



SIMS - FAYOLA FOUNDATION

POLICY & ADVOCACY INSTITUTE

Sims-Fayola Policy & Advocacy Institute

Policy Council – Public Overview

Purpose

The Sims-Fayola Policy & Advocacy Institute (SFPAI) Policy Council is a formal strategy-shaping body established to strengthen the institutional policy architecture required to advance Vision 2030. The Council exists to help translate Vision 2030 outcomes into a coherent, multi-year policy agenda that improves early childhood readiness, literacy, workforce connection, and community safety for boys and young men of color across Colorado. The Policy Council strengthens rigor, alignment, and cross-sector coordination in SFPAI's policy positions and advocacy engagement.

Scope and Authority

The Policy Council develops and recommends policy direction to SFPAI leadership. Final policy positions and advocacy decisions are adopted by SFPAI leadership and the Sims-Fayola Foundation Board, informed by Policy Council input and consistent with nonprofit governance standards. The Council does not serve as an independent governing body. It is a structured strategy-shaping body within the Foundation's policy infrastructure.

Core Responsibilities

The Policy Council supports SFPAI by:

- Shaping and refining the multi-year policy framework aligned to Vision 2030
- Recommending annual policy priorities and strategic focus areas
- Stress-testing policy proposals for equity, feasibility, and measurable impact
- Informing coalition alignment and coordinated action strategies
- Advising on when and how SFPAI engages in advocacy within nonpartisan boundaries

The Council's work is focused on structural policy levers that improve predictability of opportunity and belonging for boys and young men of color.

Membership Structure

The Policy Council is intentionally cross-sector and cross-experience. Membership includes individuals with:

- Lived experience navigating systems affecting boys and young men of color
- Community and grassroots leadership
- Policy, research, and systems expertise
- Institutional leadership across philanthropy, government, business, and advocacy

Membership is designed to balance lived experience, community leadership, policy expertise, and institutional influence. Members serve defined terms and commit to consistent participation, strategic engagement, and advancing shared priorities.

Commitment to Community Voice

Community voice is embedded within the Policy Council's work through structured youth engagement, community listening processes, and ongoing partnership. Policy recommendations are reviewed through a lived-experience lens to ensure alignment with the realities facing boys and young men of color across Colorado.

Why This Council Exists

Vision 2030 calls for durable systems alignment so that opportunity for boys and young men of color becomes predictable rather than exceptional. The Policy Council exists to strengthen the relationships, analysis, and coordinated strategy required to move policy from intention to measurable impact.