COVERAGE

It would cost the federal government
a lot more \$\$\$ to insure these children
in the exchange than it does to
keep them covered in CHIP.

<http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/36/4/616.abstract>

“Mom Platform: Mom Crafted, Mom Approved” is a project of MomsRising Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. MomsRising Education Fund cannot and does not endorse or favor any particular candidate or political party, and does not engage in any partisan activity. The Mom Platform is designed to provide candidates for public office with the tools that they need to best serve mothers around the country – by focusing on the issues that real Moms face each day.

B. MOM VOTING RIGHTS & DEMOCRACY PROTECTION PLATFORM

MOM CRAFTED, MOM APPROVED

The moms of America want candidates for public office to stand with families by putting forward policies that meet the Mom Voting Rights & Democracy Protection Platform outlined below. We urge candidates for office to:

BELIEVE our right to vote is essential to our communities' and our nation's health.

ENSURE that every vote is counted and that there is no place for voter suppression.

SUPPORT policies that will further the goal of restoring voting rights and protecting the integrity of our democracy by:

- **Restoring the Voting Rights Act, streamlining voter registration, and ensuring nationwide early voting. Reforming campaign financing and donation disclosure rules** to curb the corrupting power of dark money in our elections and ensure our democracy really works for the people.
- **Curbing extreme gerrymandering** by requiring states to use independent redistricting commissions to draw congressional districts.
- **Improving election security** by replacing paperless voting machines and providing new grants for states to enhance election security measures.
- **Strengthening ethics rules for the Executive Branch, Congress, and the U.S. Supreme Court.**
- **Supporting the For the People Act** to reinforce the foundations of our democracy and advance comprehensive democracy reform.

**POLITICAL ACTION
COMMITTEES (PACs)
RAISED & SPENT
\$4 BILLION
DURING THE 2016 ELECTION CYCLE**

<https://www.fec.gov/updates/statistical-summary-24-month-campaign-activity-2015-2016-election-cycle/>

"Mom Platform: Mom Crafted, Mom Approved" is a project of MomsRising Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. MomsRising Education Fund cannot and does not endorse or favor any particular candidate or political party, and does not engage in any partisan activity. The Mom Platform is designed to provide candidates for public office with the tools that they need to best serve mothers around the country – by focusing on the issues that real Moms face each day.

C. MOM GUN SAFETY PLATFORM

MOM CRAFTED, MOM APPROVED

The moms of America want candidates for public office to stand with families by putting forward policies that meet the Mom Gun Safety Platform outlined below. We urge candidates for office to:

BELIEVE that all families have the right to live in safe communities free of the gun violence epidemic, which has killed more Americans than all our wars combined.

ENSURE our nation advances gun safety, community safety, women's safety, and responsible gun ownership.

BUILD wholesale cultural and policy reform that advances gun safety measures with:

- **Advancing universal background checks** on firearms sales, which up to 97% of Americans support, including gun owners.
- **Banning military-grade assault rifles and high-capacity magazines**, the weapons-of-choice for mass shooters, and pose a significant threat to law enforcement.
- **Moving forward a strong federal anti-gun trafficking law with stiff penalties to discourage straw purchasing**, which is the most common channel for illegal gun trafficking.
- **Investing in evidence-based community anti-violence programs** that have proven to significantly reduce gun violence in highly impacted communities.
- **Rolling back Stand Your Ground laws**, which facilitate racial profiling and casual gun culture, and are a huge step backward for civil rights.
- **Closing the “boyfriend loophole” that allows stalkers and abusive dating partners to access firearms.**
- **Supporting extreme risk protection orders (ERPOs)** that allow family members and law enforcement, with a court order, to temporarily deny firearms access to people at risk of physical harm to themselves or others.
- **Stopping the transfer of jurisdiction over international arms sales from the State Department to the Commerce Department**, whose sole purpose is to increase international sales of American products. At State, such transfers are treated as national security issues.
- **#DisarmHate** – Prohibiting individuals who have been convicted of hate crimes, including misdemeanors, from accessing firearms.
- **Investing in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System** for more streamlined and comprehensive record collection.

"I was 25 years old and studying to be a veterinarian when I got the worst call of my life – my aunt Shelley has been shot to death in a downtown courthouse by a distant family member. Domestic violence takes many forms and family violence is stigmatized and rarely discussed. Everyone knew this person would hurt someone but there were no laws in place to protect my aunt Shelley. The shooter utilized the gunshow loophole, stalked and threatened Shelley for months, and killed her."

