



SOULS TO THE POLLS!

VOTER REGISTRATION, EDUCATION, MOBILIZATION GET OUT THE VOTE!

Why Should We Get Out the Vote?

- The call to promote justice, compassion, and equality is one shared across many faiths. Voting and participating in civil society are key to both the integration and naturalization processes.
- When naturalized immigrants or refugees exercise their right to vote, they empower themselves to be full members of their new communities.
- The goal of a get out the vote campaign is to get as many people from our grassroots base to vote and assist those who are new voters in the voting process.

Souls to the Polls

- Calling on all churches, synagogues, temples, and mosques to establish a volunteer network within their congregations to Get Out the Vote.
- Find out when early voting is in your state and organize your congregation to vote early, organizing car pools after their weekly service. The more people who vote early the higher voter turn out will be.
- See North Carolina NAACP [Resources for Faith Communities](#)

Volunteer Canvassing to Knock on Doors and/or Staffing a Phone Bank

- The month before the election, contact your constituents to remind them to get ready to vote by reminding them when the election is and identifying where their polling location is. You can team up with a local organization to help with GOTV activities such as door-to-door visits, phone banking identified supporters, and direct mail and literature drops / door hangers.

Interfaith Events Calling on the Moral Responsibility to Vote

- In the week before the election promote the importance of voting through the public witness of interfaith vigils the week before the election. Join different faiths together to pray for access for all eligible voters, peaceful and honest elections processes, and no discrimination at the polls.
- Sign up participants for helping with Get Out the Vote activities. Pick a strategic public place in your city center and make sure to invite the press and promote the vigil through social media.
- Invite new citizen first time voters and have them tell their story about why voting is important to them.

Organize Car Pools and Ride Shares so that Everyone Can Have Access to Polls

- Plan in advance to offer rides to polling places by finding vans and volunteers to drive, and reach out to communities who might need help with transportation, especially first time voters, low-wage workers, stay at home parents, and elderly congregants who may not have access to transportation.
- Make announcements at religious services and hang up signs in offices and public places that encourage people who might need transportation help to contact a point person to set up a ride. Organize Souls to Polls rideshares and carpools for early voting opportunities after your weekly service.

Media, Radio and Social Media

- Create Facebook events for GOTV activities including volunteer canvassing/phone banking, vigils, carpools, etc. For larger events create a media advisory and send it to press contacts.
- Contact your local public radio or religious radio outlets to get out the story of faith communities promoting civic engagement and GOTV.
- Write an Opinion Editorial about the moral imperative to vote and strengthen our democracy through civic engagement.
- Work with naturalized immigrant voters to promote the vote via radio or television outlets in their own native language needed for your region such as Spanish, French, Somali, Nepali, Arabic, etc....



Poll Workers and Polling Monitors- Election Protection

- Poll Workers are the link between election administration—the laws, rules, and procedures that govern the election process—and the voters. They are the front-line staff of the democratic process who sit at the table, check rosters, and hand out ballots.
- Polling Monitors are responsible to make sure there is a fair voting process by monitoring poll workers and offering voters information about their rights without discrimination. Monitors assist people in finding their correct polling station so their vote will count.
- Monitors let voters know about the voter protection hotline and their options for getting assistance with voting rights, correct polling location and more. They can also conduct exit polling about voters' experiences casting their votes across the state to identify any significant successes or problems and record them for the next election. Resources on election protection can be found at <http://www.866ourvote.org>

Voter Education and Voter Mobilization

- Many people in the community struggle to get accurate information about which candidate or measure to vote for. Getting people the right resources through candidate guides that are non-profit friendly is critical. Go to <http://www.vote411.org> supported by League of Women Voters to get more information on your local election.
- Engage in candidate forums by coming prepared with questions on immigration and refugee issues. Bring community leaders from the immigrant and refugee community and help them learn the process of preparing and asking questions. Try and get interpretation for those who need it at your candidate forums.
- Organize an event in your community designed to educate the community on the different candidates and ballot measures.
- Integrate the moral responsibility and civic duty of voting into weekly sermons, messages or adult forums at your congregation.
- To help with turning out the Latino vote contact Mi Familia Vota: <http://www.mifamiliavota.org/>

All Non-Profit Get Out the Vote Work is Strictly Non- Partisan

- The Interfaith Immigration Coalition is made up of non-partisan, 501(c)3 organizations. This means that all GOTV work will not endorse parties or candidates, but we will continue to promote welcoming communities.
- See rules and guidelines for congregations during the election at this resource from [Alliance for Justice](#)

Questions or Support

- For any questions or technical support on making these activities a success please contact Rev. Noel Andersen at ndandersen@cwsglobal.org or 510-334-0431.