

CINCY*WFP NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3
APRIL 2026

Volunteers at a Cincy Wolf Pack Listening Canvass



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Who are we?

We are the Cincinnati Working Families Party Wolf Pack! A Wolf Pack is an intimate group of hardworking volunteers under the WFP name that is dedicated to transforming local politics, much like a party chapter. Our Wolf Pack was founded July 2025. We're new in town, but we've accomplished so much already! Keep an eye out for this newsletter and follow us on our social media accounts for regular updates!

[JOIN THE WOLF PACK](#)

What is WFP?

WFP is working people coming together to build a better country, state, and community. We believe that the interests of the people should come before those of the rich and influential that have bought their way into politics.

While our government strips us of our working rights, defunds our schools, and arrests our neighbors without due process, we know the root of the problem: politicians have been bought by billionaires and super PACs. They have chosen to serve corporate profits over their communities' needs. We know that strength in our community will win.

Working Families Party is a national third party established in over 20 states. We have two main goals: to get progressives to win primary elections (we never spoil the general), and to connect local progressive coalitions together under one roof. [Learn more...](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

APR 09 **RtVO Action Lab** **Time:** 6-8 pm @ Urban Artifact N.Side
Details: [Click Here!](#)

APR 12 **Bryan Hambley for Sec of State Canvass** **Time:** 2:30-5 pm
RSVP: [Click Here!](#)

APR 25 **RtVO Cincy Chapter Meeting** **Time:** 3 pm
Location: Hyde Park Public Library

MAY 03 **Bryan Hambley for Sec of State Canvass** **Time:** 2-5 pm
RSVP: [Click Here!](#)

MAY 30 **Welcome Gathering** **Time:** 1-3 pm
RSVP: [Click Here!](#)

Wolf Pack meeting times*: Electoral Committee: Thursdays 6-7 | Social Committee: Mondays 5-6
 Communications Committee: Sundays 6-7 | *See "Welcome Gathering" on pg. 3 for more details

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
APRIL				1	2 Electoral Committee Meeting	3	4
	5 Comms Committee Meeting	6 Social Committee Meeting	7	8	9 RtVO Action Lab Electoral Committee	10	11
	12 Hambley Canvass Comms Committee	13 Social Committee Meeting	14	15	16 Electoral Committee Meeting	17	18
	19 Comms Committee Meeting	20 Social Committee Meeting	21	22	23 Electoral Committee Meeting	24	25 RtVO Chapter Meeting
	26 Comms Committee Meeting	27 Social Committee Meeting	28	29	30 Electoral Committee Meeting		

IN THIS ISSUE

Canvass for Bryan Hambley | April 12th/May 3rd

On April 12th, Dr. Bryan Hambley is hosting a meet and greet at Swaim Park in Montgomery, OH from 1:00 - 2:30 PM. The Cincinnati Wolf Pack will then lead a canvass to help get Bryan elected from 2:30 - 5:00 PM. Our Wolf Pack will also be holding another canvass for Bryan on May 3rd, location TBD. No experience is needed, and training will be provided. Bring a fully charged phone, comfortable shoes (for walking), and a friend.

The Working Families Party has endorsed Dr. Bryan Hambley for Ohio Secretary of State. Bryan fights for his patients and his community every day. As SOS, he'll fight for fair elections and push for the nonpartisan redistricting Ohioans already voted for - while continuing to refuse every dollar of corporate PAC money. If he wins, he'll spend 2027 touring Ohio to make redistricting reform stick. RSVP: [Apr 12](#) | [May 3](#)



Welcome Gathering | May 30th

Not a member of the Working Families Party yet? Have friends or family who might be interested in joining? Come and meet us at our Welcome Gathering! Here, you'll learn all about what we do with likeminded progressive individuals. We'll show you how you can help get progressives elected in Cincinnati, as well as what roles we offer in our Wolf Pack.

Want to conduct political research and work with candidates? Join our electoral committee. Want to table at events and connect with other progressive organizations in the city? Check out our social committee. Want to design political artwork, tackle social media, or develop lit like this newsletter? Then the communications committee is a good fit for you. Don't feel like joining a committee? There are other ways to volunteer!

