

# Fighting on the Frontlines for Our Health

## Using Our Voice on Capitol Hill

The “One Big Beautiful Bill” signed into law on July 4, 2025 has put over 70 million Americans at risk of losing access to critical healthcare coverage. It included massive cuts to Medicaid that threaten access to life-changing care currently received by 24 million women — over half of whom are women of color. In recent months, the National Partnership carried out a Medicaid Defense campaign to combat the bill and amplify the impact these supports have on the lives of women and families and the harm these cuts will cause.

Propelled by your support, the National Partnership continues to be a leading voice on Capitol Hill, sharing our expertise, leading coalitions, and taking a stand where it matters. Every day we help members of Congress and their staff navigate the complexities of policies that the current administration is trying to rush through. In a short amount of time, we’ve created a wealth of resources for policymakers, including issue briefs detailing threats to maternal and infant health and fact sheets spotlighting the detrimental consequences of the reconciliation packages.

As a co-leader of the National Coalition for Gender Justice in Health Policy (NCGJHP), the National Partnership convened 130 organizations urging congressional leadership to reject the House of Representatives’ proposed cuts to Medicaid. The letter warned that cutting Medicaid would severely jeopardize coverage for millions, exacerbating the maternal



*NPWF President Jocelyn Frye testified at a Congressional forum on how the Republican budget bill betrays and harms women and families, June 2025*

mortality crisis, forcing hospital closures, and causing widespread harm. Defenders of the bill have wrongly claimed it would be a win for the working class, but our research shows that the bill actually does the opposite — funding tax cuts for America’s wealthiest by gutting Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which disproportionately harms low-income families and rural communities.

Hours before a crucial House vote on the bill, on June 11, the National Partnership’s President, Jocelyn Frye, testified as an expert witness at a Congressional Forum, titled the GOP’s “Big Betrayal of Women.” The forum was hosted by the Senate Democratic Steering and Policy Committee. Jocelyn’s remarks focused

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on the outsized harm this bill would cause women, particularly women of color, mothers, and caregivers who rely on these federally funded programs for their health and financial security. Jocelyn's compelling testimony affirmed the National Partnership's commitment to fighting back and advocating for solutions that truly support women and working families.

## Transforming Maternal Health

In addition to advocating against Medicaid cuts, we've also been hard at work on supporting the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) Transforming Maternal Health (TMAH) initiative — an initiative designed to improve our nation's maternal health crisis. We developed a crucial playbook for state Medicaid agencies participating in this initiative, which is designed to reform how we deliver and pay for care across 15 states over the next ten years. This playbook also serves as a roadmap for states not formally participating in the program by providing checklists, resources, and data on the steps that states in the TMAH Initiative are taking towards improving maternal health outcomes.

Beyond covering pregnancy, birth, and postpartum care, Medicaid is an essential safeguard for women's health throughout their lives and across needs, providing cancer screenings, family planning, and long-term care. Fueled by your support, the National Partnership

can continue to defend these vital programs and ensure women and families across the country have access to the quality care they need and deserve.

## Medicaid Matters

This past April, we celebrated Medicaid Awareness Month with our Medicaid Matters Storytelling Series. This collection of compelling first person stories from seven staff members illustrates the critical role Medicaid plays in their lives and the lives of their loved ones: supporting them through high-risk pregnancies, providing essential safety nets for single parents, and sustaining independent living for women with disabilities.

Several media publications covered the stories, including The Hill, which featured the powerful story of our Senior Operations and Human Resources Manager, Natasha Ewell, highlighting how Medicaid helped her safely deliver her son after pregnancy complications. These lived experiences remind us that Medicaid is more than a program — it's an indispensable support system that provides stability, empowers women and families, and builds healthier, stronger communities across generations. •

**These personal stories, paired with a call to action, prompted advocates to send nearly 6,000 messages to Members of Congress, urging them to take a stand and vote against any cuts to Medicaid.**



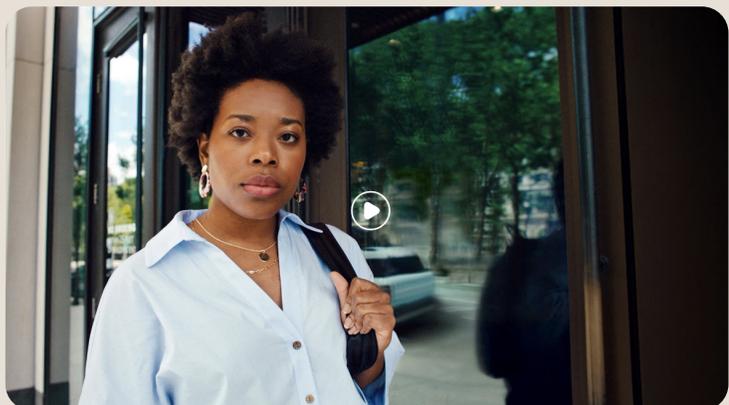
Scan to read the series here.