– Rachael Joseph is a MomsRising member and founder and executive director of Survivors Lead

**IN 2018,
THE UNITED STATES
AVERAGED
AT LEAST
1 DEADLY
MASS
SHOOTING
EACH MONTH**



**Defined as four or more victims,
not including the suspect.**

<https://abcnews.go.com/US/2018-mass-shooting-month-us/story?id=59418185>

"Mom Platform: Mom Crafted, Mom Approved" is a project of MomsRising Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. MomsRising Education Fund cannot and does not endorse or favor any particular candidate or political party, and does not engage in any partisan activity. The Mom Platform is designed to provide candidates for public office with the tools that they need to best serve mothers around the country – by focusing on the issues that real Moms face each day.

D. MOM REPRODUCTIVE & MATERNAL HEALTH CARE PLATFORM

MOM CRAFTED, MOM APPROVED

The moms of America want candidates for public office to stand with families by putting forward policies that meet the Mom Reproductive & Maternal Health Care Platform outlined below. We urge candidates for office to:

BELIEVE access to quality, affordable health care coverage that includes comprehensive reproductive and maternal health care coverage is essential to the health of our families and communities.

ENSURE that all people have access to quality, affordable reproductive and maternal health care coverage.

SUPPORT policies that will further the goal that protect a woman's right to make decisions about her health care and universalizes access to comprehensive health care is a human right by:

- **Fighting for quality, affordable reproductive health care.** Ensure that every woman and family has access to quality, affordable health care coverage that includes comprehensive reproductive health care coverage, including birth control and abortion care coverage.
- **Continuing to fund Planned Parenthood.** Defunding Planned Parenthood would cut off health care – including birth control, cancer screenings, and other essential health services – for millions of low-income women, many of whom have no other health care provider.
- **Advancing measures to improve maternal health.** The United States has the highest rate of maternal deaths during labor and delivery of any nation in the developed world. Black women suffer the greatest with a maternal mortality rate four times that of white women.



**BLACK WOMEN
IN THE U.S. ARE
243 PERCENT MORE
LIKELY TO DIE FROM
PREGNANCY RELATED CAUSES
THAN WHITE WOMEN**

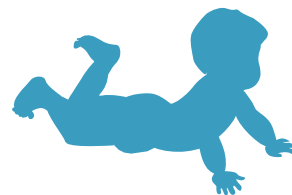
**This is independent of parity, age or education.
It produces one of the largest racial
disparities in women's health.**

Source: ProPublica

- **Supporting legislation that addresses our nation's maternal health crisis. The Maternal Care Access and Reducing Emergencies (CARE) Act (S.3363), the Modernizing Obstetric Medicine Standards (MOMS) Act (S.3392), the Maternal Health Accountability Act of 2017/Preventing Maternal Deaths Act and thet, the PREEMIE Reauthorization Act (Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early) S.3494 and the Medicaid Improvement and Enhancement of Services (MOMMIES) Act would be a powerful step toward prioritizing maternal mortality and morbidity in our nation.**
- **Supporting legislation to protect abortion rights.** Women's Health Protection Act (WHPA) assures the right to access abortion care free from bans, obstacles, and medically unnecessary restrictions not required for similar health care services. These restrictions have severely reduced and even eliminated abortion access in large swaths of the

country, creating a patchwork of access to care in the United States. WHPA takes crucial steps toward protecting essential reproductive health care and the constitutional rights of all people, everywhere. The Equal Access to Abortion Coverage in Health Insurance (EACH Woman) Act eliminates federal coverage restrictions on abortion services, such as the Hyde Amendment's ban on coverage for Medicaid enrollees, and protects insurance providers from interference in their decision to cover abortion. Studies show that when policymakers place restrictions on Medicaid coverage of abortion, it forces one in four poor women to carry an unwanted pregnancy to term. Discriminatory restrictions on insurance coverage do not belong in our public policy.

- **Promoting equitable access to health care services before, during, and after pregnancy.** Resist dismantling of ACA and Medicaid and expand access to health care. Promote the demand for transparency and data collection relating to pregnancy and childbirth.
- **Promoting health equity and antiracism measures throughout the health care delivery system.** Ensure equal access to best practices and shared plans for childbirth emergencies for all doctors and hospitals, along with training.



