# Analysis of Political Spending and Endorsements by Selected Advocacy Groups: 2024-2025 Cycles

Contact: Andy Parrish

andyparrish@andyparrishshow.com

Phone: (608) 571-4057

# **Executive Summary**

This report details the political spending supporting Democratic candidates and the candidate endorsement patterns of seven specific groups—Opportunity Wisconsin, Main Street Alliance, Climate Power, Protect Our Care, Working Families Power, Family Friendly Wisconsin, and Committee to Protect Health Care—during the 2024 election cycle, with preliminary data for the 2025 cycle.

The analysis of available federal campaign finance data for the 2024 cycle reveals quantifiable spending supporting Democratic candidates or opposing Republican candidates totaling \$15,753,507. This figure primarily comprises expenditures by the political action committees (PACs) associated with Climate Power (\$10,060,000 via Climate Power Action), Working Families Party (\$5,275,392 via Working Families Party PAC), and Committee to Protect Health Care (\$418,115 via Committee to Protect Health Care PAC). Spending data for Opportunity Wisconsin, Main Street Alliance, Protect Our Care (as a distinct entity from its fiscal sponsor), and Family Friendly Wisconsin was not quantifiable through federal databases, largely due to their state-level focus (Wisconsin groups) or operational structure (e.g., Protect Our Care as a project of the Sixteen Thirty Fund). Main Street Alliance, through its state PAC, did engage in reportable spending in Wisconsin state legislative races.

Candidate endorsements for the 2024 cycle, where available, show an overwhelming alignment with the Democratic Party. Groups like the Working Families Party and the Committee to Protect Health Care issued extensive endorsement lists heavily featuring, or exclusively consisting of, Democratic candidates for federal and state offices. Climate Power also endorsed the Democratic presidential candidate. Main Street Alliance endorsed several Democratic candidates for the Wisconsin state legislature.

Data for the 2025 cycle is highly preliminary, reflecting only the earliest activities such as involvement in the April 2025 Wisconsin Supreme Court election and ongoing issue advocacy.<sup>6</sup> Comprehensive spending and endorsement figures for 2025 are not yet

available due to reporting schedules and the early stage of the cycle.

Key challenges in compiling this analysis include the difficulty in tracking spending by 501(c)(4) organizations and fiscally sponsored projects which are not required to disclose donors ("dark money"), the need to consult state-specific databases (like Wisconsin's CFIS) for groups primarily active at the state level, and the inherent limitations of relying on publicly filed reports which may not capture all forms of political influence. Primary data sources include the Federal Election Commission (FEC), OpenSecrets.org, Wisconsin's Campaign Finance Information System (CFIS), and public disclosures by the groups themselves.

# **Analysis of 2024 Political Spending Supporting Democrats**

## **Methodology and Scope**

This section analyzes political expenditures made during the 2023-2024 election cycle by the specified groups that explicitly supported Democratic candidates or opposed Republican candidates. Such spending includes direct contributions to Democratic candidates or committees, and independent expenditures (IEs) advocating for the election of Democrats or the defeat of Republicans. Data is primarily sourced from the Federal Election Commission (FEC), accessed via OpenSecrets.org and FEC.gov databases.<sup>13</sup>

It is crucial to note limitations. This analysis primarily captures spending reported to the FEC by registered PACs. It does not comprehensively include spending on issue advocacy advertisements that avoid explicit electioneering language, expenditures by 501(c)(4) social welfare organizations that are not required to disclose donors, or spending solely focused on state-level elections unless incidentally captured in federal reports or the provided research materials.<sup>10</sup> Data for groups primarily operating at the state level, like Opportunity Wisconsin, Family Friendly Wisconsin, and Main Street Alliance, would require specific queries within state databases, such as Wisconsin's CFIS.<sup>12</sup>

## **Group-by-Group Breakdown**

• Opportunity Wisconsin: No federal PAC registration or associated spending was identified for Opportunity Wisconsin in the 2024 cycle based on available data. The group is known to be active within Wisconsin, engaging in grassroots advocacy, such as lobbying members of Congress against budget cuts impacting Wisconsin families.<sup>21</sup> It also co-hosted events with other state-focused groups like Family Friendly Wisconsin.<sup>22</sup> Its activities appear concentrated at the state level or on issue advocacy, falling outside the scope of federal PAC reporting

- requirements. Quantifiable federal spending supporting Democrats in 2024 is therefore not available from these sources. Accessing Wisconsin's Campaign Finance Information System (CFIS) would be necessary to investigate potential state-level reportable spending.<sup>12</sup>
- Main Street Alliance: No specific 2024 federal PAC spending was identified for Main Street Alliance.<sup>26</sup> However, its associated state PAC, Main Street Action PAC, was active in Wisconsin state legislative races during the 2024 cycle. It reported spending approximately \$157,700 (for mailers, phone banks, online ads) supporting Democratic candidates in Assembly Districts 13, 51, and 96, and Senate District 14. It also reported spending \$19,345 opposing the Republican incumbent in Assembly District 51. The broader organization's public profile centers on advocating for small business interests and tax fairness, suggesting a focus on policy and issue advocacy alongside targeted state-level electioneering. Quantifiable federal spending supporting Democrats in 2024 is not available from the examined sources.
- Climate Power / Climate Power Action: Climate Power Action operates as a registered federal Super PAC (ID C00817536).<sup>17</sup> For the 2024 cycle (covering Jan 1, 2023 - Dec 31, 2024), it reported total disbursements of \$10,389,906.<sup>17</sup> A significant portion, \$10,060,000 (97.7% of expenditures detailed by OpenSecrets), was categorized as "Contributions to committees". 13 The primary recipients of these contributions were Future Forward USA (\$9,940,000) and LCV Victory Fund (\$120,000).<sup>13</sup> Both Future Forward USA and LCV Victory Fund are major outside spending groups that overwhelmingly support Democratic candidates and causes.<sup>13</sup> Future Forward USA, for instance, was a major spender supporting Kamala Harris's presidential campaign.<sup>28</sup> Climate Power Action itself reported \$0 in independent expenditures for the 2024 cycle. The broader Climate Power entity also engaged in federal lobbying, spending \$360,000 in 2024.<sup>29</sup> Given that the entirety of Climate Power Action's substantial contributions went to explicitly pro-Democratic outside groups, the \$10,060,000 in contributions is classified as spending supporting Democrats. This pattern indicates a strategy where Climate Power Action functions primarily as a financial conduit, raising funds and channeling them to larger, established super PACs to execute advertising and get-out-the-vote campaigns, rather than conducting these activities directly. 13 This leverages the existing infrastructure and scale of major players like Future Forward USA.
- **Protect Our Care:** Protect Our Care is identified as a project fiscally sponsored by the Sixteen Thirty Fund.<sup>31</sup> The Sixteen Thirty Fund is a prominent 501(c)(4) organization known for funding numerous left-leaning causes and groups, often without disclosing its original donors.<sup>10</sup> No distinct federal PAC registration or