## Watch our new organizational video!

At the 2025 Annual Event, we debuted a new organizational video made possible by NPWF Board Member Lisa Ross and the Mijo creative team.



Scan to watch it here.



# Fighting for Women at Work

## An Open Letter to Working Women

On June 18th, National Partnership President Jocelyn Frye and National Women's Law Center CEO Fatima Goss Graves came together to launch **The 75 Million** campaign with a powerful open letter to working women. Endorsed by over 30 leading organizations and featured in *The New York Times*, the letter serves as both a rallying cry and a bold reminder: working women are not just participants in the economy — they are its foundation.

The campaign honors the 75 million women who are workers, caregivers, breadwinners, leaders, and changemakers. Even as executive orders erase our progress and make workplaces less safe, women continue to stand as the backbone of our national economy, and we refuse to be continuously relegated to the sidelines. In their letter, Frye and Goss Graves confront these government attacks head-on, exposing the backlash against diversity, equity, and inclusion for what it truly is:

I'm  
one of the  
75 Million.

holding policymakers accountable, and demanding a bold, equitable policy agenda that supports women and strengthens our nation.

Add your name to The 75 Million today, because women should not only make up half the workforce — we should have the power to shape its future.



Scan to add  
your name here.

a manufactured assault on the rights and dignity of all working women.

At the National Partnership, we are proud to stand with The 75 Million. We are raising our voices,

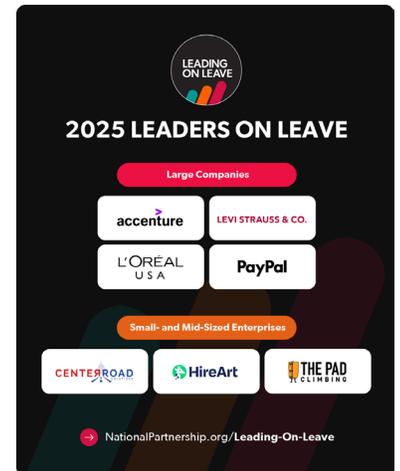
## Leading on Leave

Building on our decades-long work to advance paid leave in public policy and the private sector, we launched the Leading on Leave initiative in 2019 to track progress, reveal gaps, and support employers in their efforts to offer strong paid leave policies.

Our annual Leading on Leave report highlights companies with strong paid leave policies and allows all companies who participate to evaluate their policies against industry standards. Last year, twenty companies of all sizes participated in our Leading on Leave data collection, stepping up to share information on their paid leave policies.

This past June, we released our 2025

Leading on Leave report, featuring seven companies that set new standards for paid leave policies and practices and spotlighting the four large corporations at the top of the list. Our Leading on Leave Index and its results were featured in *Forbes*, reaching an important audience within the business community.



Scan to view  
the report here.

## The Mother of All Investments

In May, in honor of Mother's Day and Maternal Mental Health month, we brought together a select group of employers for a virtual discussion to uplift solutions and resources addressing maternal mental health in the workplace. This roundtable, led by National Partnership President Jocelyn Frye and Congresswoman Gwen Moore (D-WI), provided a nonpartisan, cross-sector opportunity to explore workplace policies, resources, research, and public policy opportunities. Over the course of the roundtable, Jocelyn Frye and her fellow speakers illustrated the critical importance of maternal mental health, showcasing effective solutions and identifying ways to drive meaningful change in our workplaces and communities. •

# Championing Democracy and Diversity

## Building a Democracy that Works for Women

Since day one, the Trump administration has systematically worked to dismantle decades of hard-won progress for equity and justice. In a powerful op-ed published in *Word in Black*, National Partnership president Jocelyn Frye exposes the administration's aggressive roll-back of civil rights

**True progress demands centering women in our national vision and investing in policies that support women's health, economic security, and autonomy.**

protections through a new "Jim Crow meets the manosphere" culture; an approach she coins as the "New Jim 'Bro.'" Drawing parallels to the historic Jim Crow playbook, Jocelyn breaks down the assault on gender equity and calls for a

renewed commitment to civil rights enforcement and a focused attention to ongoing discrimination.

