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PAUNITED.ORG



**State:** Pennsylvania

**Core Constituency/Target Audience:**

Western PA working class communities and communities of color, particularly focused on small cities and towns outside of Pittsburgh

**Website:** [paunited.org](http://paunited.org)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/PennsylvaniaUnited](https://facebook.com/PennsylvaniaUnited)

**Twitter:** [@PA\\_United\\_](https://twitter.com/PA_United_)

**Donate:** [secure.actblue.com/donate/sd003-pa-pau](https://secure.actblue.com/donate/sd003-pa-pau)

Pennsylvania United, the 501c4 affiliate of Pittsburgh United, is a grassroots organization with member-led chapters that build power for working-class families in Western PA. They believe the only way to combat division is to rebuild progressive organizing infrastructure in the communities that have experienced historic disinvestment from both economic opportunities and organizing resources. They build this organizing infrastructure by running local issue campaigns, connecting these issues to political campaigns, and developing member leadership to run these campaigns. They work every day to develop long-term organizing relationships that reconnect working-class people to power, and to build a multi-racial working-class movement for statewide change.

## STATE LEGISLATIVE WORK

Pennsylvania United endorses and works to elect Progressive champions across Western Pennsylvania to the state legislature, and is building a long-term strategy to shift what is politically possible in swing districts.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2020, Pennsylvania United helped flip PA for President Joe Biden by making over 3 million phone calls to voters across Western PA. Their work helped increase the Democratic vote share in 4 western PA counties for the first time since 1992. PA United has also developed and implemented long-term leadership training programs between 2020 and 2021 and successfully elected 15 movement candidates for local and legislative seats across Western PA.

## GOALS IN 2022 CYCLE

In 2022, Pennsylvania United aims to develop new local chapters and grow their existing chapters to reach 1,500 dues paying members, while working with our members who were elected to local office to pass progressive policies. They will also work to help protect the Democratic governor, flip a US Senate Seat, and elect progressive candidates to the PA House and Senate. Depending on the results of redistricting, there may also be an opportunity to flip the PA State House.

## STATE BRIDGES SPEAKER



### Jennifer Rafanan Kennedy

Jennifer Rafanan Kennedy is the Managing Director of Pennsylvania United. In her tenure, Pennsylvania United has won campaigns to organize thousands of low wage workers; dedicated millions of dollars to affordable housing, green infrastructure investment and community benefits; and expanded from Pittsburgh and Allegheny County to a footprint that stretches across western Pennsylvania.

Jennifer also leads Pennsylvania United's strategic planning and organizational development efforts. Previously, Jennifer served as the first executive director of Missouri Immigrant & Refugee Advocates, building the statewide immigrant rights coalition from the ground up. In addition, she has been an organizer, lobbyist, fundraiser and field director on progressive political and issue campaigns.

## IN THE NEWS

- [Advocacy group, Democrats call on UPMC to raise wages, allow workers to organize](#)
- [With eviction protections set to expire, community groups urge Allegheny County for an extension](#)
- [Analyzing State College council](#)
- [Vote count shows 22 of grassroots group's 26 candidates won fall ballot spots](#)

## PENNSYLVANIA FAST FACTS

- **Current Control:** Divided Government (since 2015)
- **Gubernatorial Election:** 2022
- **Length of House term:** 2 years
- **Length of Senate term:** 4 years
- **Redistricting:** A bipartisan redistricting commission draws Pennsylvania's Congressional and state maps.
- **Sister District Target:** Blue Inroads