

## **Nonprofits Vote 2016 Campaign** *Background and RFP for Participating Agencies*

### **Background**

The Nonprofits Vote 2016 Campaign is a nonpartisan initiative of Nonprofit VOTE. Forefront has been chosen as the state partner to support and evaluate the role of nonprofit service providers doing voter engagement in Illinois. Its goal is to increase the capacity of service providers to do voter engagement work and improve models for nonprofits to register and engage voters in the course of ongoing activities. The initiative will highlight the value of nonprofits conducting voter participation with their constituents and community through evaluation data and case studies.

### **Participants in the 2016 initiative will receive:**

- A civic engagement grant (\$1,000) and voter engagement materials.
- Training and support for conducting voter registration and voter pledge activities and other voter engagement for their staff and nonprofit.
- Resources and tools for a successful voter registration and pledge to vote program.
- Opportunities for peer learning in Illinois or your locality.
- Evaluation and analysis for your voter engagement activities.

### **Participants are asked to:**

1. Agree to register to vote or sign a pledge to vote with at least 250 people you serve at your agency – with at least half the contacts being voter registrations.
2. Designate a staff coordinator to manage the effort and act as a contact to your state partner for the 2016 program.
3. Ensure opportunities for training of staff engaged in voter engagement activities.
4. Track the names and addresses of people you contacted for follow up and evaluation and send the data to Forefront on a weekly basis.
5. Participate in National Voter Registration Day on September 27th, 2016.
6. Participate in 4 monthly cohort calls between July and October with other participating agencies.

All efforts related to the Nonprofits Vote 2016 Campaign must be conducted on a nonpartisan basis. Nonprofit Votes Participants may not directly or indirectly support or oppose any candidate for public office.

### **2016 Calendar**

Participant agencies respond to Request for Proposal: **Deadline May 30<sup>th</sup>**.

Sign partnership agreement/receive stipend: Deadline June 17<sup>th</sup>.

Planning and staff recruitment: May – mid-August

Voter engagement contacts made: Mid-August – October VR deadline

Follow up and GOTV activities: October – Election Day

Voter file match: February – April 2017

### **For More Information:**

*Alison Leipsiger, Director of Policy and Advocacy, [aleipsiger@myforefront.org](mailto:aleipsiger@myforefront.org); 312-327-8912*

**To Apply:**

**Deadline: MONDAY, MAY 30<sup>th</sup>**

Please send a voter engagement plan (1-2 pages) to Forefront ([aleipsiger@myforefront.org](mailto:aleipsiger@myforefront.org)) briefly answering the following questions and providing your contact information below:

1. Description of your organization, including estimated number and demographic information of population served.
2. Description of how voter engagement efforts support your mission, and brief overview of any past voter engagement activities.
3. How will you incorporate voter engagement into your existing organizational structure?
4. A summary of 2016 voter engagement goals and activities, including:
  - a. How many voters will you register? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. How many pledge to vote cards will you collect? \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. What activities does your organization plan to do?
  - d. What staff will be involved?
  - e. What will be your process for sending data to Forefront?
  - f. How will you ensure staff buy-in?
4. What training and other support do you need from Forefront or other partners?

**Deadline: MONDAY, MAY 30<sup>th</sup>**

**For More Information:**

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myforefront.org

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Organization Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**We are a 501(c)(3) organization. Our EIN #**  
**is** \_\_\_\_\_

If you have a separate fiscal sponsor, please give their name and EIN# here:

**Fiscal Sponsor?**

\_\_\_\_\_

*Note on Confidentiality:* This is a voluntary opt-in citizenship activity. People are voluntarily asked to register to vote or to sign a pledge to vote in the general election. All contact information is kept fully confidential.

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