direct spending was found under the name "Protect Our Care" for the 2024 cycle. The group's activities focus heavily on issue advocacy, particularly defending the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and criticizing Republican healthcare policies and proposals, especially those associated with Donald Trump. While the Sixteen Thirty Fund itself directed significant funds towards Democratic causes in the 2024 cycle (reporting \$23.7 million in contributions via affiliates, primarily to liberal outside groups like House Majority PAC and Senate Majority PAC) to is not possible to isolate the specific portion attributable to Protect Our Care's mission from available FEC data. Sixteen Thirty Fund did not report any direct outside spending itself in 2024. The operational structure—a project within a 501(c)(4)—allows Protect Our Care to engage robustly in policy debates and advocacy that can influence the political environment, funded by non-disclosed sources, without generating its own direct, reportable federal campaign expenditures. Therefore, quantifiable federal spending supporting Democrats specifically by Protect Our Care cannot be determined from FEC data.

- Working Families Power / Working Families Party PAC: The Working Families Party PAC (WFP PAC, ID C00606962) is a federally registered committee. 16 In the 2023-2024 cycle, it reported total spending of \$24,024,790.16 This included \$6,220,084 in independent expenditures. 16 An analysis of these IEs reveals a breakdown: \$5,199,428 (83.6%) was spent supporting Democratic candidates, while \$1,017,472 (16.4%) was spent opposing Democratic candidates, and a small amount, \$3,169 (0.05%), was spent opposing Republican candidates.<sup>38</sup> The spending against Democrats likely occurred during primary elections where the WFP supported more progressive challengers against incumbent or establishment Democrats. The PAC also made direct contributions to federal candidates totaling \$72,795, with 100% going to Democrats. 16 Therefore, the total quantifiable spending by WFP PAC supporting Democrats or opposing Republicans in the 2024 cycle is \$5,199,428 (IEs for Dems) + \$3,169 (IEs against Reps) + \$72,795 (Contributions to Dems) = \$5,275,392. Working Families Power is described as an allied 501(c)(4) organization that engages in mobilization and other activities. The WFP PAC itself has received substantial funding from non-disclosing sources, including over \$2.5 million from dark money groups in 2023 alone. 19 The WFP employs a multifaceted strategy involving direct contributions, significant independent expenditures, and engagement in primary contests, funded partly by non-disclosing entities, to advance its progressive agenda both within and alongside the broader Democratic party. 16
- Family Friendly Wisconsin: No federal PAC registration or spending was identified for Family Friendly Wisconsin in the 2024 cycle. It is identified as a Wisconsin-based group, sometimes collaborating with Opportunity Wisconsin.<sup>22</sup>

Its activities appear linked to state-level policy, such as advocacy related to the state budget. <sup>40</sup> As with Opportunity Wisconsin, quantifying its federal spending supporting Democrats requires analysis of state-level data from Wisconsin's CFIS <sup>12</sup> and is not possible using federal sources alone. Its associated federal PAC, Campaign for a Family Friendly Economy PAC (CFFE PAC, ID C00744920), reported significant federal spending (\$22.9M total spent in 2024 cycle) and independent expenditures (\$19.5M total IEs), overwhelmingly supporting Democrats (\$18M for Democrats, \$1.3M against Republicans). However, attributing this spending specifically to the *Wisconsin* state chapter versus the national organization's broader activities is not possible from the available federal data.

• Committee to Protect Health Care / Committee to Protect Health Care PAC:
The Committee to Protect Health Care PAC (CPHC PAC, ID C00736637) reported total spending of \$701,554 for the 2024 cycle. 40 fthis, \$418,115 was classified as independent expenditures. 40 OpenSecrets analysis and news reports indicate this PAC focused its efforts on supporting Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris. 4 Therefore, the \$418,115 in independent expenditures is classified as spending supporting Democrats. The PAC reported \$0 in direct contributions to federal candidates during the cycle. 4 The broader Committee to Protect Health Care organization, distinct from the PAC, is active in lobbying (\$60,000 reported in 2024 for lobbying on healthcare issues) and broader issue advocacy focused on healthcare access and affordability.

#### Total 2024 Spending Supporting Democrats (Quantifiable Federal Data)

Based on the analysis of available federal data from the FEC and OpenSecrets for the 2023-2024 election cycle, the total quantifiable spending by the specified groups that supported Democratic candidates or opposed Republican candidates is \$15,753,507.

#### This total is derived from:

- Climate Power Action: \$10,060,000 (Contributions to pro-Democrat groups)
- Working Families Party PAC: \$5,275,392 (IEs for Democrats + IEs against Republicans + Contributions to Democrats)
- Committee to Protect Health Care PAC: \$418,115 (IEs supporting Democrats)

This figure explicitly excludes potential spending by Opportunity Wisconsin, Main Street Alliance (at the federal level), Protect Our Care (distinct from Sixteen Thirty Fund's broader spending), and Family Friendly Wisconsin (at the state level or where federal spending cannot be isolated to the state chapter), as their activities were either primarily state-focused, conducted through non-PAC structures (like 501(c)(4)s

or fiscal sponsorships), or involved non-reportable issue advocacy, making their federal spending footprint supporting Democrats unquantifiable with the available data.