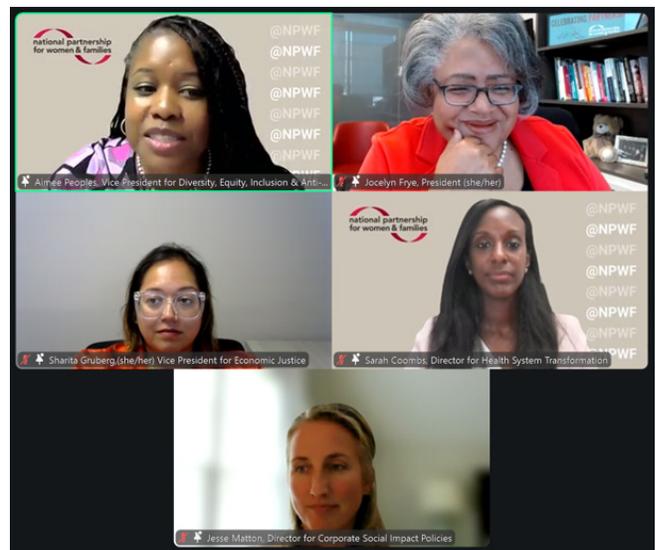
In her latest piece, *Making Democracy Work for Women*, Jocelyn unpacks how the current administration's signature policy reforms actively undermine women's ability to participate fully in the economy and democracy. Jocelyn argues true progress demands centering women in our national vision and investing in policies that support women's health, economic security, and autonomy — all while rejecting outdated narratives that confine women to narrow roles.

Standing together, we can continue to advance the National Partnership's mission towards a bold, future-focused agenda: one that centers women and invests in the workplace, healthcare, and reproductive autonomy we need to fully participate in our economy and democracy.

## Resisting Backlash Against Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Thank you to everyone who joined our July 9th virtual briefing, "Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Under Attack: Protecting our Progress and the Future of Gender Justice." We came together at a critical moment. As attacks on DEI gain momentum at the federal level, the risks of rollbacks on women's rights, dignity, and advancements demand immediate attention. The briefing featured leading voices from the National Partnership, who unpacked how the current wave of attacks is unfolding, underscored the critical role of gender equity, and outlined concrete ways businesses and individual advocates can stand together to push back against these escalating threats to women in the workplace.

This conversation made one thing clear: the attacks on institutions, systems, and organizations that defend diversity, equity, and inclusion have real consequences. It's a tangible threat to workplace protections, access to health care, civil rights enforcement, and the future of gender equity itself. We are deeply grateful to our community of supporters, partners, and advocates who continue to stand with us and protect the hard-won progress we've achieved together, working toward gender justice. •



# Annual Event

Our 2025 Annual Event was held on June 3rd at the Conrad in Washington, DC. Bringing together partners, supporters, sponsors, and advocates, the evening celebrated the ongoing work of the National Partnership and those who stand alongside us with the theme: *legacy of resilience, protecting our progress, setting a vision for the future*. We heard from our distinguished honorees, author and journalist **Joy-Ann Reid**, Former Labor Secretary **Julie Su**, organizer-activist and political strategist **Bishop Leah Daughtry**, and Missouri Jobs with Justice's Director of Strategic Partnerships **M'Evie Mead**. In addition to our honorees' inspiring remarks, the program also featured a special video message from New Jersey **Senator Cory Booker**, applauding the National Partnership's tireless fight for American families. Thank you to all those who

joined us, as well as to our sponsors and our esteemed honorees, for your support and dedication to improving the quality of life for all women and families! Save the date for next year's event on Tuesday, June 23, 2026. •



Scan to view videos and photos from the event here.



## NPWF in the Vineyard

Heading to Martha's Vineyard this August? Join us for several events we'll be hosting the week of August 17. Email [eventinfo@nationalpartnership.org](mailto:eventinfo@nationalpartnership.org) for more information.

# Other News to Know

- ▶ Our President, Jocelyn Frye, is featured in Academy Award-nominated actor Bradley Cooper's PBS documentary *Caregiving*. Jocelyn spoke to *USA Today* about *Caregiving*, calling attention to the struggles faced by the vast majority of Americans who serve as support systems for their loved ones. Watch *Caregiving* on PBS.org!
- ▶ Three months after Inauguration Day, we published a blogpost "35 Ways the Trump Administration Has Harmed Women and Families in its First 100 Days," highlighting threats on women in the workplace, attacks on women's health, and additional dangers for the federal workforce, civil rights protections, and essential safety net programs.
- ▶ We're thrilled to announce several new additions to the National Partnership. Please join us in welcoming Jenna Skinner Scanlan and Emma Shapiro, who joined the National Partnership Board of Directors in April. We're also delighted to welcome new members to our National Partnership staff, including Patrick Roisen, our new Managing Director of Development; Izzie Kenhard, our new Development Associate; and Dara Bean, who joins us as our Senior Director of Experts and Booking.
- ▶ NPWF research was recently featured in a *Time* article on women veteran abortion access and impending policy changes driven by the Trump administration. Read more about our analysis on our website.
- ▶ The National Partnership's diligent work on reproductive health and data privacy was cited by CNN, *The Guardian* and 404 Media, and our Economic Justice team spoke to *The Wall Street Journal* about viewing young women's spending history as a recession indicator. •

## Your support makes a lasting impact!



Please visit our website at

<https://npwf.info/fy26-sn-indv-p>

to make your contribution online using our secure webpage.



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