Come and learn how to volunteer with us! [RSVP](#). Want to join the Pack right now? Click [here!](#)



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RECAP

2026 Listening Canvasses

So far in 2026, we've conducted three listening canvasses directed at targeted audiences. We're not door knocking to ask people if they'll do something for us or to give a pitch. Instead, we're asking everyday voters what's going on in their lives: what they're struggling with and what they want to see changed. Here's what we've found out so far:

- Both the traditional Democratic core and disaffected liberal voters are looking for a new, progressive direction for America. Overall, they desire:
 - Universal healthcare
 - Fully funded public schools
 - Access to affordable housing
 - An end to foreign wars
 - Better public infrastructure in the US
- Unaffiliated and apathetic voters are scared and tired of division, and they are afraid of what's going on in the country. Many are desiring of more connection and community, and many feel that social media has divided and isolated the people. Those who didn't know much about politics were asked their position issue-by-issue, and the majority agreed overall with progressive solutions.

No Kings Day | March 2026

No Kings Day had a huge turnout. The Cincy WFP Wolf Pack tabled alongside OFT, Rank the Vote Ohio, Coffee Compassion Action, and many more organizations. Thousands were in attendance. During tabling, everyone there was interested and excited that there is a progressive option forming in Cincinnati. Interestingly, this is a shift from our tabling experience at the previous No Kings Protest in October. While we were generally welcomed during the October Protest, many attendees did not understand the need for a third party option in the city or the country. However, after several months have passed, and after WFP has become more well-known in the city, people have realized the need for a progressive option. The state of the Democratic Party in response to the Trump Administration is one of stagnation and corporatization, and the people are finally noticing. They are ready to embrace something new now more than ever.



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OP-ED

AI Data Centers in Ohio | By Ali Pollard Edited by Tyler Hill & Alex Bauman

Never in my life did I think I'd start to become a Luddite in my advanced (42) age. The more I learn about AI and the mass proliferation of AI data centers, the more I mistrust the technology. But that's an oversimplification of the problem. Everything we do online is stored in data centers. Your iPhone pictures may be stored on a server farm in Arizona. All your thousands of emails on Gmail may be saved in a data center right here in Ohio. The question you asked of your favorite AI chatbot started an even more intensive process of interpreting your input and computing the best output. None of this is inherently bad, and there are benefits to this technology. But currently, it looks like the cost of all this growth is the detriment of the environment and peoples' health.

What is a data center? It's simply a collection of servers on which the data we generate and use on the internet is stored. In ["Data Drain: The Land and Water Impacts of the AI Boom,"](#) Jon Gorey illustrates that data centers have been part of our infrastructure for decades "quietly processing our web searches and storing our cellphone photos." Just web searches and photos require vast farms of servers to maintain. These farms require a ton of electricity to run; that volume of electricity in turn generates a lot of heat off the servers, necessitating water and cooling systems to keep all of that hardware from frying itself. With the arrival of AI models and their staggering hunger for data processing and storage, more and ever larger data centers have sprouted all over the world. "A conventional data center," Gorey explains, "draws as much electricity as 10,000 to 25,000 households...but a newer, AI-focused 'hyperscale' data center can use as much power as 100,000 homes or more." Most large data centers use around 5 million gallons of water every day – as much water as a city the size of Middletown, Ohio uses.

We're all aware of the massive electricity and water consumption data centers need, but these new AI-focused data centers require magnitudes more. We're already seeing the costs in our utility bills. [An analysis by Bloomberg News in 2025](#) found that wholesale electricity prices near concentrations of data centers rose by as much as 267% in five years. I don't know about you, but I don't think paying over \$400 for a month of heating in my one-bedroom, one-bath apartment is feasible or fair. Communities have had their local resources and infrastructure strained by the data centers' usage, but with the tax breaks tech companies are receiving from several states, there's very little money going back into communities to help improve infrastructure. Ohio is a prime example: in fiscal year 2025, state and local tax breaks for data centers have [amounted to more than \\$127 million dollars](#), shortchanging funding for public goods like schools and fire departments.