Table 1: 2024 Spending Supporting Democrats (Quantifiable Federal & State Data)

Group Name	Associated PAC (FEC ID / State)	Total 2024 Cycle Spending Supporting Democrats (or Opposing Republicans)	Notes/Data Source
Climate Power	Climate Power Action (C00817536)	\$10,060,000 (Federal)	Contributions to pro-Democrat groups (Future Forward USA, LCV Victory Fund) <sup>13</sup>
Working Families Party	Working Families Party PAC (C00606962)	\$5,275,392 (Federal)	IEs supporting Democrats, IEs opposing Republicans, Contributions to Democrats 16
Committee to Protect Health Care	CPHC PAC (C00736637)	\$418,115 (Federal)	IEs supporting Democratic candidate (Kamala Harris) <sup>14</sup>
Opportunity Wisconsin	N/A (Federal Data)	N/A (Federal Data)	Primarily state-focused (WI); Requires WI CFIS data <sup>12</sup>
Main Street Alliance	Main Street Action PAC (WI State)	\$177,045 (State - WI) (\$157,700 for Dems + \$19,345 against Reps)	Primarily state-focused; Federal spending N/A; WI spending via state PAC

Protect Our Care	N/A (Federal Data)	N/A (Federal Data)	Project of 501(c)(4) Sixteen Thirty Fund; Spending likely via STF or issue ads <sup>10</sup>
Family Friendly Wisconsin	CFFE PAC (C00744920 - Federal)	N/A (State Data); \$19.2M (Federal - National PAC*)	Primarily state-focused (WI); Requires WI CFIS data <sup>12</sup> ; *Federal spending by national CFFE PAC (\$18M for Dems, \$1.3M against Reps) cannot be isolated to WI chapter
TOTAL (Quantifiable Federal)		\$15,753,507	Excludes groups without quantifiable federal spending supporting Democrats and state-level spending.

# **Analysis of 2024 Candidate Endorsements**

## **Methodology and Scope**

This section examines the candidate endorsements made by the specified groups for the 2024 election cycle, focusing on federal races (President, U.S. Senate, U.S. House) and state legislative races where data is available. Information was gathered from group websites, press releases, and news reports as captured in the provided research materials. It is possible that not all endorsements made by each group were publicly announced or included in the available data, so these findings may represent a partial picture. The analysis categorizes endorsements by party affiliation (Democrat vs. Republican).

## **Group-by-Group Breakdown**

- Opportunity Wisconsin: No specific 2024 candidate endorsements were found in the available materials.<sup>21</sup>
- Main Street Alliance: Main Street Action PAC, associated with Main Street Alliance, endorsed four Democratic candidates for the Wisconsin State Legislature in 2024: Tara Johnson (AD-96), Elizabeth Grabe (AD-51), Sarah

- Keyeski (SD-14), and Robyn Vining (AD-13). No federal endorsements were identified.<sup>27</sup> The group also endorsed specific federal legislation, such as the Carried Interest Fairness Act <sup>68</sup> and the Trade Review Act of 2025. State Tally: 4 Democrats (WI Legislature).
- Climate Power: Climate Power publicly endorsed President Biden for re-election in April 2024. While a comprehensive list of its congressional endorsements was not found, its activities, statements, and partnerships (e.g., with LCV Victory Fund) strongly align with supporting pro-climate Democratic candidates. For federal tabulation, this counts as 1 Democrat (President).
- **Protect Our Care:** No specific 2024 candidate endorsements were found for Protect Our Care.<sup>33</sup> Its public communications focus on defending the ACA and opposing Republican health policies, particularly those of Donald Trump.<sup>33</sup>
- Working Families Power / Working Families Party: The Working Families Party (WFP) issued extensive endorsements for the 2024 cycle, explicitly backing Kamala Harris for President.<sup>1</sup> Its federal endorsements included support for at least 7 Democratic Senate candidates (Casey, Baldwin, Gallego, Slotkin, Brown, Alsobrooks, plus backing independent Dan Osborn in Nebraska) and numerous House candidates (explicitly naming Sue Altman, Jahana Hayes, Gabe Vasquez, Pat Ryan, Lateefah Simon, LaMonica McIver, Jennifer McClellan, and highlighting efforts in battleground districts in NY and CA).<sup>1</sup> All identified federal and state endorsees were Democrats or closely aligned independents (like Osborn). The WFP aims to elect progressives, sometimes involving itself in Democratic primaries.<sup>1</sup> Federal Tally: 1 Democrat (President), 7 Democrats + 1 Independent (Senate), at least 16 Democrats (House). State Tally: Numerous Democrats across multiple states (AZ, WI, PA, CT, RI, NY, DE, NM, CA, GA, FL).<sup>1</sup>
- Family Friendly Wisconsin: No specific 2024 candidate endorsements were found.<sup>22</sup> The national Family Friendly Action PAC (associated with the broader Campaign for a Family Friendly Economy) endorsed numerous federal Democratic candidates.
- Committee to Protect Health Care: The Committee to Protect Health Care (CPHC) made its first-ever congressional endorsements in 2024, part of a larger slate of 781 endorsements across federal and state levels.<sup>2</sup> The group, via its PAC, endorsed Kamala Harris for President.<sup>41</sup> All specific federal candidates mentioned as endorsed by CPHC in the provided materials are Democrats. Examples include Reps. McGarvey (KY) <sup>69</sup>, Pappas (NH) <sup>70</sup>, Craig (MN) <sup>71</sup>, Gottheimer (NJ), Pallone (NJ), Menendez Jr. (NJ), Sherrill (NJ), Watson Coleman (NJ) <sup>4</sup>, McGovern (MA), Trahan (MA), Auchincloss (MA), Clark (MA), Moulton (MA), Pressley (MA), Lynch (MA), Keating (MA), Amo (RI), Magaziner (RI) <sup>3</sup>, and Senate candidates Kim (NJ) <sup>4</sup> and Alsobrooks (MD) <sup>3</sup>, among others. While the exact breakdown of the 781

endorsements between Democrats and Republicans at the federal level is not specified in the snippets <sup>2</sup>, the available evidence points to an exclusive or near-exclusive focus on supporting Democratic candidates for federal office based on their alignment with the group's healthcare priorities. <sup>2</sup> Federal Tally: 1 Democrat (President), Numerous Democrats (Senate/House – all examples are Democrats).

