

Joe Willard, Vice President, Policy



Joe Willard joined HopePHL™ in 2007 as Vice President for Policy. In this role, Joe has been instrumental in fostering transformative change for families with young children living in Philadelphia’s shelter system, leading to the creation of unique public-private sector collaborations like the Children’s Work Group and Building Early Links for Learning. In the past 15 years, he led 12+ successful campaigns for legislative and policy changes that enhanced supports for families, children and youth experiencing homelessness in Philadelphia and across Pennsylvania.

Most recently, Willard was associate manager for public policy at the United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania for four years and associate director at The Reinvestment Fund’s, Regional Workforce Partnership, for four years. He earned his master’s degree from Hunter College and his bachelor’s degree from Penn State University. In 2022 Joe’s work with HopePHL was recognized with our Mission Excellence award.