



# 2025 annual report



# A Note from Our Founder and CEO

Thank you for supporting Vote Mama PAC and for believing in our mission to increase the political power of Democratic moms. With your help, we are transforming the political system and creating pathways for mamas to run for office, serve in leadership, and advance policies that address families' real needs.

This year, we made strategic, early investments that helped moms win races up and down the ballot — proving that when moms are backed early, they can build momentum and deliver decisive victories.

From school boards to state legislatures to Congress, our mamas showed voters what authentic leadership looks like in action. We broke a Republican supermajority in Iowa, elected a record-breaking Democratic majority in Virginia, and tripled the number of Democratic mama governors.

As we look to 2026, we are energized by the opportunities ahead. Mamas were the majority-makers in 2025, and we will ensure that remains the case this year. Together, we will flip the House, expand the map, strengthen the bench, and empower moms to have the resources to run for office and serve. Thank you for being part of our movement.

## Our Values

Relentless Pursuit of Progress  
Care Comes First  
A Movement Mindset  
Impact is Intentional  
Authenticity is an Asset



Liuba Grechen Shirley  
Founder and CEO  
Vote Mama PAC

# Election Results

We laid the groundwork for decisive wins up and down the ballot—helping elect school board moms such as Illeana Garza-Rojas in Texas and breaking the Republican supermajority in the Iowa Senate with Catelin Drey's special election victory, which resulted in a 20-point shift to the left. These early wins showed the strength of our strategy, built momentum, and demonstrated the difference moms can make when they step up to lead.

On Election Day, our mamas were the majority makers who delivered winning messages around affordability, including childcare, paid family leave, and the social safety net — and that's why they won at the ballot box. We made our largest ever financial investment in Virginia, and the work paid off: our candidates shattered expectations, flipped seats, and won where every vote counted. On school boards across the country, our moms unseated Republican incumbents in Moms for Liberty territories. Of the 13 seats flipped in the Virginia House of Delegates, nine were Vote Mama PAC-endorsed moms of minor children. This year marked our largest investment ever in Virginia, and our mamas there had a 96% win rate. Pre-primary funding also proved critical: in July, Vote Mama PAC was listed as a top-10 donor for Kacey Carnegie, a top-20 donor for May Nivar and Leslie Mehta, and a top-30 donor for Lindsey Dougherty. They all went on to win their primaries and flip House of Delegates seats in the general election.

From local office to the state legislature to governors' seats, moms aren't just running—they're winning, shaping policy, and setting the agenda for the next generation of leadership. Overall, we supported 64 Democratic moms running for office in 2025, with 57 winning their elections. Out of the winners on Election Day, our moms achieved phenomenal win rates across the board:



## 9 out of 13

seats flipped by Democrats in the Virginia House of Delegates were VM-endorsed candidates

## 1 → 3

Democratic moms serving as governors

## 20-POINT

shift to the left in an Iowa special election, compared to 2024



## Moms That Made History

Rep. Adelita Grijalva made history as the first Latina to represent Arizona in Congress. Former Rep. Abigail Spanberger became the first woman and mom elected governor of Virginia, while former Rep. Mikie Sherrill became the first Democratic woman elected governor of New Jersey. Delegate Destiny LeVere Bolling became the first state legislator in Virginia to vote remotely, and Delegate May Nivar became the first Chinese American elected to the Virginia General Assembly. (Pictured left to right)



# 2025 Endorsement Overview

Vote Mama PAC endorsed 124 candidates running in 30 states in 2025-2026:

- 60 will have their elections in 2026—with more endorsements to come!
- 57 won their elections in 2025

## 2025/2026 Endorsement Breakdown

Of the endorsements we made in 2025:

- 18 first-time candidates
- 70 incumbents
- 51 moms of color
- 10 LGBTQ+/queer moms
- 34 challengers or running in an open Republican seat

## 2025/2026 Level of Office

- 3: U.S. Senate
- 26: U.S. House
- 11: Statewide
- 46: State Legislature
- 20: School Board
- 18: Local Office

## Support Services

We provided an array of support to our endorsed candidates:

- \$154,599 investment in our endorsed moms' campaigns
  - All candidates with direct-to-candidate contributions on the November 2025 ballot won their elections
- 64 1:1 candidate and campaign team coaching sessions
- 49 Vote Mama information sessions
- 70 partner meetings



# Vote Mama in the Media

2025 was an amazing year for Vote Mama PAC, with mentions covering all media formats – print, TV, radio, podcasts, and so much more.