## **Summary of Endorsements**

The available data on 2024 endorsements reveals a consistent pattern of support for Democratic candidates among the groups that made public endorsements. The Working Families Party and the Committee to Protect Health Care issued the most extensive lists, exclusively backing Democrats or allied independents for federal positions. Climate Power also backed the Democratic presidential candidate. Main Street Alliance focused its endorsements at the state level in Wisconsin, backing only Democrats. No endorsements for Republican candidates were found for any of the seven groups in the provided materials.

Table 2: 2024 Candidate Endorsements (Federal & State)

Group Name	Democrats Endorsed (Federal / State)	Republicans Endorsed (Federal / State)	Notes/Data Source
Opportunity Wisconsin	Data not available	Data not available	No endorsements found <sup>21</sup>
Main Street Alliance	0 (Federal) / 4 (WI State Legislature - Dems)	0/0	Endorsed 4 WI Dem state candidates; Also endorsed federal legislation
Climate Power	1 (President) / 0 (State)	0/0	Endorsed Biden <sup>5</sup> ; Aligned with pro-Democrat groups
Protect Our Care	Data not available	Data not available	No candidate endorsements found; Issue advocacy focus

			33
Working Families Party	1 (Pres), 7 (Sen), ~16+ (House) / Numerous (State - Dems)	0/0	Also endorsed 1 Independent (Sen); Extensive list, all Dems/allied <sup>1</sup>
Family Friendly Wisconsin	Data not available	Data not available	No WI endorsements found <sup>22</sup> ; National PAC endorsed federal Dems
Committee to Protect Health Care	1 (Pres), Numerous (Sen/House - Dems) / Numerous (State - part of 781 total)	O / O (Implied)	All specific federal examples found are Democrats; Total federal D/R count unclear from snippets

# **Preliminary Analysis of 2025 Political Activity**

#### Introduction

Information regarding the political activities of the specified groups in the 2025 cycle is preliminary and limited, primarily reflecting activities immediately following the 2024 election or related to early 2025 events like special elections or state-level contests. Comprehensive data on spending and endorsements for the full 2025-2026 cycle is not yet available through standard reporting channels like the FEC.

## **Spending Activities**

• Working Families Party PAC / Working Families Power: Both the PAC and its allied 501(c)(4), Working Families Power, were active in the April 2025 Wisconsin Supreme Court election. The WFP PAC reported spending approximately \$95,396 supporting the liberal candidate, Susan Crawford.<sup>6</sup> This spending covered activities like phone banks, printing, online ads, texting, and canvassing.<sup>6</sup> Working Families Power engaged in mailers and texting supporting Crawford and opposing a voter ID referendum also on the April ballot.<sup>7</sup> The WFP PAC reported total disbursements of \$1.5 million between January 1 and February 28, 2025, including \$754,753 in independent expenditures during that period.<sup>52</sup> Working Families Power also conducted polling and messaging research in early 2025 focused on the political landscape under the Trump administration.<sup>53</sup> An FEC audit report

- covering the WFP PAC's 2021-2022 activity was released in March 2025.55
- Climate Power: Climate Power has been active in early 2025 primarily through communications and analysis, releasing reports on the influence of the oil and gas industry in the 2024 election and reacting to the policy actions and impacts of the Trump administration, such as tariffs and funding cuts affecting clean energy projects.<sup>8</sup> No specific 2025 spending figures for the Climate Power Action PAC (C00817536) were found in the available data covering early 2025.<sup>17</sup>
- Committee to Protect Health Care: Federal reporting for the CPHC PAC (C00736637) is available through December 31, 2024. 14 The broader organization remained active in public discourse and advocacy in early 2025, commenting on healthcare policy debates and nominations, such as that of Robert F. Kennedy Jr. for HHS Secretary. 9
- **Sixteen Thirty Fund:** The Sixteen Thirty Fund was mentioned in relation to a proposed 2025 Texas state bill aimed at closing loopholes allowing foreign funding of ballot measure campaigns, highlighting the Fund's significant past spending in this area. Financial data for 2023 became available, showing continued large-scale fundraising (\$181 million) and grantmaking (\$141 million). The Fund is also involved in a legal initiative called "Democracy 2025" aimed at challenging potential Trump administration actions.
- Opportunity Wisconsin, Main Street Alliance, Family Friendly Wisconsin,
  Protect Our Care: No specific 2025 spending data or notable activities were
  found for these groups in the examined materials covering the early part of the
  year. Main Street Alliance did issue statements reacting to economic conditions
  and administration policies in early 2025.<sup>27</sup> Main Street Action PAC endorsed the
  liberal candidate in the April 2025 Wisconsin Supreme Court race.

#### **Endorsement Activities**

- Working Families Party: The WFP endorsed 20 local candidates for the April 2025 Wisconsin elections and took positions supporting education funding referendums and opposing the voter ID constitutional amendment.<sup>39</sup> No federal endorsements for the 2026 cycle were noted yet.
- Main Street Alliance: Main Street Action PAC endorsed Susan Crawford (liberal candidate) in the April 2025 Wisconsin Supreme Court election.
- Other Groups: No specific 2025 candidate endorsements were found for the other five groups in the available data.

## **Summary and Table**

Early 2025 activity for these groups largely involved reacting to the 2024 election results, engaging in significant state-level contests (like the Wisconsin Supreme Court

race), undertaking research and strategic planning, and participating in ongoing policy advocacy. This pattern is typical for an off-year, where focus shifts from federal elections towards state issues, legal challenges, and preparing for future political battles.

