



NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR A  
**NEW AMERICA**

[www.WethePeoplePlan.org](http://www.WethePeoplePlan.org)

## **The National Council For A New America** *Solutions For The American People*

The National Council for a New America unites leaders from across the country to begin a dialogue with the American people about how best to meet our common challenges and build a stronger country through common-sense ideas and solutions that will help every American.

However, for this effort to be successful, the real leaders will be the American people. We have invited Americans from all walks of life to join with us as we begin anew, rebuilding and reenergizing our nation. We hope to engage other national and local leaders, grassroots activists and citizens and inspire them to work with us to solve problems with workable conservative solutions. The following are not the only issue areas on which solutions will be offered, but form a starting point in our revitalization effort.

### **Real Solutions for the American People: Education**

A high-quality education should not depend upon a parent's income or address. Our children deserve an education that will equip them with the tools needed to maximize the opportunities and overcome the challenges that await them in the global economy. Yet today, thousands of children, especially in our cities, receive a substandard education or find post-secondary education unaffordable, which is inconceivable for a 21<sup>st</sup> Century America. We must return power from Washington to parents and competent teachers who know what's best for our children.

#### **Empowering Parents, Teachers, And Local Schools:**

Rather than micromanage our schools, the federal government should focus on empowering teachers, parents, and local schools. Washington currently spends approximately \$40 billion a year on K-12 education and administers over 80 separate education programs. Rarely do these programs seek to give parents greater options for educating their children and rarely do they provide local schools and teachers with the flexibility and incentives to innovate. We propose fixing that. Local schools and parents will always be the front line when it comes to education.

We know that what works in one community and one classroom may not work in every other classroom, yet we can ensure that parents and teachers have access to quality information about what is working across the country.

#### **Making College Affordable:**

Student loans and federal grants are a key part of college affordability. But they cannot be the entire solution. We cannot simply spend our way to cheaper college education. Colleges must be focused on controlling costs and students should be given greater options to choose a lower-cost higher education program that meets their individual needs.