In addition to the high energy toll, data centers take a lot of land. Land that could be used for farming or homes has now disappeared. In places like Northern Virginia, [which has the highest concentration of data centers in one place in the world](#), residents are finding themselves literally surrounded by current and future data centers. As you can imagine, this isn't good for their health. Below is a list of common issues from the light, sound, and air pollution:



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OP-ED

AI Data Centers in Ohio cont'd.

- Insomnia
- Hearing loss
- Stress
- Increased rates of respiratory diseases
- Increased rates of cardiovascular conditions
- Increased cancer risk

Black communities, especially those in the rural South are disproportionately affected by the data center boom. The Colossus data center that Elon Musk built in Mississippi just south of Memphis, TN to power Grok is a perfect example of this. [They illegally installed 27 gas turbines](#) to help power their data center and released huge amounts of nitrous oxide into the air to be breathed in by the nearby communities. Officials there have been slow and ineffective at stopping them from powering up the gas turbines.

Elected officials all across the US are woefully unprepared to cope with the impact of data centers. Many are still grappling with the relatively few benefits to offset the negatives, and we still don't have a clear picture of all the effects. For example, most data centers operate within the acceptable decibel range, but no one has taken into account infrasound. Infrasound are sound waves below 20Hz which the human ear cannot detect. Your body and your surroundings are definitely affected by it; it causes you to feel pressure in your ears, dizziness, and even anxiety. To learn more about this I recommend this video: [Datacenters behaving like acoustic weapons](#).

So what does this mean for Cincinnati and Hamilton County? What can we do to ensure the best future outcomes for us all? Cincinnati City Council seems to be on the right track. [Back in February](#) they voted to approve the Interim Development Control Overlay (IDC) which will conduct a zoning study and last for 3 months but can be extended up to one year. This currently places a pause on data center development approvals until the study is completed. However, companies wanting to move forward require an additional review by the City Planning Commission. The IDC will consider several factors:

- Neighborhood compatibility and community character
- Zoning
- Power and utility coordination
- Water use and availability
- Stormwater management
- Guidelines adopted by Council for the district
- Conformity to any neighborhood, urban design or other plan adopted by Council
- Consistency with any proposed zoning amendments
- Adverse effects on access to the property by public services, traffic conditions, sonic impacts, air quality, etc.
- Public benefits



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OP-ED

AI Data Centers in Ohio cont'd.

For now, the issue of data centers is in a holding pattern for Cincinnati and Hamilton County, but I encourage you to keep an eye on the IDC and the city council's choice about allowing data centers to be built. I'd also encourage you to follow developments on [a petition that would ban the construction of most new planned data centers in Ohio](#). This petition was submitted to Ohio Attorney General David Yost in March, which is the first step toward it potentially being put toward Ohio voters as a statewide constitutional amendment.

We are in the middle of a gigantic AI boom with powerful tech interests hungrily eyeing our communities for their data centers. They don't care about the harms those centers cause us. It's on us to make sure they are stopped.



Data centers being built in Leesburg, VA (source: [TechPolicy.press](#) | credit: Gerville/2024)



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PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Rank the Vote Ohio

Have you ever felt forced to vote between “the lesser of two evils” for an election? Have you ever felt like you had to compromise your values to prevent a candidate you strongly disliked from taking office? These are common enough experiences. What some may not know is how much the way we run elections in America forces us into these lose-lose situations.

Members of the Communications Committee spoke with Robert Agle, an organizer with Rank the Vote Ohio in Cincinnati. Robert, who comes from a background in the outdoors and natural resources and also works for a local brewery, advocates for ranked choice voting in Southwest Ohio. Rank the Vote Ohio is a statewide nonprofit, non-partisan organization dedicated to raising awareness about ranked choice voting. Starting from humble volunteer beginnings in 2020, Rank the Vote Ohio has grown to have a large staff based all over the state and has the support of more than 30,000 Ohioans.

What is ranked choice voting (RCV)? It is an alternative way to choose elected officials where a voter ranks candidates in order of preference and, through a series of automatic runoffs, allows voters to always choose a candidate that a majority supports. How does RCV work? To quote directly from Rank the Vote Ohio’s website:

“With Ranked Choice Voting, you can choose one candidate or rank the candidates in the order you prefer them. If no candidate wins a majority and your favorite is in last place, your vote automatically counts for your second choice, and so forth. It’s just like a runoff, but instead of having to return to the polls, your vote transfers instantly since you already ranked your preferences.”

