

Educate. Vaccinate Advocate







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SAFE Communities Coalition

South Dakota Families for Vaccines

Louisiana Families for Vaccines

Tennessee Families for Vaccines



SAFE (Science and Families Engaging) is the nation's first pro-vaccine political advocacy organization.

SAFE Communities Coalition supports provaccine legislation and lawmakers. We empower everyday people, the often silent pro-vaccine majority, to advocate for health and safety alongside medical and public health professionals.

As a 501c4 advocacy organization and a political action committee, SAFE is an organized bipartisan political force opposing the antivaccine agenda in statehouses across the country.





Families for Vaccines Chapters



SAFE Communities Timeline

2019: Maine Families for Vaccines founded by parent volunteers

2020: SAFE founded

2022: Louisiana Families for Vaccines, Massachusetts Families for Vaccines

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2024: Arizona Families for Vaccines, Oregon Families for Vaccines, Colorado Families for Vaccines, building in New Hampshire, Ohio, and beyond

Growth

2020: Major win at the ballot box to protect
Maine's vaccine law

2021: Landscape analysis & fundraising

0.5

2023: Tennessee Families for Vaccines, South Dakota Families for Vaccines, Montana Families for Vaccines

10+

6



The State of Anti-Vaccine Organizations: 2023-2024

The New York Times

How a Rare Myocarditis Death Caught the Attention of the Anti-Vaccine Movement



– and caught the attention of the movement of vaccine...

4 weeks ago



MBC News

How Mississippi's biggest public health success was stolen by the anti-vaccine movement

Mississippi began granting religious exemptions for childhood vaccines after activists sued over the state's strict vaccination requirement...

3 weeks ago

The high cost of DeSantis's presidential bid? Vaccine misinformation.



MSNBC News

RFK Jr.'s communications director is taking anti-vax extremism to a new level



Since announcing his presidential campaign, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has at times tried to downplay his history as an anti-vaccine activist.

5 days ago

Anti-Vaccine Organizations

INFORMED CONSENT ACTION NETWORK

- DEL BIGTREE
- Additional 501(c)4 formed in 2023
 - Confirmed source of model legislation
- Litigation/Aaron Siri
- \$13.4 million in 2022

CHILDREN'S HEALTH DEFENSE

- RFK Jr
- 19 State Chapters
- \$22.5 million in 2022

STAND FOR HEALTH FREEDOM

- Fairly new 501(c)4 to the scene
- Heavily focused on elections
- \$400k in 2022

NATIONAL VACCINE INFORMATION CENTER

- Oldest anti-vaccine organization
- \$2 million in 2022

AMERICA'S FRONTLINE DOCTORS

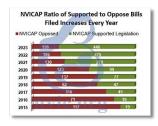
• \$13 million in 2022















Vaccines are on the Ballot in 2024.

- The election is a national platform for misinformation
- · Organizations are working together
 - Elections
 - Legislation
 - Litigation
 - Constitutionality
- Inflating support and getting headlines
- New tactic: Deceptive terminology
 - Raising concerns about vaccine/ medication safety

Vaccine politics may be to blame for GOP excess deaths, study finds

Yale University researchers found that registered Republicans had a higher rate of excess deaths than Democrats in the months following when...

Jul 24, 2023

UNTANGLING DISINFORMATION

Vaccines used to be apolitical. Now they're a campaign issue

NOVEMBER 2, 2022 - 12:08 PM ET

PBS
 How the pandemic made it difficult for Americans to

separate politics from public health

HEARD ON ALL THINGS CONSIDERED

Just over 15 percent of American adults have gotten the latest COVID booster. Demand for the vaccine has dropped sharply since it was first...

K kffhealthnews.org

How Fringe Anti-Science Views Infiltrated Mainstream

Politics — And What It Means in 2024 - KFF Health News

Opposition to vaccines and other public health measures backed by science has

2 weeks ago

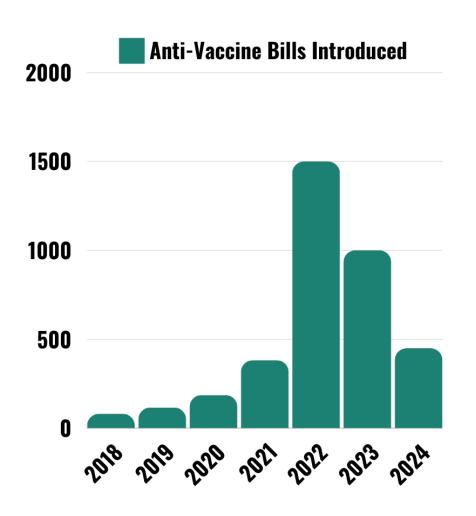
become politically charged.







We Need a National Pro-Vaccine Movement.





