

**SHAPING  
OUR FUTURE**

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**MAJORITY  
RISING NC**

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2024 ANNUAL  
**SUMMIT**

April 11 - 12 | Charlotte, NC





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# WELCOME TO THE 2024 SUMMIT!

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As the Board Chair of Majority Rising NC, I am excited to have you join us for our 2nd Annual Summit this year. It is a privilege to address each of you as we unite to advance our collective vision for a fair, just, and prosperous North Carolina.

Our primary goal remains the same as last year - **to build majority support for public policies that bring prosperity and opportunity for all North Carolinians.** Through education and active participation, we are committed to empowering individuals and communities in shaping our shared future.

While our state faces significant hurdles in the fight for progress, our shared resolve to drive positive change is equally strong. By encouraging meaningful discussions, bridging divides, and uniting people from various backgrounds, we execute our mission and look forward to engaging you in the process.

This year's Summit theme is "Shaping our Future" which is one of our key objectives as an organization and one that encapsulates the principles guiding our mission. Throughout the event, we will explore key topics such as economic opportunities, health care access, public education, and more. Through inclusive dialogues, we aim to pinpoint actionable strategies and foster agreement to drive long lasting and enduring transformations.

Moreover, the Annual Summit serves as a valuable platform for networking and cooperation. We encourage all participants to actively engage with one another, establishing new connections and fortifying existing ones. Together, we can enhance our influence and advance our mission with renewed determination.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to our dedicated team, volunteers, and generous contributors. **Your steadfast support has been crucial in sustaining our organization's vital initiatives, and we credit our accomplishments to your commitment to a better North Carolina.** Thank you for being an indispensable part of our journey.

Warm regards,

Mack Paul  
Board Chair, Majority Rising NC

# LEADERSHIP

Together, we work towards a stronger North Carolina where every citizen has access to affordable health care, a sound basic education, and a strong quality of life.



**Elizabeth Byrum**  
*Deputy Director*



**Sen. Margaret Dickson**  
*Board Member*



**Page Gardner**  
*Board Member*



**Reggie Love**  
*Board Treasurer*



**Mack Paul**  
*Board Chair*



**Ian Shannon**  
*Executive Director*



**Shawna Williams**  
*Board Secretary*



# NOTE FOR ATTENDEES

Majority Rising NC is delighted to welcome you to our 2024 Summit. We invite you to actively participate and share your insights during this convening. Your involvement is highly encouraged, and we believe you will benefit from the discussions and collaborations not only now but also in the coming weeks, months, and years.

Let's celebrate the diversity of perspectives and experiences that each individual brings to the Summit. Your voice matters, your ideas are valuable, and your presence enhances our shared journey towards positive change. Let's approach this opportunity with open hearts and open minds, ready to learn from one another and build connections that empower us to create a brighter future. Thank you for being a part of our wonderful community and for contributing your unique talents to our collective mission. Together, we can truly make an impact.



# PROGRAM AGENDA

## APRIL 11 - DAY ONE

### **Hotel Check-In**

4:00pm

#### ***Main Lobby***

Please note that regular check-in is available starting at 4:00pm on the day of arrival.

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### **Welcome Reception & Registration**

5:30pm - 7:00pm

#### ***Event Lawn\****

After Check-In, make your way over the Event Lawn to kick off the Summit with a Welcome Reception! Grab a drink and get to know fellow Summit-goers as we focus on what shaping our future really means.

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### **Dinner & Fireside Chat**

7:00pm - 8:30pm

#### ***Fairway Ballroom***

Enjoy a seated dinner with leaders from across the state and take part in meaningful dialogue about the future of our state. We are thrilled to be joined for this dinner by Governor Roy Cooper who will deliver remarks along with a Fireside Chat featuring Senate Minority Leader Dan Blue and House Minority Leader Robert Reives.

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## APRIL 12 - DAY TWO

### **Breakfast & Polling Briefing**

8:30am - 10:00am

#### ***Ballantyne Ballroom***

Join us for breakfast and a Polling Briefing by Kevin Akins, Partner at Impact Research. Kevin has polled for candidates and causes across the country. He often serves as a lead pollster in moderate-to-conservative areas. Kevin's clients routinely outpace the partisan DNA of their state or district at the ballot box.

*\*If there is inclement weather, this will be moved into the Atrium*



# PROGRAM AGENDA

## **Breakout Sessions - Block One**

*10:00am - 10:45am*

### ***New Opportunities for Health Care in NC - Ballantyne C***

This breakout celebrates the state's recent passage of Medicaid expansion and sheds light on the important work to enroll 600,000 North Carolinians in health care coverage. This panel brings together issue experts and policymakers to explore the opportunities and challenges that expansion brings, as well as additional health policy solutions for the future.

### ***Strengthening NC's Workforce Pipeline - Ballantyne E***

This breakout will focus on our state's goal to increase the skilled workforce as we continue to maintain our reputation as the "best state for business." This panel will bring together experts to discuss the current state of workforce preparation in North Carolina and the work that is needed to increase educational pathways to employment.

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## **Breakout Sessions - Block Two**

*11:00am - 11:45am*

### ***Meeting NC's Infrastructure Needs for the Future - Ballantyne C***

This breakout will focus on the connection between our state's economic growth and the basic necessities needed to sustain that growth. This panel brings together energy and life science industry experts to discuss the state's growing infrastructure needs – reliable energy, clean water, and adequate wastewater systems – as North Carolina continues to be a destination for economic development.

### ***Building the Foundation for Success with NC's Public Schools - Ballantyne E***

This breakout will highlight our state's strong public schools and the steps needed to ensure we continue to build a well-funded, high-quality education system that serves every child in our state. This panel discussion will feature issue experts and policymakers who will discuss the funding needed to create high-quality early education and K-12 systems, including greater investments in teacher pay.

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## **Lunch & Closing Keynote**

*12:00pm - 1:30pm*

### ***Ballantyne Ballroom***

We are thrilled to close the day featuring our final keynote speaker, NC DHHS Secretary Kody Kinsley. Secretary Kinsley will join us for lunch and deliver remarks on the future of health care in our state.



## Who We Are

Founded in 2022, Majority Rising NC is a 501(c)(4) social welfare organization that strives to build majority support for public policies that create prosperity and opportunity for all North Carolinians. Through education and civic engagement, we seek a fair and just society where everyone can shape our collective future.

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## What We Believe

North Carolina was once known as the beacon of progress in the South, providing critical support for public education, infrastructure, business and more. But the actions of the legislature over the past decade have caused a turn towards hyper-extremist policies that are discriminatory, regressive and do not reflect the values of North Carolina businesses, or even the overwhelming majority of North Carolinians. This is bad for employers, customers and the North Carolina economy.

We believe in a government that is balanced and are working to bring North Carolina back from extremist policies.

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## What We Do

Our organization aims to achieve three core objectives:

- **Build Majority Support:** We execute this by initiating public policy development, research, and messaging, aimed at creating prosperity and opportunities for all citizens across the state.
- **Educate and Engage:** Through conferences, roundtables, convenings, and civic engagement, we collaborate with stakeholders to take action towards creating a fair and equitable society.
- **Shape Our Future:** Advocate for active participation in the democratic process that is crucial to shaping our collective future as North Carolinians.















**MAJORITY  
RISING**  
NORTH CAROLINA