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Nurse-Family Partnership
VOTER GUIDE

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Nurse-Family
Partnership

Helping First-Time Parents Succeed®



ABOUT NFP

our purpose

Nurse-Family Partnership is an evidence-based community health program that helps transform the lives of low-income mothers pregnant with their first child. Built upon the pioneering work of David Olds, Ph.D., Nurse-Family Partnership's model is based on more than 40 years of evidence from randomized, controlled trials that show it works.

Nurse-Family Partnership works by having specially trained nurses regularly visit young, first-time moms-to-be, starting early in the pregnancy, and continuing through the child's second birthday. The expectant moms benefit by getting the care and support they need to have a healthy pregnancy. At the same time, new mothers develop a close relationship with a nurse who becomes a trusted resource they can rely on for advice on everything from safely caring for their child to taking steps to provide a stable, secure future for them both.

Through the partnership, the nurse provides new moms with the confidence and the tools they need not only to assure a healthy start for their babies, but to envision a life of stability and opportunities for success for both mom and child.

our mission

Nurse-Family Partnership positively transforms the lives of babies, mothers and families.

our vision

A future where all children are healthy, families thrive, communities prosper and the cycle of poverty is broken.



WHAT'S IN THE GUIDE?

The Nurse-Family Partnership Voter Guide

is a resource for our advocates to utilize throughout the remainder of the election cycle to prepare themselves to make an informed and safe vote.

Why Your Vote Really, Really Matters

Voting is one of the main ways that individuals can affect policies and laws that govern access to essential resources like high-quality nutrition, education, housing, and health care. Voting helps historically disadvantaged groups use their power to achieve more equitable access to the resources and opportunities that drive good health. This year, we have the opportunity to shape our federal and state governments to reflect our country's diversity and fill congressional and statehouse seats with representatives who share our values, like preserving the safety of our front-line workers and people of color.

Your vote is your superpower. Refer to this guide to help you use your power or email advocacyteam@nursefamilypartnership.org for help.

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Public Policy Priorities

Despite this year's challenges, NFP nurses haven't skipped a beat.

They continue to serve families via telehealth and are often the only connection families have to health care and other resources. NFP supports legislation that uplifts historically under-resourced communities that endure the most during crises.

Read below for some of [NFP's Public Policy Priorities](#) for the 2020 Election:

Improve, Protect, and Expand NFP Funding Streams

Due to the economic challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, NFP's network partners could be critically impacted by shifts in federal, state and local resources. The federal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program is NFP's largest federal funding source. Along with our partners in the National Home Visiting Coalition, we have requested emergency flexibility and a one-time investment of \$100 million for MIECHV to help preserve the reach and impact of this valuable program throughout the pandemic. It is critical that MIECHV as well as our state and local sources continue to be funded so NFP nurses may serve our more than 40,000 current families.

Expand NFP's Coverage Within Medicaid

NFP provides preventive health care services to mothers and babies at a critical point in their lives and the majority of families are Medicaid-eligible. NFP seeks comprehensive payment from Medicaid and other health care payers, coordinated referral processes from state agencies, managed care organizations and other providers to offer NFP to as many families as possible.

Support Paid Leave for Working Families

The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed that families are not getting the support they need. NFP supports proving at least \$5 billion in emergency assistance to families with children, including children being cared for by kin, through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. Extended paid sick days and paid family and medical leave should also be granted to all workers with full wage replacement, regardless of employer size

Address America's High Rate of Maternal Mortality

NFP knows that healthy, strong mothers mean healthy, strong babies and children. Reducing maternal and infant mortality, supporting families suffering from substance abuse and mental health challenges, and making advancements in paid leave and child-care for families are important policy priorities for NFP. We also support opportunities for continuous quality improvement and implementation of the NFP model nationwide, including nursing practice and retention.

