



2019 Legislative Agenda

Forward Together is a multi-racial, multi-issue organization working to unite communities and activists across Oregon to win the rights, recognition and resources all families need to thrive.

OUR VISION

We believe that building a better future starts with the leadership of women of color, transgender and gender nonconforming folks of color and indigenous people. We work to dismantle the ways in which society marginalizes us based on race, gender and sexuality. We know that multiple issues affect our lives so we unite community to change the ground on which we fight, for all families.

WE ARE THE FUTURE

People of color make up almost 20% of the Oregon population. Some areas of the state have seen over a 200% increase since the 1990s—Oregon families are more diverse than they've ever been before. People of color are also Oregon's fastest growing electorate. We also know that Oregon families of color experience poverty, income inequality, and health inequity. Which is why fighting for safer communities, access to health care and family recognition has never been more important.



OUR 2019 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

- A paid family & medical leave program that includes *all* families
- Driver's licenses for ALL
- A fair and accountable elections system

Forward Together's 2019 Legislative Agenda

Paid Family & Medical Leave

The way we define family in workplace and economic policy doesn't recognize nearly 80% of American families. Our families are single-parent, LGBTQ, chosen, multi-generational, multi-national and more. No matter what our families look like or how they are formed, everyone needs access to care for a loved one in a time of need. Forward Together will continue to support passing Paid Family & Medical Leave in 2019.



Driver's Licenses for All

Everyone in Oregon should be able to drive to work, to pick up their kids, to get to school, or to the grocery store without fear—but that's not the case for undocumented immigrants in our state. Undocumented immigrants are a part of our families and communities, in fact 32% of immigrant children in Oregon have at least one parent who is undocumented.¹ Forward Together supports Driver's Licenses for All, so that undocumented immigrants and their families don't face unnecessary challenges to everyday activities.



Oregon Voting Rights Act

For government to be accountable, all voices need to be heard. But some election systems prevent all communities from being equitably represented in local government. The OVRA empowers local governments to fix this widespread problem.

Contact:

Michele Ruffin | Oregon Advocacy Manager
503-308-0877 | michele@forwardtogether.org

¹ Migration Policy Institute, [Profile of US Children with Unauthorized Immigrant Parents](#), 2016.