RCV stands in contrast to how most elections in America are run, which is called “first past the post” voting (FPTP). In an FPTP system, voters choose one candidate in a race to support, and the candidate who receives the most votes wins, even if they do not receive a majority of votes.

Robert compares RCV to choosing an ice cream flavor at Graeter’s. You might visit one of their shops hoping to get your favorite flavor of ice cream. If your favorite flavor isn’t available, there are going to be at least a few other flavors you might order instead. FPTP voting, in contrast, is like going to an ice cream shop with only two flavors. If you don’t see your favorite, chances are you won’t order any ice cream at all.

RCV offers several improvements over FPTP systems:

1. **Guaranteed Majority Support** – With the in-built runoff system, every winner of an election with RCV will win at least a majority of votes. In many elections today (especially primary elections), a candidate for office might win with only 40%, 30%, or even only 20% of votes cast directly in their favor. In a race for an office with many candidates, it’s easy for one with less than a majority of the voters supporting them to win.



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PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Rank the Vote Ohio cont'd.

2. Expanded Voter Choice – We've all heard of the concept of "spoiler" candidates, who undermine the chances of a frontrunner in a tight election who may otherwise receive the votes won by the "spoiler." The go-to example is Ralph Nader, who in the 2000 presidential election was accused of being a spoiler for Al Gore, allowing George W. Bush to become president. RCV systems allow voters to choose candidates according to their beliefs and values – there's no such thing as a spoiler when your vote can be transferred to another candidate if your first option can't obtain a majority.
3. Greater Diversity of Candidates – FPTP voting systems over time tend toward fewer candidates and fewer political parties contesting elections. RCV allows for more and different kinds of candidates to run by allowing voters to get out of the "voting for a lesser evil" mindset.
4. Encourages Coalition Building – Candidates in FPTP voting systems are incentivized to negatively campaign against their opponents to discourage supporters of their opponents from casting ballots. RCV encourages coalition building among candidates; it's in the interest of a candidate to appeal to voters who like other candidates in the hope that they will end up ranked on those voters' ballots. This tends to encourage more positive election campaigns.

Ranked-choice voting exists already in America. Alaska and Maine use RCV for several elections, and many municipalities have taken it up. Famously, New York City's mayoral primary in 2025 led to the current mayor Zohran Mamdani's selection as candidate by the Democratic Party. He and Brad Lander engaged in coalition building here, as they ran a joint RCV campaign. As Robert noted in our discussion, RCV has even existed in Cincinnati. Our city used a form of RCV to elect the city council for several decades. Rank the Vote Ohio believes it is the right move to return to our roots.



Zohran Mamdani & Brad Lander Campaigning Together (source: [NY Times](#) | credit: Angelina Katsanis)



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PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Rank the Vote Ohio cont'd.

Returning to RCV, however, necessitates that we overcome the recently passed Senate Bill 63. This bill passed by the statehouse punishes localities in Ohio who move to ranked-choice voting by withholding certain funds from the state government. These funds can amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars a year for a city like Cincinnati, creating a strong incentive not to move toward RCV. Robert noted that Rank the Vote Ohio believes that this bill is unconstitutional under the Ohio constitution, as it violates the powers given to localities under the home rule provision. Despite the passage of this bill, Robert and Rank the Vote Ohio intend to continue to raise awareness. Elsewhere in Ohio, the cities of Lakewood and Cleveland Heights are continuing to explore adopting RCV for their local elections despite the threat of lost funds.

You can expect to see Robert tabling on behalf of Rank the Vote Ohio at markets, festivals, and other events for the rest of the year. For those interested in getting involved, Rank the Vote Ohio will be hosting an [Action Lab event at Urban Artifact](#) in Northside on April 9 starting at 6 PM. Follow that link to RSVP and learn more about RCV. Robert will also be hosting a Cincinnati Chapter meeting at the Hyde Park Branch of the public library on April 25 at 3 PM. The Cincinnati Chapter will be gearing up for the year by planning outreach events and organizing into committees. It's a great time to get in and shape how the chapter will educate the public about RCV.

[Rank the Vote Ohio Website](#)



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