**AMERICAN WOMEN
ARE MORE THAN
3 TIMES
MORE LIKELY TO
DIE DURING THE
THE MATERNAL PERIOD
THAN CANADIAN WOMEN**

“I had a C-section and the whole time I was there I could just tell that I didn't feel well. They had me on antibiotics and didn't tell me why. I didn't know why it was necessary. So the day of discharge, I kept telling my nurses that I didn't feel good. They said well all my vital signs were good and that I was ready to go home. I got home with my newborn and my then 8-year old son went to sleep woke up in the middle of the night sweating chills felt like it was a full-blown fever. I had to call my mom who lives very far away to come pick up my children so I can call the ambulance. so I had to wait until she got there which was an hour to call an ambulance. I came to find out I had an infection in my C-section something that I knew already in my heart before I left. Now I'm pregnant with my fourth child and I somehow ended up at the same hospital. I am very scared and I will discuss this with my doctor.”

– Tiffany, Newark, NJ

“Mom Platform: Mom Crafted, Mom Approved” is a project of MomsRising Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. MomsRising Education Fund cannot and does not endorse or favor any particular candidate or political party, and does not engage in any partisan activity. The Mom Platform is designed to provide candidates for public office with the tools that they need to best serve mothers around the country – by focusing on the issues that real Moms face each day.

E. MOM IMMIGRATION PLATFORM

MOM CRAFTED, MOM APPROVED

The moms of America want candidates for public office to stand with all families by putting forward policies that meet the Mom Immigration Platform outlined below. We urge candidates for office to:

BELIEVE that all families living in the United States have the opportunity to contribute to our culture and economy.

ENSURE the fair and humane treatment of all immigrant families.

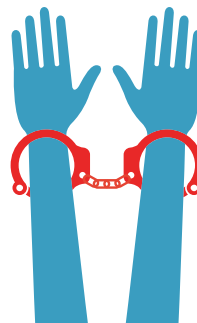
SUPPORT common-sense and humane immigration policies by:

- **Creating a fair, efficient, and humane immigration policy** that recognizes the contributions of women's paid and unpaid work.
- **Creating a pathway to citizenship for immigrants** who have lived their lives in the United States, such as DREAMers and Temporary Protected Status (TPS) recipients.
- **Protecting family unity** by creating pathways that would allow for mixed-status families to stay together legally in this country, without fear of separation.
- **Ending the separation of families and protect children.** Provide clear protections for children's basic rights, safety, and well-being, including government-funded legal counsel and advocates for children in immigration proceedings. Immediately end the harmful practices of family detention, protect parental rights, ensure due process, and increase alternatives to detention.
- **Advancing policies and programs that keep families together,** such as implementing administrative relief options to allow parents to live and work legally in the United States, halting deportations of parents, and reforming the family-based immigration systems to address the back logs and reunite more families.
- **Restoring the rights of asylum seekers and honor the right of due process.** Ensure that immigrants are afforded true due process and a fair day in Immigration Court, including access to free, high quality legal representation.

"I was a 28-year-old pregnant mother of three who was married to a US citizen. I was detained during an immigration proceeding, and spent over four weeks at Otay Mesa detention center in San Diego, California. My condition was inhumane, unnecessary, and put my life, and pregnancy at risk. I fear miscarrying due to a lack of access to the prenatal care I needed."

- Izabel, California

IN 2002, IMMIGRATION
AGENCIES HELD **LESS**
THAN 20,000



PEOPLE IN DETENTION.

TODAY THERE ARE
50,000 PEOPLE
IN IMMIGRATION JAILS

SOURCE: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/01/opinion/sunday/border-detention-tear-gas-migrants.html>

- **Engaging in oversight.** Congress must engage in aggressive oversight of immigration enforcement agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security, ICE, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and restrict funding for agencies responsible for human rights violations.
- **Offering Equal Opportunity to Immigrant Women.** Provide equal employment-based migration opportunities and workplace protections so that immigrant women may safely pursue economic opportunity.
- **Ending programs and policies that discourage reporting crimes to law enforcement.** Advance protections and expand programs like the Violence Against Women Act and U visas, which are set aside for victims of crime, women fleeing state and interpersonal violence, and victims of trafficking or exploitation.
- **Ensuring that immigrants and their children have access to the services and supports** all people need to thrive, including health care, nutrition, and other critical programs and income supports.
- **Ending the use of private prisons and for-profit immigrant detention centers.**

“Mom Platform: Mom Crafted, Mom Approved” is a project of MomsRising Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. MomsRising Education Fund cannot and does not endorse or favor any particular candidate or political party, and does not engage in any partisan activity. The Mom Platform is designed to provide candidates for public office with the tools that they need to best serve mothers around the country – by focusing on the issues that real Moms face each day.