Public Policy Priorities

Support Nurses & Essential Front-line Workers

NFP nurses are working tirelessly and selflessly to provide services to address the COVID-19 needs of local communities. Our workforce is comprised of dedicated registered nurses who form a long-term relationship with their clients, becoming a constant, trusted presence in their lives. As we continue to address this crisis, our organization supports the establishment of a federal and private loan forgiveness program for loans acquired to receive medical and professional training held by health care workers who have made significant contributions to the COVID-19 response, including treatment and prevention. NFP also supports a partial loan repayment program for health workers who make a three-year commitment to work for a qualifying public health agency.

Enhance Wireless & Broadband Connectivity

NFP is supportive of efforts to expand wireless coverage for low-income families and expand broadband connectivity, particularly as we deliver NFP exclusively through telehealth. Telehealth is a safe and effective way for NFP nurses to connect with their moms to ensure mom and baby are healthy and have access to essential resources, such as food and diapers. We know that NFP moms may not have cellular phones, tablets, computers, etc. or sufficient broadband internet to actively participate in telehealth visits.

Increase SNAP & WIC Assistance for Families

The vast majority of NFP moms depend on Women, Infants and Children (WIC) or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to provide life sustaining services and provide for their families. WIC also serves as an essential referral pipeline for NFP, and it is a priority that we keep these pipelines as strong as possible. NFP supports efforts to build on the nutrition assistance provided in previous aid packages through: an increase in federal WIC funding and access, an increase in the amount of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC program's Cash Value Benefit as well as increased access to the program through raising the eligibility age for children up to age 6, an increase in postpartum eligibility for up to two years, an increase in SNAP benefits by 15 percent, with an additional 20 percent bump for families with children, and an increase the minimum SNAP benefit from \$16 to \$30 a month.



Make a Plan to Vote!

Step 1: Find Your District & Candidates

Visit Vote411.org to view sample ballots with candidates and local measures on the ballot in your district.

Step 2: Determine Who Best Reflects Your Values

NFP's [Find Your Legislator Tool](#) provides you with links to your legislators' websites and social media pages. Visit these pages for a sense of what policies your legislators support. You can also use Vote411.org to find out whether there are any virtual debates, town halls or other campaign events happening in your community. These events can provide great insight into your legislators' values.

Step 3: Make Sure You're Registered

Make sure you're registered to vote at least a month before Election Day and you can visit Vote.org to check your registration status. If you are not registered, use [NFP's Voter Registration Tool](#) to register!

Step 4: Determine Whether You Need An ID

Some states require ID while others do not. The standard in your state may have changed since the last time you voted. Be sure you know what you need at the polls by checking [here](#).

Step 5: Decide WHEN You Will Vote

Election day is Tuesday, November 3, but voting doesn't happen only one day a year! This election cycle, NFP has joined [VoteEarlyDay](#), a movement of nonprofits and corporations working to ensure all Americans know their options to vote early. Request a mail-in ballot [here](#), or if you're going to vote in person on Election Day, look at your schedule for the day, decide what time you will go to the polls and set a reminder.

Step 6: Figure Out WHERE You Will Vote

Your polling location may have changed since the last time you voted. Check [here](#) to find your polling place. Determine how you will get to the polling place, post office or mail box. Are you walking, driving or do you need a ride? Are there any friends or neighbors that you can go with? Taking a friend with you increases the chances you'll both definitely vote.

Get Involved!



Are You an NFP Champion?

Pledge to VOTE this election!

Print the pledge on the last page of this guide, snap a selfie and share why you plan to vote this year. Post your photo on social media and be sure to tag Nurse-Family Partnership on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram and use sample graphics found [here!](#)

Stay Connected!



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Advocacy Action Center

Visit the [Nurse-Family Partnership Advocacy Action Center!](#)

The Center is your one-stop-shop for all things NFP advocacy: [Sign up for action alerts](#), [read through virtual event ideas](#), [participate in ongoing campaigns](#), and more!

Contact NFP's National Advocacy Team at advocacyteam@nursefamilypartnership.org if you have any questions.



**I AM A NURSE-FAMILY
PARTNERSHIP
CHAMPION**

& I VOTE.



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Partnership**

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