



PRESS RELEASE
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Policy Matters adds Will Petrik to research team

Will Petrik has joined Policy Matters Ohio as a budget researcher.

Petrik previously worked as state director of Advocates for Ohio's Future, where he helped lead the fight to expand Medicaid in Ohio. Because of this work, over 650,000 people now have access to health care coverage. He also served as Outreach Coordinator for the Juvenile Justice Coalition, working to improve the criminal justice system for young Ohioans who get caught up in it. Petrik, who is based in Columbus, will focus his work on state budget analysis and human service policy.

"I joined Policy Matters Ohio because I want to make concrete improvements in the lives of Ohioans," Petrik said. "All people have the right to safety, security and quality education. All Ohioans should have access to affordable, stable housing and good jobs with benefits. I hope to help our lawmakers pass budgets that work for all Ohioans, not just the privileged few."

Will brings deep relationships with human service advocates in Ohio and a comprehensive understanding of how public spending enables people to escape poverty and find opportunity.

A native of North Dakota, Petrik graduated from the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, Minn. where he majored in social justice as part of a self-designed program.

"Will has a rare combination of passion for social justice, deep analytical skills, and laser-like focus on public policy," Executive Director Amy Hanauer said. "We are thrilled to have him on our team."

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*Policy Matters Ohio is a nonprofit, nonpartisan state policy research institute
with offices in Cleveland and Columbus.*