F. MOM SAFETY NET, TAX, & BUDGET POLICIES PLATFORM

MOM CRAFTED, MOM APPROVED

The moms of America want candidates for public office to stand with families by putting forward policies that meet the Mom Safety Net, Tax, and Budget Platform outlined below. We urge candidates for office to:

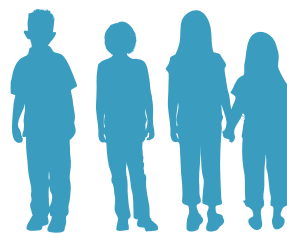
BELIEVE families deserve to have the certainty of protection and support through our social safety net, taxes, and national budget.

ENSURE that our safety nets are strong, and our tax and budget policies support families, especially working families and struggling families, as well as a strong economy.

SUPPORT policies that will further the goal of creating a budget and tax system that works for all families by:

- **Making investments in the safety net to lift women, families, and the economy** by protecting social safety net programs like Social Security, Medicaid, WIC, SNAP, TANF, Medicare, Medicaid, and childcare assistance that low- and moderate-income families are boosted by; raising revenue by requiring the richest Americans and big corporations to pay their fair share of taxes and create a tax code that is reflective of gender and racial equity; and cutting wasteful Pentagon spending.
- **Protecting vital anti-poverty programs like SNAP and Medicaid**, which should be free of barriers to access, including drug-testing and additional work requirements.
- **Ensuring the national budget reflects and boosts women, families, and our economy.** More than just protecting vital health care, education, nutrition, childcare, and housing programs, elected officials must also invest more in critical programs and adhere to the principle that deficit reduction should not increase poverty or income inequality.
- **Advancing tax improvements.** This includes increasing the Child Tax Credit (CTC) for families with younger children, as well as starting refundability with the first dollar of earnings and improving the credit for low-wage families with children.
- **Improving the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC) to better help address the childcare crisis in the U.S.** This includes making it refundable, increasing the credit rate for low-income families, expanding the sliding scale, increasing the allowable expenses, and indexing the expense limits and income levels for inflation to help make childcare more affordable to more families.

**9.4 MILLION
AMERICANS
WERE LIFTED OUT
OF POVERTY BY THE
— EITC AND CTC —**



**INCLUDING
5 MILLION
CHILDREN**

<http://www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=4097>

- **Improving the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to reach more low-income families and stop taxing low-wage workers not raising children into poverty.** The EITC should be expanded to low-income workers not raising children in the home and improvements should be made so more working families can benefit from this important working family tax credit.
- **Ensuring access to healthy food and nutrition for all kids in schools.** Ensure parents and families can make healthy choices by limiting the presence of marketing in schools, child-directed advertising, and more. Promote a healthy school day through robust implementation and protection of achievements including healthy school meals and snacks, and wellness policies.
- **Ensuring all kids and families have access to safe and accessible drinking water** through investments in infrastructure, testing, and remediation efforts.

“The EITC and CTC help us on a month-to-month basis. This year we are using it to pay down debt. It’s also helping us put a deposit down for my son’s new daycare. It’s really important to us that our son gets the highest quality early learning experience possible, but that’s hard to find in Dayton. There’s about 90 programs, but only 4-5 are high quality. We’re happy to have found the one we have, but for him to start, we need to put down two deposits of \$285 each. After that it’s \$285/week. That’s just wildly expensive for a working family. Things are really tight for us, and that’s mostly because of the cost of childcare. A young child tax credit would give us so much more space to breathe. It would mean we could put more money in savings so we’re not so stressed month-to-month and we can plan better.”

– Te’Jal, Ohio

“Mom Platform: Mom Crafted, Mom Approved” is a project of MomsRising Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. MomsRising Education Fund cannot and does not endorse or favor any particular candidate or political party, and does not engage in any partisan activity. The Mom Platform is designed to provide candidates for public office with the tools that they need to best serve mothers around the country – by focusing on the issues that real Moms face each day.

G. MOM'S AGAINST VIOLENCE PLATFORM

MOM CRAFTED, MOM APPROVED

The moms of America want candidates for public office to stand with families by putting forward policies that meet the Mom's Against Violence Platform outlined below. We urge candidates for office to:

BELIEVE that all families have the right to be safe in their communities without the fear violence or assault regardless of race, gender, zip code, ability, identity, or any other factor.

ENSURE we put an end to domestic violence and sexual assault and that every survivor can access help and safety.