**AP** ASSOCIATED PRESS

As Congress tables proxy voting, state lawmakers seek solutions for parents who serve in office

**POLITICO**

A new wave of candidates is putting motherhood front and center

THE **19th**\*

The threat of political violence is keeping parents out of elected office

Women's  
**AGENDA**

Democratic women make history and send a message

**substack**

Emily Amick: The New Right's Cult of Domesticity



**Forbes**

How Busy Philipps And Vote Mama Are Making Motherhood Electable

**M** MOTHERLY

Why it's time to let new moms vote by proxy

**MSNBC**

**MS NOW**

My Source | News | Opinion | World

Op-Ed: No, Trump. Moms don't want your \$5,000 baby bonus for Mother's Day

**Ms.**

2025 Elections Ms. Magazine Is Watching: What's at Stake for Women, Democracy and Equality

**NEW JERSEY GLOBE**

Group supporting Democratic moms backs Rebecca Bennett in NJ-7

**VPM** npr PBS

After election, paid family leave approval likely next year



# Events

## Motherboard Launch

In 2025, we launched the [Motherboard](#), a diverse group of influential leaders who are committed to our mission. Together, they work at the intersection of culture, media, and policy to drive real change. On Mother's Day weekend, our network celebrated with Motherboard Co-Chairs Busy Philipps and Rep. Nikema Williams (GA-05) and Motherboard Member Rep. Hillary Scholten (MI-03).

## The Ultimate Moms' Night Out

We held the Ultimate Moms' Night Out at a mom-owned brewery in NYC to bring together moms and allies in support of our 100+ endorsed candidates ahead of the November 2025 election. Hosted by Motherboard Co-Chair, actor, and activist, Busy Philipps, the event welcomed congressional candidates, Dr. Annie Andrews, Rebecca Bennett, GA Rep. Jasmine Clark, and Denise Powell.



## Mamas for LaMonica

The Vote Mama network came together in unwavering support of Rep. LaMonica McIver (NJ-10), as she fought politically-motivated attacks for conducting oversight of an ICE facility in her congressional district. We raised more than \$10,000 to support Rep. McIver with her legal fees as she faces up to 17 years in prison, reinforcing our mission to back moms in office and protect their ability to shape policy, serve their communities, and drive meaningful change for families.



## On the Road

We hit the road for local gatherings in communities across the nation, from Arizona and Virginia to multiple cities in California. These events energized supporters, connected them directly with candidates, and highlighted how moms are shaping elections from coast to coast. Beyond the U.S., we also represented our work internationally, sharing insights and strategies at global gatherings in the United Kingdom and Iceland.



## Staff Retreats

In 2025, we held two staff retreats, in the nation's capital and NYC, intentionally dedicating time to reflect, strategize, and strengthen our team's capacity to advance our mission of improving the political power of moms.



# Mamas in Office

Our mamas didn't just serve—they delivered. From crafting landmark legislation to leading authentically, they showed what happens when moms hold power. They championed bills that center families, moved major policy packages across the finish line, and brought new ideas to the forefront. From school board to Congress, moms are reshaping policy with a focus on the long-term well-being of families.

## Moms Leading Nationally

In Congress, moms are shaping national conversations and driving federal responses. Rep. Jennifer McClellan (VA-04) championed first-of-its-kind legislation to make childbirth free. Rep. Lateefah Simon (CA-12) made headlines with her powerful response to the GOP-led State of the Union. And Rep. Becca Balint (VT-AL)—the only LGBTQ+ mom of minor children in Congress—used her platform to advocate for mental health and show why representation at the highest levels matters.



## Moms Shaping Statewide Agendas

Arizona Attorney General Kris Mayes fought to save SNAP benefits, so families wouldn't go hungry, and fought to protect democracy. Delaware Lt. Governor Kyle Evans Gay showed up in her community and elevated the urgency of early childhood education. And Michigan Supreme Court Justice Kyra Harris Bolden—a trailblazer as the first Black woman and youngest justice to serve—brought a critical perspective to the state's highest court, strengthening justice statewide.

## Moms Steering Policy in State Capitols

In state legislatures, moms drove meaningful progress on issues that shape family life. Michigan Senator Mallory McMorrow (SD-08) secured investments for local play centers, academic and athletic spaces, and public schools. Dr. Michelle Au, an anesthesiologist and a Georgia Representative (HD-50), stood out as one of the state's leading voices for gun safety. And Virginia Delegate Elizabeth Bennett-Parker (HD-05) set the stage to pass a voting rights constitutional amendment.



## Local Level Leadership

Locally, moms such as New York City Councilwoman Alexa Avilés took on pollution and harmful traffic in neighborhoods affected by corporations. Columbia, South Carolina, Councilwoman Tameika Isaac Devine helped make her city the only one in the state to ban conversion therapy, protecting LGBTQ+ youth. And Broward County School Board Member Maura Bulman, a mom of four and an attorney, led community initiatives from school programs to drives and beach cleanups.

# Partnerships & Collaborations

## Merch Collaborations

We partnered with [Mad Fine Jewelry by Sophie Flack](#) and [Social Goods](#) to create merchandise that transforms everyday wear into a statement about elevating Democratic moms in leadership.



## Democracy Security Project Trainings

Through our partnership with the Democracy Security Project, we hosted trainings that equipped moms, staff, and advocates with practical skills to navigate today's digital and political threats, empowering moms to run and lead safely.