Table 3: 2025 Political Activity (Preliminary & Limited Data)

Group Name	Reported 2025 Spending Supporting Democrats (if any)	Reported 2025 Endorsements (Dem vs. Rep, if any)	Notes/Activity Type
Opportunity Wisconsin	Data not yet available	Data not yet available	Primarily state-focused (WI).
Main Street Alliance	Data not yet available (PAC spending)	1 (WI Supreme Court - Liberal)	Endorsed Crawford in WI Supreme Court race; Issued statements on economy/policy <sup>27</sup>
Climate Power	Data not yet available (PAC)	Data not yet available	Active in communications, analysis, reacting to administration policies <sup>8</sup>
Protect Our Care	Data not yet available	Data not yet available	Advocacy focus; Project of Sixteen Thirty Fund.
Working Families Party	~\$95k (WI Supreme Court - Crawford)	20 Local (WI - April '25, all Dem/prog)	PAC reported \$1.5M disbursements Jan-Feb '25 <sup>52</sup> ; Power org active in WI race, polling/messaging <sup>6</sup>
Family Friendly Wisconsin	Data not yet available	Data not yet available	Primarily state-focused (WI).

Committee to Protect Health Care	Data not yet available (PAC)	Data not yet available	Active in advocacy, policy commentary 9
-------------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------	---

#### Conclusion

The analysis of the seven specified groups reveals a clear pattern of alignment with the Democratic Party during the 2024 election cycle, evidenced both by quantifiable political spending and candidate endorsements where data permits tracking. Climate Power Action, Working Families Party PAC, and Committee to Protect Health Care PAC collectively directed over \$15.7 million in federally reported funds towards supporting Democratic candidates or opposing Republicans. Endorsement lists from WFP and CPHC, along with Climate Power's presidential endorsement, further solidify this alignment, with no support for Republican candidates observed. Main Street Alliance also showed alignment with Democrats through its state-level endorsements and spending in Wisconsin.

However, quantifying the full financial influence of these groups presents significant challenges. State-focused organizations like Opportunity Wisconsin and Family Friendly Wisconsin require examination of state-level campaign finance records. Groups structured as 501(c)(4) projects, like Protect Our Care under the Sixteen Thirty Fund, operate largely outside federal disclosure requirements for their funding sources, making their total financial footprint supporting specific political outcomes difficult to ascertain precisely. The reliance on varied strategies—direct PAC spending, contributions to other groups, undisclosed issue advocacy, state-level work (as seen with Main Street Alliance), and engagement in primaries—underscores the complexity of tracking modern political influence networks.

Preliminary data for 2025 indicates a shift typical of an off-year cycle, with activity concentrating on key state-level elections (e.g., Wisconsin Supreme Court), policy advocacy responding to the new administration, and strategic positioning for future contests. Comprehensive data for the 2025-2026 cycle will emerge over time as reporting deadlines pass and campaign activities ramp up.

# **Methodology and Data Sources**

This report synthesized information from various sources to address the user query regarding political spending and endorsements for seven specific groups:

Opportunity Wisconsin, Main Street Alliance, Climate Power, Protect Our Care, Working Families Power, Family Friendly Wisconsin, and Committee to Protect Health Care.

#### **Data Sources:**

- Federal Election Commission (FEC): Data on PAC registrations, receipts, disbursements, and independent expenditures, primarily accessed via the FEC website (fec.gov) and the OpenSecrets.org database, which aggregates and categorizes FEC filings.<sup>13</sup> Specific PAC IDs searched include C00817536 (Climate Power Action), C00606962 (Working Families Party PAC), C00736637 (Committee to Protect Health Care PAC), and C00744920 (Campaign for a Family Friendly Economy PAC).
- Wisconsin Campaign Finance Information System (CFIS): Referenced as the necessary source for state-level data for Wisconsin-based groups (Opportunity Wisconsin, Family Friendly Wisconsin, Main Street Alliance), with specific spending data for Main Street Action PAC cited from reports within this system.<sup>12</sup>
- **Group Disclosures:** Information from websites and press releases issued by the groups themselves, as captured in the provided research materials.
- News Reports and Third-Party Analysis: Information from news articles, watchdog group reports (e.g., InfluenceWatch, Brennan Center, Wisconsin Democracy Campaign), and academic analyses (e.g., Wesleyan Media Project) included in the research materials.

#### Criteria for "Supporting Democrats":

Spending was classified as supporting Democrats if it met one of the following criteria based on FEC or state reporting categories:

- 1. Direct contributions to Democratic candidates or Democratic party committees.
- 2. Independent expenditures explicitly advocating for the election of a Democratic candidate.
- Independent expenditures explicitly advocating against the election of a Republican candidate.

#### **Limitations:**

- **Reliance on Provided Data:** The analysis is constrained by the information contained within the provided research snippets.
- Dark Money / Non-Disclosure: Spending by 501(c)(4) organizations (like Sixteen Thirty Fund, Working Families Power) and fiscally sponsored projects (like Protect Our Care) is often not fully transparent regarding original funding sources and may include non-reportable issue advocacy.<sup>10</sup>
- State-Level Data: Comprehensive analysis of groups primarily active at the state level (Opportunity Wisconsin, Family Friendly Wisconsin) requires direct access to and searching of state campaign finance databases (e.g., WI CFIS), which was beyond the scope of federal data review, except where specific state data (like for

- Main Street Action PAC) was available.<sup>12</sup>
- Issue Advocacy: Spending on advertisements or communications that discuss
  policy issues or public officials without explicitly calling for their election or defeat
  is generally not reported to the FEC and is not captured in this spending
  analysis.<sup>67</sup>
- Preliminary 2025 Data: Information for the 2025 cycle is incomplete due to the early stage of the cycle and reporting schedules. Findings reflect only initial activities.<sup>6</sup>
- **Endorsement Completeness:** Endorsement lists may not be exhaustive if not all endorsements were publicly announced or captured in the source materials.
- Attribution Challenges: Distinguishing spending by state chapters versus national organizations (e.g., Family Friendly Wisconsin vs. Campaign for a Family Friendly Economy PAC) can be difficult using only federal data.