SUPPORT common sense policies that:

- **Investing in ending domestic violence and sexual assault.** Provide sustained services such as shelter, crisis intervention, advocacy, legal services, children services, and specialized services for specific populations – so every survivor can access help and safety.

- **Preventing sexual abuse and assault.** Encourage investment in prevention efforts to disrupt harmful social norms and the acceptance of violence against women, intimate partner violence, and sexual assault, and to prevent teen dating violence. Similarly, invest in programs that address gender bias in institutions and systems such as law enforcement, legal and court settings, housing, health care, child welfare, workplaces, education, as well as culturally competent responses to violence against women.

- **Ensuring economic justice for survivors.** Support equal pay, a living wage, and affordable childcare, as well as strengthen and expand social safety nets—TANF, SNAP, SSDI, unemployment insurance. Expand eligibility for EITC and CTC tax credits. Support paid sick and safe days, including for doctor/hospital treatment and for seeking a restraining order or testifying in court. Include domestic violence survivors in employment nondiscrimination protections, since many domestic violence victims have been fired because of their abuse. Support workplace assistance for survivors of domestic violence. Support unemployment insurance for domestic violence and sexual assault [LP5] [MS6] survivors who must leave a job due to the abuse and violence. Preserve access to health care, including comprehensive health and mental health plans.
- **Supporting immigrant survivors.** Strengthen existing protections for immigrant survivors. Strengthen the U visa program for immigrant victims of violence by increasing the number of available U visas. Support survivor self-sufficiency and remove vulnerabilities to further victimization (e.g., provide assistance to achieve legal status, work authorization,



**NEARLY
20 MILLION
WOMEN & MEN EXPERIENCE
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE OR STALKING
BY INTIMATE PARTNERS EVERY YEAR
IN THE UNITED STATES**

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss6308a1.htm#Table6>

and protect and increase safety net benefits). Prohibit penalties for organizations helping to feed, house, and protect undocumented immigrants. Support protections for detainees who have applied for U, T, or VAWA self-petitions. Ensure no separation of survivors and children in immigration enforcement actions.

- **Supporting housing for survivors.** Support funding for safe, affordable housing and shelters. Support stronger protections against discrimination against domestic violence victims in public and private housing and prohibit harmful “nuisance ordinances” relating to victims of domestic violence.
- **Supporting students and protecting youth against dating violence and sexual assault.** Enforce Title IX. Support continued access to school disciplinary processes for survivors. Support robust prevention education and services for children, youth, and college students.
- **Supporting tribal survivors.** Support access to services and justice for Native American survivors by investing in those services and affirming tribal sovereignty to address crimes.
- **Protecting women against online attacks.** Support robust protections against the use of spyware to abuse, as well as protection against the online posting of non-consensual intimate images.

“Mom Platform: Mom Crafted, Mom Approved” is a project of MomsRising Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. MomsRising Education Fund cannot and does not endorse or favor any particular candidate or political party, and does not engage in any partisan activity. The Mom Platform is designed to provide candidates for public office with the tools that they need to best serve mothers around the country – by focusing on the issues that real Moms face each day.

H. MOM CHILDCARE PLATFORM

MOM CRAFTED, MOM APPROVED

The moms of America want candidates for public office to truly stand with families by putting forward policies that meet the Mom Childcare Platform outlined below. We urge candidates for office to:

BELIEVE that all children deserve affordable, high-quality early learning opportunities to be ready and successful for school and life regardless of race, gender, zip code, ability, identity, or any other factor.

ENSURE parents and caregivers have a meaningful choice of safe, enriching care options for their children while they work or attend school; that children have safe, enriching early education and care so they can thrive; and that the workforce has sustainable, fair wages.

BUILD a gold standard high-quality, affordable childcare plan that:

- **Recognizes and honors the important role of self-defined families in the lives of children.**
- **Creates universal access to high-quality early learning opportunities for children birth to school age.**
- **Ensures families pay no more than 7% of their household income on childcare** (through a sliding scale) regardless of how many children they have.
- **Supports parents having a meaningful choice in care providers** that meets their family's needs – whether that be a center or family childcare home, friend, relative, or neighbor; and provides easy to access to information on programs including quality, standards, and key components in one place for families to evaluate program options that meet their needs.
- **Provides for a diverse, well-trained, and fairly compensated workforce** that reflects the children and families they serve, and supports positive and consistent interactions between caregivers, parents, and children with adequate paid time for professional development and alternative pathways to certification.
- **Puts an end to childcare deserts** with long waiting lists and disruptions in continuity of care by ensuring every neighborhood has high-quality childcare with enriching programming, with appropriate ratios, outdoor areas for safe play, and access to nutritious food and snacks.