FROM ANTI-VAXXER MOMS TO MILITIA MEN INFLUENCE OPERATIONS, NARRATIVE WEAPONIZATION, AND THE FRACTURING OF AMERICAN IDENTITY

POLITICO

Anti-vaxxers are now a modern political force

The once-fringe movement is now seeing an influx in cash after the Covid pandemic.

The New York Times Magazine

The Anti-Vaccine Movement's New Frontier

A wave of parents has been radicalized by Covid-era misinformation to reject ordinary childhood immunizations — with potentially lethal consequences.



State Policy Update

ANTI-VAXXERS:

- Didn't get the big wins they wanted coming out of the pandemic
- Volume of legislation has slowed, but still high
- Trying to pass bills through non-traditional legislative committees and with unexpected themes
- Small and incremental changes to vaccine policies in many conservative states
- More state legislative activity than ever before

PRO-VACCINE MOVEMENT:

- Better coordinated, with more resources
- Building a culture of advocacy
- Exploring and strengthening non-traditional partnerships
- Passing positive legislation seems more likely now





State Policy Update

2023: ~1000 bills introduced

- Florida: barred school districts from requiring coronavirus vaccines.
- Tennessee: vaccine requirements were eliminated for home-schooled children.
- Iowa: removed a requirement that schools educate students HPV vaccine.
- Mississippi: Courts ruled to add a religious exemption for school entry vaccine requirements. Subsequently there have been thousands of additional exemptions claimed.

2024: 453 bills as of today

Major themes include:

- Covid-19
- Access to vaccines
- mRNA
- School Exemptions
- Medical freedom
- Department of Health Authority
- IIS
- Informed Consent

'Vaccine lettuce' bill, aiming to classify food containing a vaccine as a drug, passes in Tennessee



How Mississippi's biggest public health success was stolen by the anti-vaccine movement

Mississippi began granting religious exemptions for childhood vaccines after activists sued over the state's strict vaccination requirement...

3 weeks ago



 $\label{lem:continuous} A law governing childhood vaccinations is among more than a dozen recently passed or pending nationwide that set parental freedom against community and children's health.$



Principles of our advocacy efforts

- Invest in real people on the ground
- Build pro-vaccine community momentum and capacity
- Use innovative, highly targeted communications resources
- Have a deep understanding of anti-vaccine goals, messaging, and tactics
- Leverage policy experience and legislative analysis with partners & allies
- Prioritize sustainable growth
- Coordinate at the state and national levels
- Be nimble, accessible, and responsive



Families for Vaccines Chapters

- Aligned with the state's culture and norms
- Attuned to unique legislative landscapes
- Days of advocacy
- Relationships with lawmakers
- Community engagement and actions
- Tabling, legislative postcard writing
- Advocate trainings and learning opportunities
- Engaging new partners
- Diverse, non-traditional partnerships
- District and lawmaker-specific resources













Northern Light Health



















Unique & Tailored Resources



HOUSE DISTRICT 10

2022-23 Statewide Immunization Average: 87.1%

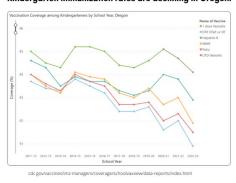
House District 10



High immunization rates protect Oregon's children from catching contagious diseases that can be prevented with routine vaccinations.

95% of the community must be immunized to prevent an outbreak of measles. When rates drop below this safe threshold, we're all at risk.

Kindergarten immunization rates are declining in Oregon.



County	2021-22	2022-23
Polk	89.4%	86.6%
Tilamook	80.5%	82.7%
Yamhill	87.6%	88.3%
Lincoln	92.2%	89.6%

Key
■ Protected
■ At risk for outbreak

Fighting Disinformation: Vaccine Hotlines Connect Lawmakers to Medical Providers.



- A low-barrier tool for legislators and their staffers
- Backed by trusted, expert partners
- Managed by SAFE
- Local numbers and local experts build confidence and strengthen relationships
- · Encourages fact checking



Our 2024 Impact

- Legislative advocacy days in 8 different state houses
- Delivered district specific immunization rate data to **1047** state lawmakers
- In-person and written testimony delivered on critical legislation
- Monthly state director calls to share strategy
- Hosted online movie screenings and discussion panels
- Culitvated relationships with reporters
- Developed a robust library of talking points and resources ready to deploy across the nation



Tax records reveal the lucrative world of covid misinformation



Real people, real experience, and real wins.



- Passed good laws, stopped bad bills
- Integrity & credibility
- Understand what it takes to get involved, stay engaged, and be effective as advocates
- Put in the time to build the real relationships that motivate and sustain the work
- We're building a culture of active participation that is meaningful and rewarding
- Once you show that you're willing to do the hard work, people will join you

















