

Who benefits?

As a result of the *Equal Voice* campaign, families and communities will be strengthened and the country will be collectively stronger.

How can I participate?

- Sign the *Equal Voice* pledge at www.equalvoice2008.com or contact the regional coordinator in your area.
- Put up a poster — download one at www.equalvoice2008.com.
- Attend a townhall meeting or a national convention — find an event near you at www.equalvoice2008.com.
- Write an opinion/editorial for one of your local newspapers.
- Let local and national decision-makers know that you support a national agenda that puts families first.

How do I stay up to date on the campaign?

Follow the campaign at www.equalvoice2008.com.

If you have a question, call our toll-free hotline at 866.634.2752, or send an e-mail message to Info@equalvoice2008.com.

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equal voice
for America's Families

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**GIVE
FAMILIES
A VOICE**

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What is the Equal Voice for America's Families campaign?

Equal Voice for America's Families is a campaign to lay the groundwork for a family-led movement for social change. The goal: a sustained shift in national attitudes and policies affecting poor and working families.

Over the next year, America will hear directly from families about policy changes necessary to provide economic opportunities for low-wage and working families.

What are the campaign's goals?

- Create a national platform of family issues.
- Spark a national dialogue about the policies and attitudes that have a negative impact on families.
- Ensure that families are a part of any such national discussion.
- Build a movement of families to bring about long-term change.
- Increase civic engagement among families.

Why get involved?

Because America's families are at risk.

More and more families are finding it difficult to support their families. 37 million people in the United States – nearly 13 percent of the total population – live below the poverty line.

Our futures are linked: working collectively, we can change local, state and national policies to create a more equitable society. Now is the time to act!

How will the campaign work?

Marguerite Casey Foundation and its grantmaking partners will host a series of townhall meetings throughout the Foundation's grantmaking regions to develop and generate support for a national platform that addresses issues of concern identified by families.

The townhalls will highlight many of the issues that America's families face.

- Living wages
- Access to affordable healthcare, education, housing and childcare
- Immigration
- Criminal justice reform

The campaign will release a national agenda of family issues at a multicity — Los Angeles, Chicago, and Birmingham, Alabama — convention of 10,000 families on September 6, 2008.



Marguerite Casey Foundation's grantmaking regions include 12 states: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Texas and Washington.

What is the campaign's focus?

To create and advance a national agenda for families and to build a family constituency that advocates in its own behalf.

What is the purpose of the Agenda of Family Issues?

To urge decision members to adopt the families-first agenda and to insert the voices of families into the national dialogue.

Why is Marguerite Casey Foundation sponsoring the Equal Voice campaign?

As a Foundation, we believe that engaged families actively advocating on the policies that affect their lives will result in long-term social change.

- A community's well-being is dependent on the opportunities families have to become self-reliant.
- Employment, healthcare and education should be equally accessible to everyone.
- Working families should not live in poverty. Everyone who works should earn a living wage.

The *Equal Voice for America's Families* campaign will highlight the social barriers to economic prosperity that affect so many families in this country.

Marguerite Casey Foundation is a private, independent grant making foundation dedicated to helping families strengthen their voice and mobilize their communities. Learn more at www.caseygrants.org.