“As a working mother, my family’s bills are high: there are student loans, there are groceries, there are utilities, there’s housing, and there is childcare. At a cost of \$1,170 a month, childcare is a major out-of-pocket expense for my family. Even then, I’m lucky; my five-year-old spends most of the day in her public kindergarten, which is free; her monthly childcare costs are only the \$270 I pay for aftercare. And the \$900 I spend on my two-year-old’s care is less than half what I paid for her when she was still one. For infants in Washington, D.C., full-day childcare costs an average of nearly \$2,000 a month.

–Joan, Washington, DC

- **Includes flexible, hourly drop-in, and wider coverage options** for working families with evening, weekend, and overnight care needs.
- **Focuses on the whole child with attention to social-emotional development.**
- **Honors and supports home culture and language.**
- **Authentically engages and partners with families** and meets the needs of each family to meaningfully engage in their child's care and education.
- **Eliminates and sets forth alternatives to punitive and biased disciplinary practices** like the use of suspensions, and expulsions, restraint, and seclusion.

- **Leads with an equity framework** by integrating training and support on trauma informed care, early intervention and services for children with disabilities, supporting dual language learners.
- **Builds relationships with families, that centers gender affirming, anti-bias, and anti-racist professional development** and curriculum in order to best support the needs of all children and families.

THE AVERAGE COST OF CENTER-BASED CHILDCARE EXCEEDS THE AVERAGE COST OF RENT IN EVERY STATE IN THE COUNTRY



Source: Elise Gould and Tanyell Cooke, "High Quality Child Care Is out of Reach for Working Families," Economic Policy Institute, October 6, 2015, www.epi.org/publication/child-care-affordability.

"Mom Platform: Mom Crafted, Mom Approved" is a project of MomsRising Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. MomsRising Education Fund cannot and does not endorse or favor any particular candidate or political party, and does not engage in any partisan activity. The Mom Platform is designed to provide candidates for public office with the tools that they need to best serve mothers around the country – by focusing on the issues that real Moms face each day.

I. MOM WORKPLACE JUSTICE PLATFORM

MOM CRAFTED, MOM APPROVED

The moms of America want candidates for public office to stand with families by putting forward policies that meet the Mom Workplace Justice Platform outlined below. We urge candidates for office to:

BELIEVE workplace justice is critical to the health of our families and economy.

ENSURE that all working families have access to policies that help families thrive.

SUPPORT policies that will further the goal of creating workplaces that support workers, their families, and the economy by:

- **Advocating for a nation-wide, comprehensive, and sustainably funded paid family and medical leave program.**

We need a national program that covers all working people, for a minimum of twelve weeks of job-protected paid family and medical leave they can use to care for a newly arrived child, or when they or a loved one need time away from work to deal with a serious medical condition. This proposal must provide a reasonable wage replacement, with higher levels of wage replacement for lower-wage workers, and include a broad definition of the kinds of family relationships permitted for family caregiving. Finally, this system must be sustainably funded without harming other critical programs.

- **Protecting pregnant people in the workforce.** It's time to require employers to make the same sorts of reasonable accommodations for pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions that they already make for disabilities, ensuring pregnant women can continue to do their jobs and support their families. These accommodations are simple things like being able to sit down or having a water bottle on shift.

- **Supporting breastfeeding mothers.** Congress must support public policies to help normalize and minimize the barriers that many breastfeeding mothers face. Policies that ensure all employees have reasonable break time to express milk in a private, non-bathroom location, for at least one year after the child's birth and make sure public buildings provide lactation rooms that are hygienic are necessary.

- **Advancing earned paid sick days.** Allow workers to earn paid sick days each year to be used to recover from their own illnesses, access preventive care, provide care to a sick family member, or attend school meetings related to a child's health condition or disability.

- **Supporting efforts to ensure working people won't be penalized by scheduling abuses.** Congress should curb abusive scheduling practices and give working people the right to request schedule predictability and flexibility.

"In the past 18 months my family has dealt with the sudden illness and death of my father and the arrival of my second child. I used saved vacation time to be with my father but after his death I only had two paid days to compose myself. Having used up all the saved vacation time I had, maternity leave with my new baby was only six weeks. This situation was not only difficult for me, my four year old also suffered because I was not able to be home to help her adjust to the quick changes in her family structure."

