



Harnessing the Power of Your Food Bank to Get Out The Vote!

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Why Voter Registration?

What would our world look like if everyone who could vote, did vote?



Why Voter Registration?

Voter registration is the first step to becoming an engaged voter, whether you're a newly eligible voter registering for the first time or simply need to update your registration.



Why You?

- You are trusted and respected in the community
- You have frequent face-to-face contact with clients and constituents



What Exactly
Are We Asking?

**Register people to
vote!**



7 Principles of Agency Based Voter Registration

- **Planning ahead**
- **When to do it**
- **Where to do it**
- **Know the rules**
- **Help voters complete the form**
- **Deal with special circumstances**
- **Stay Nonpartisan**



Planning Ahead

- **Deciding when and where**
- **Who's in charge?**
- **Gaining buy-in**



When to do it

The best time to encourage individuals to register to vote is in the month leading up to the registration deadline.

September



Where to do it

- **At your Food Bank**
- **At your Member Agencies**
- **At events**
- **In high traffic areas of your community**



Pick Up Lines

- **“Have you moved recently?”**
- **“Have you changed your name?”**
- **“Have you ever voted?”**



Know the Rules

Registration Deadline is in October

You may register to vote if you meet ALL of the following criteria:

- **A citizen of the United States**
- **A resident of California**
- **At least 18 years of age as of the day of the next election**
- **Not in prison or on parole for the conviction of a felony**
- **Not declared to be mentally incompetent by a court**



National Voter Registration Day

2015: September 22nd

2016: September 27th



Before Filling the Form

- **Verify that they are eligible to vote.**
- **Ask them if they want your help to fill the form for them.**
 - **NOTE: Circulators may NOT fill in the blanks on the forms UNLESS the citizen registering to vote asks for that help.**
 - **If they do ask for help, it is your duty to fill out the form in its entirety and *exactly* as the citizen requests.**



Stay Nonpartisan

- **Nonprofit staff or volunteers may not suggest what candidate to support or what party to join.**
- **When answering questions about candidates and parties, volunteers and staff may refer people to other sources, such as a local newspaper or other nonpartisan voter guide.**
- **Nonprofits are free to register all the people they serve, including staff, volunteers and the local community, regardless of perceptions that certain communities vote a certain way. Nonprofits may also target underserved areas with a history of lower voter participation.**



What's Missing?

Get Out the Vote!



Can I get your number?

- **Mid October-Election Day**
- **Voter Education**
- **Voter Mobilization**



Let's Get Out the Vote

- Principles of GOTV
 - Make it Personal
 - Get Voters the Help They Need
 - Turn up the (Nonpartisan) Volume



Let's Get Out the Vote

- How can you help your clients?
 - **Know the answers to basic election questions**
 - **When providing services, ask people if they plan on voting and if they need help**
 - **From now to the election, remind every phone caller to vote on November 3rd (2015) / November 8th (2016)**



Let's Get Out the Vote

- Create Visibility
 - Put up signs and make announcements reminding people:
November 3rd is Voting Day!



Let's Get Out the Vote

- On Election Day:
 - **Ask everyone you encounter if they've voted or need help voting**
 - **Put up Vote Today signs**
 - **Have a party!**



Questions? Ideas?

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