

INSIDER

Shaping the Narrative: How the Trump Administration Harms Women & Families

On the one-year anniversary of Trump's inauguration, the National Partnership published [an article](#) documenting over 50 ways the second Trump administration has negatively impacted women and families in just its first year. The analysis, later featured in *Ms. Magazine*, covers the numerous power grabs and chaotic tactics that threaten women's rights in the workplace, their access to healthcare and overall economic security. From eliminating crucial health coverage funding and hollowing out civil rights enforcement to restructuring federal agencies meant to protect workers, Trump has systematically weakened the protections millions of women and families rely on.

In a particularly alarming erosion of fundamental democratic rights, Trump issued an executive order reshaping election administration in an attempt to disenfranchise voters. If implemented, the order would require voters to provide documentation to prove their citizenship, such as a birth certificate or passport, when registering to vote. The National Partnership's analysis notes that this change uniquely

targets 70 million married women who changed or hyphenated their last names, creating unnecessary barriers to registration and voting. The order would also restrict mail-in ballots, potentially stripping

millions of eligible voters of their right to vote and disproportionately harming women and people of color. The House of Representatives also recently passed the so-called Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act, legislation that would codify many of the same onerous requirements outlined in the executive order. The National Partnership worked in coalition with many of our sister organizations to oppose this harmful bill and urged Congress to vote against it. This pushback underscores the power of resistance

— and the critical role of courts, advocates and organizers in standing firm against these overreaches. In the face of this administration's threats to gender equality, the National Partnership remains committed to defending hard-won rights and advancing a future where women and families can thrive. •



Government Shutdown: Documenting the Impact and Advocating for Families

This past October, the Trump administration broke its own record for the longest government shutdown in American history after refusing to extend enhanced Affordable Care Act (ACA) premium tax credits. These tax credits help make health insurance more affordable for millions of Americans, including nearly 11.7 million women. The 43-day shutdown stretched more than a week longer than the 2018 shutdown, leaving a devastating economic impact on women and families nationwide. Throughout the shutdown, the National Partnership made the case to Congress that extending these credits is critical for women and families, while also opposing Republican efforts to impose additional abortion restrictions on health plans sold on the ACA exchanges.

In the middle of the fall government shutdown, National Partnership President Jocelyn Frye joined fellow advocates for women and families to sound the alarm on the harmful impacts of proposed cuts to Medicaid and the ACA — and the resulting strain on women, caregivers and the economy. Testifying before an audience that included the House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee, the Democratic Women’s Caucus and other

House leaders, Frye delivered a poignant address emphasizing the disproportionate burden women bear when systems of care and infrastructure fail. She pointed to the numerous care challenges faced by women, including rising healthcare costs, the potential for annual insurance premiums to double for millions of women and the heightened risks these cuts pose for pregnant women in particular.

Jocelyn reinforced her testimony by sharing recent National Partnership research, showing that mothers of young children, especially Black mothers, are already facing unprecedented declines in workforce participation. Ultimately, Frye urged Congress to take a different path — one that prioritizes women and families by ensuring affordable, accessible healthcare, recognizing the value of caregiving and meaningfully investing in care as a matter of equity and economic fairness.

However, with Republicans unable to pass a funding bill, nearly 1.4 million federal workers were furloughed or forced to work without pay, while critical programs like the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Head Start and protections for survivors of domestic violence were pushed to the brink. In response, the National Partnership released a blog post and shared it with lawmakers, detailing how the shutdown deepened women workers’ financial insecurity by disrupting access to food, childcare and safety, and halting critical support services meant to safeguard women from discrimination and wage theft. After the government entered yet another three-day partial shutdown in early February, the need for lasting protections against these interruptions has never been clearer. The National Partnership remains committed to documenting the fallout of congressional inaction and pushing for solutions that ensure women and families are not left to pay the price. •



NPWF President Jocelyn Frye sounded the alarm on Capitol Hill about the harmful impact of proposed Medicaid cuts (October 2025)

Hands Off the EEOC!