– Laura, Pennsylvania

- **Expanding the unpaid Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) of 1993.** The FMLA was an important start, but the law has significant gaps and needs updating to increase working people's ability to use coverage.
- **Modernizing paid leave for the military.** Issue directives to the Department of Defense (DOD) and urge Congress to modernize paid leave for the military by equalizing the duration of leave for mothers, fathers, and adoptive parents and work with Congress to expand paid leave for DOD personnel to include family caregiving as well.
- **Protecting against retaliation for discussing salaries with colleagues.** To increase pay transparency, allow workers to discuss salaries and wages with each other.
- **Promoting bans on salary history requirements.** Work to ensure that employers are barred from requiring job candidates to disclose previous salary histories, which contributes to the wage gap over time.
- **Raising the federal minimum wage and include tipped workers.** Raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour or higher for all minimum wage workers, including tipped workers, and index the minimum wage to inflation.
- **Auditing salary reviews for gender bias.** The administration and Congress should conduct their own agency reviews and audits of salaries to ensure that gendered bias is being rooted out and eliminated and continue to highlight, as models, private companies that are doing the same.
- **Raising the overtime threshold.** Raising the overtime threshold so more people receive overtime pay for working extra hours, in addition to benefiting families, is likely to strengthen the economy overall. A higher overtime threshold could lead employers to hire more employees or increase the hours of part-time workers. To the extent that more workers receive overtime pay, these increased earnings could lead to increased consumer spending and stronger economic growth.
- **Expanding the Fair Labor Standards Act** to cover all workers, including domestic workers and farm workers at the federal level.

"Mom Platform: Mom Crafted, Mom Approved" is a project of MomsRising Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. MomsRising Education Fund cannot and does not endorse or favor any particular candidate or political party, and does not engage in any partisan activity. The Mom Platform is designed to provide candidates for public office with the tools that they need to best serve mothers around the country – by focusing on the issues that real Moms face each day.

J. MOM CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM & YOUTH JUSTICE PLATFORM

MOM CRAFTED, MOM APPROVED

The moms of America want candidates for public office to stand with families by putting forward policies that meet the Mom Criminal Justice Reform & Youth Justice Platform outlined below. We urge candidates for office to:

BELIEVE reforming our criminal justice system is critical to the health of our families and communities.

ENSURE that policies are supportive rather than punitive, just rather than discriminatory, keeping families and our economy as a whole.

SUPPORT policies that support families and communities and dismantle an unjust, punitive, and destructive system by:

- **Ending mass incarceration.** One million women, mostly mothers, are under criminal justice supervision in the United States and hundreds of thousands of women are currently incarcerated. Two-thirds of the women in federal prisons are serving time for challenges related to nonviolent drug abuse. They need treatment and counseling, not incarceration. Our justice system is failing families, hurting our economy, and in need of some serious reforms. We have the highest incarceration rate in the world, which is nothing to brag about. In fact, we are living in a time when more than 2.7 million children in the United States have an incarcerated parent, and approximately 10 million children have experienced parental incarceration at some point in their lives. Harsh sentencing practices have done more harm than good. Strict penalties designed to combat the distribution of illegal drugs have done little to stem the drug trade; instead, the result has been a massive sweeping of people experiencing challenges related to drug addiction into an ever-expanding criminal justice system that directly fractures families and hurts our economy. We urge leaders to act on sentencing reform and to end mandatory minimums.
- **Advancing sentencing and bail reform work at the state and municipal level.** Significantly decrease pretrial detention by ending the cash bail system and racially biased risk assessment programs. End the pretrial detention of pregnant women. Reform drug policy using a public health framework and end mandatory minimums.
- **Supporting the Dignity for Incarcerated Women Act.** Improve the treatment of incarcerated women by addressing how inmates interact with their children during incarceration; allowing formerly incarcerated mentors to assist inmates with re-entry; and mandating that inmates have access to a greater range of health care products and in sufficient quantities.
- **Advocating for police reform.** No family should have to suffer from their loved ones being injured or killed by guns, especially at the hands of those charged to protect them. More than nine hundred people were killed by police in 2016.