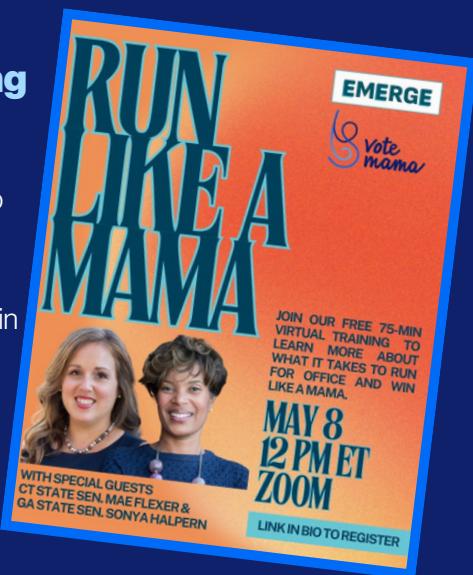
## Mother's Day Joint Training with Emerge

In partnership with Emerge, we hosted a Mother's Day-aligned training session to encourage moms to leap into public service. This training directly addressed the unique challenges moms face on the campaign trail and provided tools, encouragement, and community to help them run—and win.



## Building the Pipeline with Run for Something

Vote Mama and Run for Something co-hosted a training to help prospective moms who are stepping up to lead in their communities, giving them the tools, confidence, and support networks they need to launch successful campaigns. Post-election, we continued our collaboration by co-authoring an op-ed and press memorandum highlighting the decisive impact moms had in driving a sea of change in the 2025 elections—showing that when moms run, we all win.



# Organizational Growth

In 2025, we expanded our team to strengthen every pillar of our work, adding new staff and fellows to strengthen our mission. We also promoted team members across departments, recognizing their leadership and expertise. These additions and advancements further enhance our mission to continue helping moms and families nationwide.

## Expanding Our Team



Jordan Wong  
Senior Communications  
Director



Molly Browning  
Marketing Manager



Camryn Toner  
Programs Associate



Emily Miller  
Research Fellow



Pipa Pipa  
Research Fellow

## Growing from Within



Corie Pope Lieberman  
Chief Operating Officer



Kristy Pagan  
Senior Political Director



Ghazal Rahmanpanah  
Senior Operations Director



Tatyana McNish  
Development Operations  
Manager



Maria Wilson  
Senior Research Manager

## The Motherboard

Vote Mama PAC launched our Motherboard to get more moms into power. Co-chaired by actor and activist, Busy Philipps, and Rep. Nikema Williams (GA-05), the Motherboard is a diverse group of leaders who help amplify Vote Mama's efforts—connecting culture, media, and policy to support moms running for office.

### Cultural & Creative Leaders:

Busy Philipps, Co-Chair  
Ever Carradine  
Sophie Flack  
Caitlin McHugh Stamos  
Meredith Salenger  
Amanda Seyfried  
Jodie Sweetin  
Lisa Ann Walter

### Cultural & Creative Leaders:

Governor Kathy Hochul (NY)  
Governor Mikie Sherrill (NJ)  
Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan (MN)  
Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson (MI)

### Federal Elected Officials:

Rep. Nikema Williams (GA-05), Co-Chair  
Rep. Maxine Dexter (OR-03)  
Rep. Jennifer McClellan (VA-04)  
Rep. Grace Meng (NY-06)  
Rep. Brittany Pettersen (CO-07)  
Rep. Hillary Scholten (MI-03)  
Rep. Jill Tokuda (HI-02)

### State Legislators:

GA Sen. Nabilah Islam Parkes (SD-07)  
GA Sen. Nikki Merritt (SD-09)  
NY Sen. Samra Brouk (SD-55)  
NY Sen. Jessica Scarella-Spanton (SD-23)  
NY Asw. Sarah Clark (AD-136)  
NY Asw. Jessica González-Rojas (AD-34)  
VA Sen. Jennifer Carroll Foy (SD-33)

# Why Your Support Matters

Democratic moms are shaping the future of our country. They are the majority-makers, turning out voters, winning critical elections, and setting the stage for 2026 and beyond. Your support helps us identify, support, and elect these extraordinary moms, who lead authentically and fight for policies that empower American families. From Congress to pivotal state legislatures and local school boards, your support powers a movement fighting to advance family-friendly policies and help moms get a seat at every table where decisions are made.

Join us in continuing to build the political power of moms. Your participation and contributions to the Mama Fund create more opportunities for Democratic moms to lead, run for office, and advance policies that support families. The Mama Fund is Vote Mama PAC's dedicated support fund that empowers moms stepping into leadership and public service. Contributions go directly to our Democratic moms' campaigns to equip them with the resources they need to win. Looking ahead to 2026, we are launching our Moms' Night Out initiative, which brings everyday mamas together in community to grow our Mama Fund. Connect, celebrate, and recharge at a Moms' Night Out.

Together, we aren't just winning elections – we're changing the political system. Sign up, give, and be part of our movement.

*"Organizations like Vote Mama matter — their work to support and elect moms helps ensure more of us have a seat at the table where decisions are made."*

**North Carolina State Sen.  
Sydney Batch (SD-17)**



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# Acknowledgements

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