Towards the end of January, The 75 Million — a project co-led by the National Partnership and the National Women’s Law Center — rallied outside the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). At the “Hands Off the EEOC!” protest, advocates demanded that the EEOC stop stripping workers of critical protections and ensure every worker can do their job without fear of harassment or discrimination. The protest came in response to Trump’s EEOC voting to rescind long-standing workplace harassment guidance without public input — reversing progress made in 2024 and leaving workers and employers without clear standards for preventing and addressing harassment. The National Partnership President Jocelyn Frye condemned the EEOC’s decision, warning that the agency’s new approach abandons their core mission to enforce civil rights laws and protect workers fairly. By eliminating this guidance, the EEOC creates confusion and weakens accountability, leaving women to continue to bear the brunt of workplace harassment and its lasting economic consequences.



The 75 Million Project, co-led by the National Partnership, organized a rapid response rally outside the EEOC to protest critical protections being rescinded by the Trump administration (January 2026)

The rally reflected the growing momentum of The 75 Million, a national campaign launched by the National Partnership and the National Women’s Law Center to uplift and mobilize the women who power our economy as workers, caregivers and breadwinners. As a founding force behind the campaign, the National Partnership is proud to help lead this movement — raising our voices, holding government agencies accountable and demanding a future where women’s rights at work are protected, respected and enforced. •

New Report Shows “Voluntary Paid Leave” Programs Don’t Live Up to the Hype

Ahead of the 2026 legislative sessions, the National Partnership released new research, in partnership with New America’s Better Life Lab, examining market-based approaches to paid leave. The analysis found that these voluntary, employer-driven models fall short of delivering broad and equitable access to paid leave. Ultimately, the eight states relying on voluntary insurance sales operate in a

transparency vacuum and show little evidence of widespread use by employers or insurers. In a press release accompanying the report, National Partnership President Jocelyn Frye emphasized that this research is among the first to closely examine market-based paid leave models — noting that while they may offer limited support, private paid leave plans cannot replace a



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comprehensive, universal policy. This fragmented approach leaves tens of millions of workers without access to paid leave, underscoring the urgency of federal action.

This necessity was reinforced in January, when the National Partnership released [a new report documenting the proven success](#) of state paid leave programs. Drawing on the outcomes of enacted paid leave policies in D.C. and 14 states, the report demonstrates the sustainability of these programs — covering more than 24 million

instances of working people taking leave since 2004. The data highlights the clear benefits for workers, including improved maternal health, reduced poverty and reliance on public assistance and stronger workforce attachment. Paid leave is not only good policy, but a proven economic investment to which every American deserves access. By continuing to produce such leading analyses, the National Partnership is fighting for a national paid leave policy that ensures all workers can care for themselves and their families without sacrificing economic security. •

New Research: Social Security Benefits for Veterans and Military Families

For the third time, the National Partnership joined the Campaign for a Family Friendly Economy (CFFE) to release the third in a series of case studies [examining the critical role](#) of Social Security benefits for veterans and their families. As the Trump administration's funding and staffing cuts threaten the economic security of millions of veterans nationwide, the National Partnership has documented the vital importance of Social Security for veterans in Pennsylvania, Virginia and now Georgia. With over 600,000 veterans living in Georgia, and over 40 percent of them relying on Social Security, the National Partnership's case study illustrates the serious risks these cuts pose to veterans' economic security.

Several firsthand accounts are threaded through the report, including that of retired

Air Force veteran Donna Wesley. The pairing of personal stories with broader data highlights the importance of honoring veterans' sacrifices and ensuring they can live a prosperous life after years of service. A late or missed check could mean disaster for veterans' budgets: we found that a month of

Social Security benefits for a typical veteran would pay for three months of groceries or nearly a year of out-of-pocket medical expenses. As costs for everyday necessities continue to rise, the loss of earned benefits would be devastating for not just Georgia's veterans, but all American veterans who depend on Social Security to pay their bills, access care and support their families. By continuing to track these threats to Social Security, the National Partnership works to safeguard this essential right for those who served. •

GEORGIA VETERANS
SOCIAL SECURITY & SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME

INTRODUCTION
For 90 years, Social Security has been the foundation of economic security for retired and disabled Americans and their families, including veterans. Social Security is part of the contract our government made with everyone in the workforce, including those who served in the military. Under the Trump administration, cuts to Social Security's staffing, local offices and, most surprisingly, funding are threatening to break that contract. Georgia's veterans worked hard for this country and earned their Social Security benefits. To honor their sacrifice, we must protect Social Security.

