Relational Voter Organizing

PART 2



Passion is vital, but you've got to have a strategy.

WHY DO PEOPLE VOTE?



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Organizing is about relationships forming partnerships, building coalitions, developing networks—and using those relationships to bring people together around a common goal or cause. Organizing is about relationships forming partnerships, building coalitions, developing networks—and using those relationships to bring people together around a common goal or cause.

Volunteers and organizers use their own social networks to effect desired outcomes.

Don't sit this one out: ofa.bo/voter-plan

We reach more people

We reach more people More effective conversations

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Prioritize people who live in priority districts or states, who share your values, and who might not be planning on voting this year.



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Who would you send a holiday card to?

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Who chats with you after prayers or at the gym?

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Who chats with you after prayers or at the gym?

Who do you see on a regular basis?

Who would you send a holiday card to?

Who chats with you after prayers or at the gym?

Who do you see on a regular basis?

Who do you see less often, but still know and say hi to?

Friend mapping











Use OFA's priority districts and states as a reference

VISIT OFA.US/2018 TO FIND ALL OF OFA'S PRIORITY AREAS

Remember: this is about turning every ally and supporter into voters

Small talk and catch up

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Pivot to why you're callingto ask them to vote

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Explain why this year is so important to you

Small talk and catch up Pivot to why you're calling to ask them to vote

Explain why this year is so important to you

Focus on the details of their voting plan

Small talk and catch upPivot to why you're calling—
to ask them to voteExplain why this year is so
important to youFocus on the details of their voting planImportant: Follow-up and share resources

Think about which issues they care about
STEP 2: FIGURE OUT WHAT TO SAY

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Think about which issues will impact either of you **STEP 2: FIGURE OUT WHAT TO SAY**

Think about which issues they care about

Think about which issues will impact either of you

Think about what would motivate you to vote

EXAMPLE

"Jon, you know health care has been a really important issue for me and my family—it affects us directly with these pre-existing conditions. I know you don't usually get involved in politics, but will you promise me that you'll vote this year? I'm kind of counting on people like you to come out, so I can't not ask. You know?"

EXAMPLE

"Hey Alexis, what are you doing November 6? I don't know if you've seen what's been going on in D.C., but this year's election is going to be really important. I just need to ask you if you'll take 30 minutes to come out and vote this year. You know I wouldn't be asking if this wasn't important."

EXAMPLE

Hi Auntie Sarah,

I hope all is well! I'm challenging myself to help everyone in my network to vote in the midterm elections on Nov 6. If you need any info about when and where to go, you can get started at ofa.bo/voter-plan

Practice!

Take 10–15 minutes to pair off and practice what you would say and how you would say it to a potential voter in your network.

Give each other feedback and refine your ask.

When was the last time you updated your voter registration?

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Will you be in town on November 6 or will you need to prepare to vote beforehand?

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Will you vote early or on election day?

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Is your polling location close enough to walk or drive?

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Will you vote early or on election day?

Is your polling location close enough to walk or drive?

Do you plan to vote before or after work?

When was the last time you updated your voter registration?

Will you be in town on November 6 or will you need to prepare to vote beforehand?

Will you vote early or on election day?

Is your polling location close enough to walk or drive?

Do you plan to vote before or after work?

Who are you planning to bring with you to vote?

FOR ADDITIONAL PRACTICE

ofa.bo/bootcamp

Participating in democracy feels good.

Where to register to vote

Where to register to vote Where to verify your registration

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Find all of these resources linked in the Friend Mapping Guide at ofa.bo/friend-mapping

Best Practices

Stick with the medium they are used to

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Stick with the medium they are used to Keep track of those you're talking to Be sure to follow up Practice Help them make a plan for Election Day

Stick with the medium they are used to Keep track of those you're talking to Be sure to follow up Practice Help them make a plan for Election Day Make sure you ask for a commitment to vote "I quote Justice Louis Brandeis, in saying that the most important office in a democracy is the office of citizen. It's not president. It's not congressman, or senator, or governor. It's citizen. And each of us have a certain responsibility—you can't just sit back and complain—we gotta try to have an influence."

BARACK OBAMA