

SHANNON JONES

Executive
Director

SJones@GroundworkOhio.org



Groundwork
OHIO



As Executive Director, Shannon Jones leads Groundwork Ohio's statewide advocacy effort to advance quality early care and education so every Ohio child has the best chance for lifelong success. She works to be sure every elected leader, administrator and diverse stakeholder understands the value of making strategic investments in Ohio's youngest children and why that investment is critical to Ohio's long-term economic success.

Because of her leadership, Shannon is one of Ohio's most distinguished child advocates. Prior to joining Groundwork, she served in the Ohio General Assembly for a decade as a state representative and a state senator, where she was chosen by her colleagues for key leadership posts in both chambers. She is the only woman in her party, and first in Ohio history, ever to achieve the distinction of election to the leadership teams in both chambers. Known as a leader who is willing to tackle the most difficult and complex issues, Shannon used her trusted influence to put kids at the top of the legislative agenda. Her efforts resulted in a renewed focus by the state on policies that support the health and educational opportunities of Ohio's most vulnerable children.

Shannon's most significant legislative effort led to a statewide bipartisan mandate to improve Ohio's abysmal infant mortality epidemic. Her work

created a uniform and streamlined process for investigating infant deaths, implemented a safe sleep education program and a policy to ensure safe places for newborns to sleep upon discharge from Ohio's hospitals, and established the Commission on Infant Mortality. Shannon also co-chaired the first Commission, which culminated in a comprehensive law implementing the Commission's substantive recommendations around evidence-based practices.

Shannon earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Cincinnati, and in 2008 was selected for the Rodel Fellowship by the prestigious Aspen Global Leadership Institute. She also currently serves as a Warren County Commissioner and as a board member for the Health Policy Institute of Ohio.

RECENT RECOGNITIONS:

YWCA Woman of Influence Award (2016)

Gabbe Infant Mortality Leadership Award (2016)

Begala Public Service Award from the Center for Community Solutions (2015)

Voices for Ohio's Children Health Champion Award (2014)

The Dayton Business Journal's "Power 50 Most Influential Women" list (2014, 2015, 2016)

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172 E. State Street, Suite 400 • Columbus, Ohio 43215
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