MORE THAN 4 IN 10 GEORGIA VETERANS RELY ON SOCIAL SECURITY.

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Women's Health Coverage Under Attack

The National Partnership has continued to document the harmful impacts of the 2025 Budget Reconciliation Bill (H.R.1) on Medicaid and the ACA. In November, the National Partnership [released an in-depth blog](#) examining the consequences of these cuts which put coverage at risk for millions of people nationwide. Since the ACA's enactment in 2010, the law has helped insure 21.8 million Americans who previously lacked coverage. Marketplace enrollment surged to a record 24.3 million this past year — more than doubling since 2020, with the largest gains among Black and Hispanic enrollees.

At the same time, ongoing efforts to restrict reproductive health coverage combined with the expiration of enrollment assistance funding threaten to further erode access to care for women and

National Partnership advocates sent 2,473 messages urging their representatives to preserve the ACA tax credits and protect coverage.

families, placing rural maternity care at serious risk. To better understand the loss in care at stake, the National Partnership has [compiled a list of the at-risk rural labor & delivery units](#), drawing



Trump's Health Care Policies: A Recipe For ACA Open Enrollment Disaster

Kiera Peoples | Nov 3, 2025

Open enrollment for the Affordable Care Act (ACA) health insurance marketplace has officially begun for 2026, but this year comes with a mountain of challenges. With enhanced premium tax credits (ePTCs) set to expire and new federal restrictions taking effect, millions of people are facing steep premium increases that could erase more than a decade of progress expanding access to health care.

That progress is now at risk. A central consequence of the funding cuts is the failure to extend tax credits which help ease the burden for people who are purchasing insurance plans out of pocket (ePTCs). This one change has already driven premium increases and is projected to cause more than 7 million people to lose ACA coverage in 2026. The harms will fall most heavily on historically marginalized communities and women of reproductive age. The budget bill also takes away ACA coverage from many lawfully present immigrants, including refugees, asylum seekers and survivors of domestic violence.

on analysis by the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research at the University of North Carolina. The list identifies 131 rural hospitals with units facing closure, with the greatest concentration of hospitals in Kentucky (14), California (13), New Mexico (11) and Louisiana (9). In these states, closures would further worsen maternal health inequities faced by people in rural areas and force pregnant people to travel long distances for essential services.

Together, these changes undermine more than a decade of progress toward affordable, equitable health coverage, making it harder for women and families to get the care they need. In response to these threats, the National Partnership's advocates have mobilized in force — our network sent 2,473 messages urging their representatives to preserve the ACA tax credits and protect coverage. The National Partnership continues to call on Congress to uphold the ACA's core promise: that access to affordable health care should not depend on income, ZIP code or immigration status. •

Connecting the Dots: Reproductive Rights and Data Privacy

In the aftermath of the *Dobbs* decision, one of the most urgent threats to reproductive freedom is the growing risk that people will be tracked, investigated or prosecuted for seeking abortion care. The National Partnership has emerged as a leading voice on reproductive health data privacy and the fight against efforts to criminalize those who seek reproductive health care, publishing two major reports that address these risks from both policy and corporate perspectives.

Co-published with the Center for Reproductive Rights (CRR) and If/When/How: Lawyering for Reproductive Justice, [the new report](#) maps the evolving legal landscape and outlines concrete steps states can take to protect reproductive privacy. The analysis calls for stronger shield laws to block out-of-state investigations. It also recommends repealing abortion bans. In addition, it urges expanded health privacy protections, building on the 2024 HIPAA Privacy Rule. The report further calls for prohibitions on geofencing around health care facilities and safeguards within health information systems to limit the disclosure of sensitive reproductive health data. To deepen engagement, the National Partnership co-hosted a webinar with the CRR and If/When/How, bringing together more than 130 advocates nationwide to examine these issues and strategies in depth.