1.6 MILLION
STUDENTS ATTEND A
SCHOOL THAT EMPLOYS
A LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICER BUT
NO COUNSELOR



Studies show that, even though white Americans outnumber Black Americans fivefold, Black people are three times more likely than white people to be killed when they encounter the police in the United States, and Black teenagers are twenty-one times more likely to be killed by police than white teenagers. Strategies include:

- A fully resourced and rigorous civil rights and criminal investigation by the DOJ into discriminatory policing, excessive force, and death or injury by police in every state in the country.
 - A comprehensive, streamlined, public national-level database of police shootings excessive force and misconduct complaints, traffic and pedestrian stops, and arrests, broken down by race and other demographic data, with key privacy protections, the exclusion of personally identifying factors and information, and deportation immunity for civilians.
 - Mandating of Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) commissions in every state and interstate coordination between all POSTs.
 - An executive order that creates a strong and enforceable prohibition on police brutality and discriminatory policing based on race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, age, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, immigration status, disability, and housing status.
 - Limit federal funding for police departments that demonstrate abuse of power, and move forward massive reinvestment in community-controlled and -based safety practices.
 - Support for the passage of the End Racial Profiling Act.
 - Streamlined national use of force matrix and mandating that state and local police have clear and streamlined matrices.
 - Limits on asset seizure without due process and the transfer of any military equipment to local law enforcement under the 1033 program, guidelines that ensure that the equipment is not used on nonviolent protesters, and an end to the requirement that such military weaponry is used within a year.
- **Repeal & Replace the 1994 Crime Bill.** At the time of its passage, numerous leaders in Congress, civil rights experts, community activists, and criminal justice experts understood that the 94 Crime Bill was harmful and deeply flawed. Today, advocates, organizers, and even elected officials who had previously supported the Bill, recognize the need to remedy the damage that has been done. The 1994 Crime bill should be repealed and replaced with a bill that:
 - Directs resources into communities harmed by mass incarceration
 - Revised federal sentencing laws and incentivizes shifts in state and local sentencing laws and budgeting
 - Directs resources for education, housing, and employment to people who are formerly incarcerated
 - Eliminates federal private prisons and detention centers
 - Ends the federal death penalty
 - Dismantles the school-to-prison pipeline by directing resources from police in schools to counseling, after-school programming, youth jobs, and meal programs



**STUDENTS WHO EXPERIENCE
SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS ARE
8X MORE LIKELY TO BE
INCARCERATED LATER IN LIFE**

- **Ending the school-to-prison pipeline and advance model school codes.** End out-of-school suspensions and promote restorative justice. Integrate social emotional learning. Adopt discipline policies aimed at dignity in schools with a focus on:
 - Understanding and addressing the causes of behavior.
 - Resolving conflicts and repairing the harm done.
 - Restoring relationships.
 - Reintegrating students into the school community.
- **Ending the regular presence of law enforcement inside schools** and increase the number of counselors inside schools.
- **Expanding access to critical support staff and services for students,** including nurses, social workers, counselors and school psychologists.
- **Implementing and reauthorize the Every Student Succeed Act (ESSA).** Recommendations for the reauthorization of the ESSA include:
 - Mandatory data collection on school discipline from all schools, Accountability mechanisms for addressing discipline and implementing best practices in the lowest-performing schools.
 - Funding for restorative justice practices and school-wide positive behavior supports.
 - Parental involvement in developing school discipline codes.
 - Requiring states to describe how they will reduce suspensions, expulsions, referrals to law enforcement, and other actions that remove students from instruction.
 - Funding competitive grants for school partnerships with community-based organizations.
- **Raising the Age.** Move policies forward so that juveniles can't be charged as adults and incarcerated through the age twenty-one.

“Mom Platform: Mom Crafted, Mom Approved” is a project of MomsRising Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. MomsRising Education Fund cannot and does not endorse or favor any particular candidate or political party, and does not engage in any partisan activity. The Mom Platform is designed to provide candidates for public office with the tools that they need to best serve mothers around the country – by focusing on the issues that real Moms face each day.

MomsRising.org is an online and on-the-ground grassroots organization of more than a million people who are working to achieve economic security for all families in the United States.

MomsRising is working for paid family leave, flexible work options, affordable childcare, and for an end to the wage and hiring discrimination which penalizes so many others. MomsRising also advocates for better childhood nutrition, health care for all, toxic-free environments, and breastfeeding rights so that all children can have a healthy start.

Established in 2006, MomsRising and its members are organizing and speaking out to improve public policy and to change the national dialogue on issues that are critically important to America's families. In 2013, Forbes.com named MomsRising's web site as one of the Top 100 Websites For Women for the fourth year in a row and Working Mother magazine included MomsRising on its "Best of the Net" list.