

# SARAH N. MONTELL

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### BIDEN FOR PRESIDENT

*Ohio Deputy Coalitions Director*

*Aug. 2020 – Nov. 2020*

*\$78,000/year*

*55 hours/week*

- Mobilized outreach and engagement with nearly 10 organized coalition groups across Ohio — including labor unions, educators, veterans & military families, rural voters, climate voters, nurses & frontline workers, and ethnic communities. Worked in conjunction with the national Coalitions Desk to amplify specific policy plans within the Biden/Harris platform that directly supported these coalitions.
- Collaborated across different coalition groups and team members on virtual events and volunteer actions to highlight the breadth and intersectionality within the campaign's coalition of supporters.
- Worked in partnership with the Ohio Coalitions Team and with the Surrogates Team at HQ to organize an average of 8 virtual events per week over a 10-week period, including coalition launch events, roundtable discussions, weekly phone and textbanking shifts, and virtual early vote and GOTV rallies.
- Juggled daily communications with over 15 coalition group leaders and executed 38 professional virtual events and meetings amidst constantly shifting schedules within an entirely virtual campaign operation.
- Supported the planning and logistics of 6 in-state trips made by Vice President Biden and other campaign principles, including drafting trip briefing materials, engaging key coalition and political stakeholders, and day-of principle staffing.

*New Hampshire Trip Director*

*Oct. 2019 – Jan. 2020*

*\$88,000/year*

*55 hours/week*

- Coordinated scheduling, event logistics, programming, and political outreach for in-state trips made by Vice President Biden, Dr. Jill Biden, and campaign surrogates in coordination with campaign HQ and the New Hampshire political, communications, and organizing departments.
- Envisioned engagement strategies for the campaign's early state primary operation through strategic event scheduling with key constituency groups, targeted supporters, undecided voters, labor unions, and other political and endorsement targets.
- Oversaw all trip briefing materials, trip sketches, and surrogate memos in coordination with scheduling, advance, and briefings departments to ensure all in-state trips were executed successfully and that principles were briefed and prepared for all events.

### OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

*Political Director*

*Columbus, OH*

*\$66,000/year*

*Feb. 2020 – Aug. 2020*

*40 hours/week*

- Led political power-building and strategy development, government relations, policy advocacy, and issue campaigns for Ohio's largest environmental policy and advocacy organization — a state affiliate of the League of Conservation Voters.
- Collaborated with policy staff to develop and implement issue-based campaigns, including a city-wide energy aggregation ballot initiative to transition into 100% renewable energy sources by 2022.
- Supervised a department of five regional directors to fulfill their programmatic and organizational potential in local communities across the state; empowered communications staff to build a consistent and reputable narrative for the organization's work around successful environmental policy implementation.
- Reorganized and oversaw the candidate endorsement process for statewide and down-ballot candidates and oversaw fundraising and political activity with the OEC Action Fund Political Action Committee (PAC) — managing a budget of nearly \$30,000 in PAC money that was allocated to statewide and legislative candidates for elected office.
- Managed a departmental budget of over \$200,000 in 501c4 funding to support nonpartisan grassroots organizing, digital strategy, and environmental policy lobbying efforts.

### OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

*Political Advocacy Consultant*

*Columbus, OH*

*\$82,000/year*

*Mar. 2019 – Oct. 2019*

*40 hours/week*

- Assisted in the planning and development of local, district, regional, and state coalitions and campaigns for the Ohio Education Association (OEA), Ohio's largest public sector labor union representing more than 124,000 educators and support professionals.
- Recruited and trained OEA members and volunteers for grassroots legislative advocacy and political campaigns at the state and federal level; developed and executed strategies to more effectively and strategically engage union members and local leaders around K-12 education policy issues and legislation.
- Analyzed political research and polling results to implement campaign modeling, targeting, and communications strategies.
- Developed fundraising metrics and engagement strategies for OEA's statewide Political Action Committee (PAC) to support bipartisan, pro-public education candidates for elected office — overseeing a budget of over \$300,000 in PAC money.

**FRIENDS OF SHERROD BROWN***Deputy Political Director**\$60,000/year*

Columbus, OH

*July 2017 – Dec. 2018**55 hours/week*

- Oversaw Senator Sherrod Brown's reelection campaign political operation, successfully building a statewide coalition of elected officials, labor organizations, party leaders, progressive groups, candidates, and issue organizations. Maintained external relationships with over 75 elected and political leaders beginning 16 months before Election Day.
- Spearheaded the campaign's surrogates program, organizing roundtables, rallies, and fundraisers with over 15 out-of-state surrogates. Managed all briefing materials and coordinated schedules among departments, ensuring surrogates were utilized creatively and proactively.
- Partnered with our Political Director to secure nearly 60 key endorsements from external political and labor organizations at the state and national level.
- Built an innovative, grassroots fundraising program within our Finance Team, raising nearly \$300,000 in small-dollar contributions through early and sustained engagement with grassroots activists and high-profile surrogates; Assisted in organizing over 50 house-party fundraisers.
- Organized over 25 grassroots messaging and finance trainings with progressive organizations across Ohio to recruit and train over 300 long-term volunteers and organizers for the campaign.

**THE OBAMA WHITE HOUSE, OFFICE OF PRESIDENTIAL PERSONNEL***Associate Director for Presidential Personnel and Special Assistant to the Director**Staff Assistant**\$52,000/year*

Washington, DC

*Feb. 2016 – Jan. 2017**Aug. 2015 – Jan. 2016**50 hours/week*

- Authored and edited weekly memos to President Obama, White House Chief of Staff, and Deputy Chief of Staff on candidates under consideration for Presidential appointments.
- Liaised with White House offices and 24 federal agencies, boards, and commissions to execute programming and engagement for over 3,000 political appointees.
- Facilitated the announcement process for senior level and Senate-confirmed personnel appointments in coordination with White House Communications, Legislative Affairs, and external stakeholders.
- Managed all strategic scheduling, communication, briefing memos, and special projects for the Director and Deputy Directors of Presidential Personnel; Composed talking points and compiled briefing materials for meetings with White House Senior Staff and other Administration leadership; Troubleshot problems and tracked deadlines for principals.
- Provided logistical support for high-profile White House events, including State Arrival Ceremonies, State Dinners, and the United State of Women Summit.

**THE OBAMA WHITE HOUSE, OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY***Intern, Office of the Social Secretary**Unpaid Internship*

Washington, DC

*Sep. 2014 – Dec. 2014**50 hours/week*

- Supported the planning, execution, and staffing of over 40 official White House events, including the Congressional Ball, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Kennedy Center Honors, and events supporting the policy initiatives of the First Lady.
- Oversaw event correspondence, invite lists, and confirmed attendees for the 2014 Holiday Season, including maintaining a confidential database of over 4,000 constituents and invitees.
- Managed all real-time edits and updates to the Social Office event calendar and oversaw the logging and distribution of over 1,000 official event photos.

**EDUCATION**

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**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY***Bachelor of Arts — Public Affairs*

- Honors Diploma • Magna Cum Laude • Minors in International Relations and Public Health

Columbus, OH

*May 2015***DISTINCTIONS**

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- Skills: NGP VAN • VoteBuilder • LexisNexis • Adobe Creative Suite • Salesforce • Public speaking • Research and vetting
- Interests: Traveling • Rock climbing • All things sustainability