The National Partnership also released a [companion resource](#) that provides concrete strategies that companies can use to navigate the heightened legal, reputational and operational risks of handling sensitive reproductive health data. This resource examines common commercial and workplace data practices that can unintentionally expose employees to legal harm. In addition to identifying

these vulnerabilities in HR and benefits systems, the guidance offers actionable recommendations to minimize data collection, strengthen privacy protections and reduce liability. Amid declining consumer trust and rapidly changing state laws, the National Partnership elevates the importance of prioritizing transparency so that companies can best safeguard employees' right to privacy. •

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Reproductive Health and Data Privacy After Roe: Threats and Opportunities for State Action

November 2025



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REPRODUCTIVE
RIGHTS

national partnership
for women & families

if
when
how
Lawyering for
Reproductive
Justice

RECENT HAPPENINGS

NEW HIRES: We are pleased to announce the recent addition of **Rosann Mariappuram** to the National Partnership team. As our new Director of Reproductive Health, Rosann brings fifteen years of experience as a lawyer and advocate in the reproductive health, rights and justice movements. Her work has been featured in outlets including NPR, The New Yorker and the Associated Press. We're thrilled to have Rosann's expertise in the repro space and leadership on our team.

Additionally, the National Partnership's own **Nan Strauss** has recently been promoted to Director of Maternal Health. Nan has served as the Senior Policy Analyst for the Maternal Health team for the past two years, where she has been instrumental in centering the needs of women and families of color and dismantling racism in maternal health care. We are confident Nan's leadership will continue to strengthen our maternal health advocacy as she steps into this well-deserved new role.

WELCOMING NEW BOARD MEMBERS:

In November, the National Partnership welcomed two new members to our Board of Directors!

Shalanda Young brings over two decades of experience in federal budgeting and management. A Louisiana native, she began her career as a Presidential Management Fellow at the National Institutes of Health and has since served as Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in the president's cabinet, and as head of the House Appropriations Committee staff. Young is now a distinguished scholar at NYU Law and a Doris Duke Distinguished Visiting Fellow at Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy.

Neneki Lee joins the Board as a seasoned labor advocate with expertise in union leadership and collective bargaining. She currently serves as Chief of Staff at the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), representing more than two million workers across the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico. Previously, Lee oversaw 800,000 public sector workers as National Division Director for Public Services and led a major organizing victory securing collective bargaining rights for 45,000 family child care providers in California.

RECENT EVENTS: In early December, the National Partnership brought together advocates, leaders and community members in Santa Fe and San Francisco for intimate gatherings celebrating our shared commitment to women and families. Hosted by board members Jenna Skinner Scanlan (Santa Fe) and Shreya Jani (San Francisco), the events introduced attendees to Jocelyn Frye and the work the National Partnership does to shape policies that impact women's lives. Guests had the opportunity to share insights, ask questions, and connect with other supporters who are passionate about protecting rights and expanding opportunities for all women.

In honor of the anniversary of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), the National Partnership co-hosted An Economy That Cares: A Night of Conversation and Connection with Levi Strauss & Co. **The event**, which convened a small group of corporate leaders and members of Congress, highlighted the power of dialogue and collaboration, leaving participants inspired and energized to take action in their communities.

Attendees explored creative strategies for supporting caregivers, strengthening workplaces and building an economy that values care. •



TOP RIGHT: (Left to right), NPWF President Jocelyn Frye, NPWF Board Chair Shreya Jani and Janet Kwuon of Gilead Sciences at the San Francisco event (December 2025)

BOTTOM: Rep. Jimmy Gomez (CA-34), NPWF President Jocelyn Frye, and corporate leaders discuss caregiving and economic equity at the NPWF-Levi Strauss "An Economy That Cares" event (February 2026)

2026 Annual Event

Mark your calendars for the National Partnership's 55th Anniversary Celebration on June 23 at the Conrad in Washington, D.C. Join us for an evening honoring more than five decades of leadership advancing gender equity — and looking ahead to the work still to come.

Since 1971, the National Partnership has helped shape landmark progress, from securing family and medical leave to expanding access to reproductive health care and strengthening workplace protections for women and families.

This milestone event will convene advocates, policymakers, philanthropists, and business leaders to recognize the impact of this legacy and celebrate the leaders driving the next chapter of change. We hope you'll get your ticket for this inspiring evening! •



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