#### Works cited

- 1. Memo: Our Biggest Election Day Yet Working Families Party, accessed April 22, 2025, https://workingfamilies.org/2024/11/memo-our-biggest-election-day-yet/
- 2. Pro-Patient Majorities The Committee to Protect Health Care, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://committeetoprotect.org/programs/propatient/">https://committeetoprotect.org/programs/propatient/</a>
- 3. Committee to Protect Health Care Announces Third Round of Endorsements for Congress, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.insidernj.com/press-release/committee-to-protect-health-care-announces-third-round-of-endorsements-for-congress/">https://www.insidernj.com/press-release/committee-to-protect-health-care-announces-third-round-of-endorsements-for-congress/</a>
- 4. Committee to Protect Health Care Announces Congressional Endorsements Insider NJ, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.insidernj.com/committee-to-protect-health-care-announces-congressional-endorsements/">https://www.insidernj.com/committee-to-protect-health-care-announces-congressional-endorsements/</a>
- 5. Climate Power Statement on North America's Building Trades Unions Endorsement, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://climatepower.us/news/climate-power-statement-on-north-americas-building-trades-unions-endorsement/">https://climatepower.us/news/climate-power-statement-on-north-americas-building-trades-unions-endorsement/</a>
- 6. Hijacking Campaign 2025 Information on Working Families Party PAC, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.wisdc.org/interest-group-spending/148-hijacking-campaign-2025/7737-hijacking-campaign-2025-information-on-working-families-party-pac">https://www.wisdc.org/interest-group-spending/148-hijacking-campaign-2025/7737-hijacking-campaign-2025-information-on-working-families-party-pac</a>
- 7. Hijacking Campaign 2025 Information on Working Families Power, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.wisdc.org/interest-group-spending/148-hijacking-campaign-2025/773-hijacking-campaign-2025-information-on-working-families-power">https://www.wisdc.org/interest-group-spending/148-hijacking-campaign-2025/773-hijacking-campaign-2025-information-on-working-families-power</a>
- 8. NEW REPORT: Oil and Gas Industry Spent \$450 Million to Influence Trump and the 119th Congress | Climate Power, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://climatepower.us/news/new-report-oil-and-gas-industry-spent-450-millio">https://climatepower.us/news/new-report-oil-and-gas-industry-spent-450-millio</a>

- n-to-influence-trump-and-the-119th-congress/
- 9. RFK Jr. for Head of EPA? Okay. For Head of HHS? No Way! | Thomas Armstrong, accessed April 22, 2025,
  - https://www.institute4learning.com/2025/02/21/rfk-jr-for-head-of-epa-okay-for-head-of-hhs-no-way/
- 10. Sixteen Thirty Fund Wikipedia, accessed April 22, 2025, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sixteen Thirty Fund
- 11. The \$64 million mystery: How a wave of anonymous donations is fueling the 2024 presidential campaign CBS News, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/the-64-million-mystery-anonymous-donations-2024-presidential-campaign/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/the-64-million-mystery-anonymous-donations-2024-presidential-campaign/</a>
- 12. Campaign Finance Overview WI Ethics Commission Wisconsin.gov, accessed April 22, 2025,
  - https://ethics.wi.gov/Pages/CampaignFinance/CampaignFinance.aspx
- 13. Expenditures by Climate Power Action, 2024 OpenSecrets, accessed April 22, 2025,
  - https://www.opensecrets.org/outside-spending/detail/2024?cmte=C00817536&tab=expenditures
- 14. PAC Profile: Committee to Protect Medicare OpenSecrets, accessed April 22, 2025,
  - https://www.opensecrets.org/political-action-committees-pacs/C00736637/summary/2024
- 15. Sixteen Thirty Fund Profile: Summary OpenSecrets, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.opensecrets.org/orgs/sixteen-thirty-fund/summary?id=D000070975">https://www.opensecrets.org/orgs/sixteen-thirty-fund/summary?id=D000070975</a>
- 16. PAC Profile: Working Families Party OpenSecrets, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.opensecrets.org/political-action-committees-pacs/working-families-party/C00606962/summary/2024">https://www.opensecrets.org/political-action-committees-pacs/working-families-party/C00606962/summary/2024</a>
- 17. CLIMATE POWER ACTION committee overview FEC, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.fec.gov/data/committee/C00817536/?tab=summary">https://www.fec.gov/data/committee/C00817536/?tab=summary</a>
- 18. Dark money Wikipedia, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dark\_money">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dark\_money</a>
- 19. Dark Money Donations for 2024 Are Outpacing All Prior Election Cycles |
  Truthout, accessed April 22, 2025,
  <a href="https://truthout.org/articles/dark-money-donations-for-2024-are-outpacing-all-prior-election-cycles/">https://truthout.org/articles/dark-money-donations-for-2024-are-outpacing-all-prior-election-cycles/</a>
- 20. Campaign Finance: Search Data and View Filed Reports WI Ethics Commission, accessed April 22, 2025,
  - https://ethics.wi.gov/Pages/CampaignFinance/ViewReports.aspx
- 21. State News WRJC Radio, accessed April 22, 2025, https://www.wrjc.com/category/news/state-news/

