

LEADER-DRIVEN NARAL ACTION COUNCIL

We've arrived at a pivotal moment in the fight for reproductive freedom.

With the legal right to abortion on the line like never before, we need to be ready to seize every opportunity to organize, build power, and fight for policies that ensure our families and communities have everything they need to thrive. For decades, NARAL Pro-Choice America's members have stepped up, again and again, to lead in the fight for reproductive freedom – and **we need YOU now more than ever!**

WHAT IS AN ACTION COUNCIL?



NARAL Action Councils are a critical vehicle for building long-term, collective power for reproductive freedom.

An Action Council is a geographically defined team of NARAL volunteer leaders that works in partnership with NARAL towards national, state, and regional priorities, to, for example: impact elections; advocate in the state legislature; recruit new members; build community partnerships; and participate in organizing work as determined by the Action Council in coordination with NARAL Pro-Choice America.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF ACTION COUNCILS?

Action Councils are a critical vehicle for building long-term, collective power so that we can act on our values, scale our organizing, execute effective campaigns, and realize our vision of reproductive freedom for every body.

HOW DO ACTION COUNCILS BUILD POWER?

Action Councils build the agency and leadership of our members and train fellow members to bring in more people from their communities to continue to grow the Council, cultivate long-term leadership pathways, and provide continuity in the work!

By recruiting members in strategic areas, Action Councils help advance NARAL campaigns. In coordination with NARAL, they develop relationships with local organizational partners and NARAL members, show solidarity through sister state actions that build national power, and build agency by enabling leaders to engage with local and state issues.

Action Councils work with respect for other organizations and leaders in the reproductive health, rights, and justice space. They lead on organizing where appropriate, support and show up when helpful, and prioritize holding space to center the voices of people directly impacted by intersectional issues related to reproductive freedom.



ACTION COUNCILS WORK TO...

- Impact elections where NARAL has endorsed candidates
- Advocate to advance NARAL's national and state campaigns
- Following the lead of on the ground partners, identify and bring forward opportunities for supportive local action
- Identify opportunities to engage on intersectional issues with local groups
- Base build and recruit new members
- Serve as the first people members turn to to get involved in reproductive freedom organizing in their community
- Lead skill-building training for other NARAL members and support the growth of new leaders/members

ACTION COUNCIL STRUCTURE:



Each Action Council (AC) is composed of and run by group-selected Co-Chairs and volunteer leaders, in close coordination with NARAL Pro-Choice America. NARAL Action Councils meet at least bimonthly (or as determined by the AC), with Co-Chairs/leaders facilitating the meetings and prep and/or facilitation support from NARAL organizing.



Each AC will also elect one Action Council Leader to serve on the National Action Council Leadership Team. The purpose of this team is to bring AC Leaders together from across the country into our campaigns and electoral strategy conversations. The delegates will report back to their Council and bring feedback and input from their AC to national leadership team meetings, which will create a feedback loop across ACs and NARAL staff and serve as a mechanism for including AC input and feedback in the planning processes and campaign and strategy discussions.

While the structure above is the NARAL AC norm, volunteer leadership teams have the ability to build structures that fit their needs.

WHAT ARE ACTION COUNCIL CO-CHAIRS?

Co-Chairs work closely with the NARAL staff organizer(s) in their state/region and the full council to define the scope of work, help manage the work of their Action Council, and serve as liaison with their NARAL staff organizer.