

# Volunteer Opportunities for the Precinct Team

## Organize the Precinct

- Be a block captain and keep in touch with the neighbors on your street
- Research local sites to hold Precinct or Ward meetings ((libraries, community centers, etc)
- Plan a Precinct meeting agenda. Develop discussion topics for future Precinct meetings
- Build the precinct plan with goals and monthly benchmarks of progress
- Brainstorm and plan Precinct social events: BBQ, pot luck, movie night, picnic, service projects. These will help bring people together, talk about common values, network, and help engage infrequent voters.
- Write and publish the precinct meeting minutes. Keep a Precinct Journal.
- Set up contact lists for the precinct team (phone #'s, addresses, email's)
- Offer to drive others/car pool to precinct meetings
- Obtain political yard signs to offer as you canvass, like "Martin Heinrich for Senate"
- Call people for follow-up – notify of precinct meetings, events, etc.
- Set up and manage a Ward Web Site, Facebook page or Twitter / Instagram account
- Help set up a Precinct or Ward picnic or pot luck event to meet local Democrats
- Help with a fundraiser for your Precinct, the County Party or Democratic candidates.
- Recruit local business to donate items to raffle at fundraisers.

## Influence the community and your representatives

- Volunteer to periodically write a letter to the editor –the editorial page is the 2<sup>nd</sup> most widely read section of the paper.
- Share with your neighbors the alternatives to corporate news sources that convey more of the facts and are not slanted to the right. KABQ 1350AM, Progress Now NM, MSNBC TV, Thinkprogress.org, Joe Monahan's NM blog, Truthout.org, Pod Save America, Alternet.org...
- Spread the Democratic Platform <http://www.dpnm-sparc.org/nm-platform.html>
- Write [Resolutions](#) that could become planks to the next State Party platform.
- Call your Senator or Representative about issues of concern - to influence their vote. U.S. Capitol Switchboard is (202) 224-3121. NM Legislature (during session only) 505-983-4300
- Help with outreach to local representatives. Arrange a town hall meeting to meet and question your State Legislative Representative or Senator, City Councilor or County Commissioner.

## Increase Democratic voter registration

- Help with voter registration (getting trained and certified takes about an hour)
- Visit local high schools and register the 18-year olds to vote
- Monitor county registration rolls to ensure registered voters appear on the rolls. Follow up with county clerk if they do not.
- Canvass or call the homes with no registered voters, to find Democrats who need to register. This helps build the relationship – you are providing a service they value.

## Canvass your Precinct

- Be a canvasser. Can start with door-to-door voter registration as Canvassing 101 training
- Be a trainer for other canvassers. Use the MiniVAN [smart phone App](#)
- Canvass all Democrats in the Precinct to find other volunteers, kindred souls and update the voter database (Votebuilder.com)
- Get trained in the on-line voter database and do data entry after canvasses.
- Use Votebuilder to locate the irregular voters. Work with them to convince them to vote in the upcoming election. Offer them absentee or early voting.
- Use Votebuilder to uncover the single women voters/potential voters. Single women have the greatest capability of increasing Democratic margins. They vote in low percentages, but they overwhelmingly vote for Democrats when they do vote.

## Prepare for the next Election

- Get trained as a poll watcher, poll worker or Precinct Election judge
- Find out who may want to vote by absentee ballot.
- Find out who may need help getting to the polls. Prepare transportation volunteers.
- Volunteer to run for office! City Council, State Representative, School Board, etc.
- Get further training as a Democratic activist by attending the on-line teleconference training available at [www.DemocracyforAmerica.com](http://www.DemocracyforAmerica.com)