- 3%83%B3%E3%83%A9%E3%82%A4%E3%83%B3%E3%83%90%E3%82%AB%E3% 83%A9dm
- 23. Campaign Finance Information System, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://cfis.wi.gov/Public/Registration.aspx?page=FiledReports">https://cfis.wi.gov/Public/Registration.aspx?page=FiledReports</a>
- 24. Campaign Finance Information System, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://cfis.wi.gov/Public/FiledReports.aspx">https://cfis.wi.gov/Public/FiledReports.aspx</a>
- 25. Wisconsin Campaign Finance Information System, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://cfis.wi.gov/">https://cfis.wi.gov/</a>
- 26. FEC Rejects Trump Campaign's Allegations of Washington Post Bias | Common Dreams, accessed April 22, 2025, https://www.commondreams.org/news/fec-trump-wapo
- 27. Main Street Alliance / Main Street Action, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://mainstreetalliance.org/">https://mainstreetalliance.org/</a>
- 28. More Than \$4.5 Billion in Ad Spending This Cycle Wesleyan Media Project, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://mediaproject.wesleyan.edu/releases-103124/">https://mediaproject.wesleyan.edu/releases-103124/</a>
- 29. Climate Power Profile: Summary OpenSecrets, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.opensecrets.org/orgs/climate-power/summary?id=D000092466">https://www.opensecrets.org/orgs/climate-power/summary?id=D000092466</a>
- 30. October Top 5 2023 League of Conservation Voters, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.lcv.org/blog/october-top-5-2023/">https://www.lcv.org/blog/october-top-5-2023/</a>
- 31. PAC Profile: Protect Our Care OpenSecrets, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.opensecrets.org/political-action-committees-pacs/protect-our-care/C30003164/summary/2020">https://www.opensecrets.org/political-action-committees-pacs/protect-our-care/C30003164/summary/2020</a>
- 32. Sixteen Thirty Fund (1630 Fund) InfluenceWatch, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.influencewatch.org/non-profit/sixteen-thirty-fund/">https://www.influencewatch.org/non-profit/sixteen-thirty-fund/</a>
- 33. Trump's War on Health Care: Public Health Watch Protect Our Care, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.protectourcare.org/trumps-war-on-health-care-public-health-watch-5/">https://www.protectourcare.org/trumps-war-on-health-care-public-health-watch-5/</a>
- 34. Trump's War on Health Care: Public Health Watch Protect Our Care, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.protectourcare.org/trumps-war-on-health-care-public-health-watch-2/">https://www.protectourcare.org/trumps-war-on-health-care-public-health-watch-2/</a>
- 35. Protect Our Care, accessed April 22, 2025, https://www.protectourcare.org/
- 36. FACT SHEET: Trump's Crusade Against The ACA Continues With Renewed Attacks On The Law In His Second Term Protect Our Care, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.protectourcare.org/fact-sheet-trumps-crusade-against-the-aca-co-ntinues-with-renewed-attacks-on-the-law-in-his-second-term/">https://www.protectourcare.org/fact-sheet-trumps-crusade-against-the-aca-co-ntinues-with-renewed-attacks-on-the-law-in-his-second-term/</a>
- 37. PAC Profile: Working Families Party OpenSecrets, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.opensecrets.org/political-action-committees-pacs/no-dem-left-behi-nd-pac/C00606962/summary/2024">https://www.opensecrets.org/political-action-committees-pacs/no-dem-left-behi-nd-pac/C00606962/summary/2024</a>
- 38. Working Families Party Independent Expenditures OpenSecrets, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.opensecrets.org/political-action-committees-pacs/working-families-party/C00606962/independent-expenditures/2024">https://www.opensecrets.org/political-action-committees-pacs/working-families-party/C00606962/independent-expenditures/2024</a>
- 39. WFP Memo: WI Supreme Court Election Working Families Party, accessed April

- 22, 2025.
- https://workingfamilies.org/2025/04/wfp-memo-wi-supreme-court-election/
- 40. Page 9 State Affairs, accessed April 22, 2025, https://stateaffairs.com/page/9/?s=%E3%82%B9%E3%83%AD%E3%83%83%E3%8 3%88+%E7%A8%BC%E3%81%8E+%E6%96%B9%28SEO%3A%7ETo66.Asia%7E%2 9%2C%E3%82%B9%E3%83%AD%E3%83%83%E3%83%88+%E7%A8%BC%E3%81 %8E+%E6%96%B9%28SEO%3A%7ETo66.Asia%7E%29%2C%E3%82%B9%E3%83 %AD%E3%83%83%E3%83%88+%E7%A8%BC%E3%81%8E+%E6%96%B9je
- 41. Not Satisfied With 'Concepts,' Doctors Want Full Health Plan From Trump, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://kffhealthnews.org/morning-breakout/not-satisfied-with-concepts-doctors-want-full-health-plan-from-trump/">https://kffhealthnews.org/morning-breakout/not-satisfied-with-concepts-doctors-want-full-health-plan-from-trump/</a>
- 42. 5 Hot Health Care Topics in the Presidential Election, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.ajmc.com/view/5-hot-health-care-topics-in-the-presidential-election">https://www.ajmc.com/view/5-hot-health-care-topics-in-the-presidential-election</a>
- 43. Committee to Protect Health Care Lobbying Profile OpenSecrets, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.opensecrets.org/federal-lobbying/clients/summary?cycle=2024&id=F328342&year=2023">https://www.opensecrets.org/federal-lobbying/clients/summary?cycle=2024&id=F328342&year=2023</a>
- 44. Industry Profile: Misc Health Lobbying OpenSecrets, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.opensecrets.org/federal-lobbying/industries/summary?id=H05">https://www.opensecrets.org/federal-lobbying/industries/summary?id=H05</a>
- 45. Lobbying Firm Profile: Waxman Strategies OpenSecrets, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.opensecrets.org/federal-lobbying/firms/summary?id=D000075139&vear=2024">https://www.opensecrets.org/federal-lobbying/firms/summary?id=D000075139&vear=2024</a>
- 46. The Committee to Protect Health Care Patients Over Profits, accessed April 22, 2025, https://committeetoprotect.org/
- 47. Page 79 State Affairs, accessed April 22, 2025,

  https://stateaffairs.com/page/79/?s=%E3%83%A2%E3%83%8E%E3%83%9D%E3%
  83%AA%E3%83%BC%E5%A4%A7%E4%BC%9A%5B%7ETo66.Asia%7E%5D%2C
  %E3%83%A2%E3%83%8E%E3%83%9D%E3%83%AA%E3%83%BC%E5%A4%A7%
  E4%BC%9A%5B%7ETo66.Asia%7E%5D%2C%E3%83%A2%E3%83%8E%E3%83%9
  D%E3%83%AA%E3%83%BC%E5%A4%A7%E4%BC%9Auz
- 48. Citizen Action Weekend '24 Newsletter, September 27th Citizen Action Wisconsin, accessed April 22, 2025, https://www.citizenactionwi.org/2024/09/27/weekend24-sept-27/
- 49. Press Release Search WisPolitics, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.wispolitics.com/press-release-search?sf">https://www.wispolitics.com/press-release-search?sf</a> paged=1112
- 50. Despite Likely Setback for Climate Action With This Year's Election, New Climate Champions Set to Enter Congress, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://insideclimatenews.org/news/09112024/climate-champions-set-to-enter-congress/">https://insideclimatenews.org/news/09112024/climate-champions-set-to-enter-congress/</a>
- 51. Buying Time 2025 Wisconsin | Brennan Center for Justice, accessed April 22, 2025, https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/buying-time-2025-wi

#### sconsin

- 52. WORKING FAMILIES PARTY PAC committee overview FEC, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.fec.gov/data/committee/C00606962/">https://www.fec.gov/data/committee/C00606962/</a>
- 53. WF Power Feb 2025 Poll Findings Memo.docx, accessed April 22, 2025, https://workingfamiliespower.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/WF-Power-Feb-2 025-Poll-Findings-Memo.pdf
- 54. Current Events Messaging Study Working Families Power, accessed April 22, 2025, https://workingfamilies.power.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/250312 Current
  - https://workingfamiliespower.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/250312\_Current-Events-Messaging Survey Topline.pdf
- 55. Week of March 3 7, 2025 FEC, accessed April 22, 2025, https://www.fec.gov/updates/week-of-march-3-7-2025/
- 56. CAC's Alt: Trump's Policies Make Americans Less Safe, Less Healthy, and Less Able to Afford Everyday Expenses Climate Action Campaign, accessed April 22, 2025,
  - https://www.actonclimate.com/post/https-www-actonclimate-com-post-cacs-alt-joint-address/
- 57. Industries Hit by Trump Tariffs About to Face Another Blow | Climate Power, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://climatepower.us/news/industries-hit-by-trump-tariffs-about-to-face-anot">https://climatepower.us/news/industries-hit-by-trump-tariffs-about-to-face-anot</a>
  - https://climatepower.us/news/industries-hit-by-trump-tariffs-about-to-face-another-blow/
- 58. One Month of Chaos: Trump's Funding Cuts are Hurting Americans and Raising Costs, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://climatepower.us/news/one-month-of-chaos-trumps-funding-cuts-are-hurting-americans-and-raising-costs/">https://climatepower.us/news/one-month-of-chaos-trumps-funding-cuts-are-hurting-americans-and-raising-costs/</a>
- 59. Republicans 'Green New Deal' themselves with Project 2025 E&E News by POLITICO, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.eenews.net/articles/republicans-green-new-deal-themselves-with-project-2025/">https://www.eenews.net/articles/republicans-green-new-deal-themselves-with-project-2025/</a>
- 60. Climate Power Action Outside Spending OpenSecrets, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.opensecrets.org/outside-spending/detail/2024?cmte=C00817536&tab=summary">https://www.opensecrets.org/outside-spending/detail/2024?cmte=C00817536&tab=summary</a>
- 61. Cassidy, Hassan Release Policy Framework on Medicare Site-Neutral Reform to Lower Health Care Costs, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.cassidy.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cassidy-hassan-release-policy-framework-on-medicare-site-neutral-reform-to-lower-health-care-costs/">https://www.cassidy.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cassidy-hassan-release-policy-framework-on-medicare-site-neutral-reform-to-lower-health-care-costs/</a>
- 62. capitol.texas.gov, accessed April 22, 2025, https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/89R/analysis/html/SB02035l.htm
- 63. Sixteen Thirty Fund saw spending, fundraising dip ahead of 2024 POLITICO, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.politico.com/newsletters/politico-influence/2024/11/14/sixteen-thirty-fund-saw-spending-fundraising-dip-ahead-of-2024-00189729">https://www.politico.com/newsletters/politico-influence/2024/11/14/sixteen-thirty-fund-saw-spending-fundraising-dip-ahead-of-2024-00189729</a>
- 64. Campaign Finance Information System, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://cfis.wi.gov/Public/Registration.aspx?page=Faqs">https://cfis.wi.gov/Public/Registration.aspx?page=Faqs</a>

- 65. CFIS User's Guide WI Ethics Commission, accessed April 22, 2025, https://ethics.wi.gov/Resources/CFIS-UsersGuide.pdf
- 66. Campaign Finance: Candidate Committee Overview WI Ethics Commission, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://ethics.wi.gov/Pages/CampaignFinance/Candidates.aspx">https://ethics.wi.gov/Pages/CampaignFinance/Candidates.aspx</a>
- 67. Sixteen Thirty Fund/Make it Work Action Independent Expenditures OpenSecrets, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.opensecrets.org/political-action-committees-pacs/sixteen-thirty-fund-make-it-work-action/C90016320/independent-expenditures/2024">https://www.opensecrets.org/political-action-committees-pacs/sixteen-thirty-fund-make-it-work-action/C90016320/independent-expenditures/2024</a>
- 68. Gluesenkamp Perez, Beyer Introduce Bill to Close Carried Interest Loophole, Create Fairer Tax System for Working Families, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://gluesenkampperez.house.gov/posts/gluesenkamp-perez-beyer-introduce-bill-to-close-carried-interest-loophole-create-fairer-tax-system-for-working-families">https://gluesenkampperez.house.gov/posts/gluesenkamp-perez-beyer-introduce-bill-to-close-carried-interest-loophole-create-fairer-tax-system-for-working-families</a>
- 69. Endorsements Morgan McGarvey for Congress, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.morganmcgarvey.com/endorsements">https://www.morganmcgarvey.com/endorsements</a>
- 70. PR 9.24.24 Chris Pappas for Congress, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://www.chrispappas.org/pr-92424">https://www.chrispappas.org/pr-92424</a>
- 71. Endorsements Angie Craig, accessed April 22, 2025, <a href="https://angiecraig.com/endorsements/">https://angiecraig.com/endorsements/</a>