

WELCOME!

Say hello in chat! Where are you joining us from?



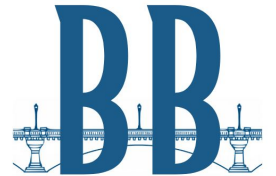
BUILDING BRIDGES FOR AMERICA

How to Be Politically Active

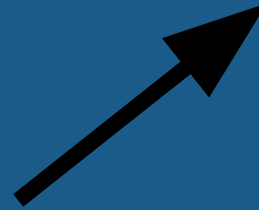
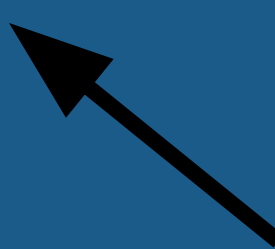
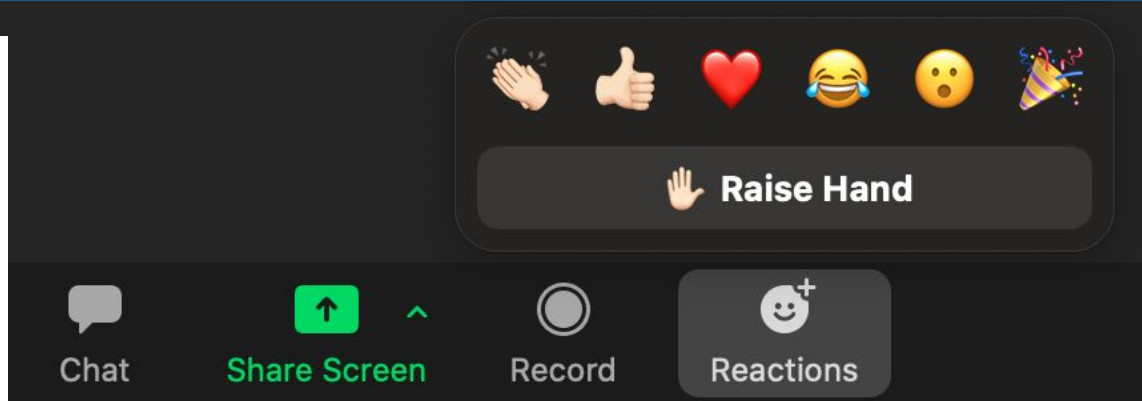
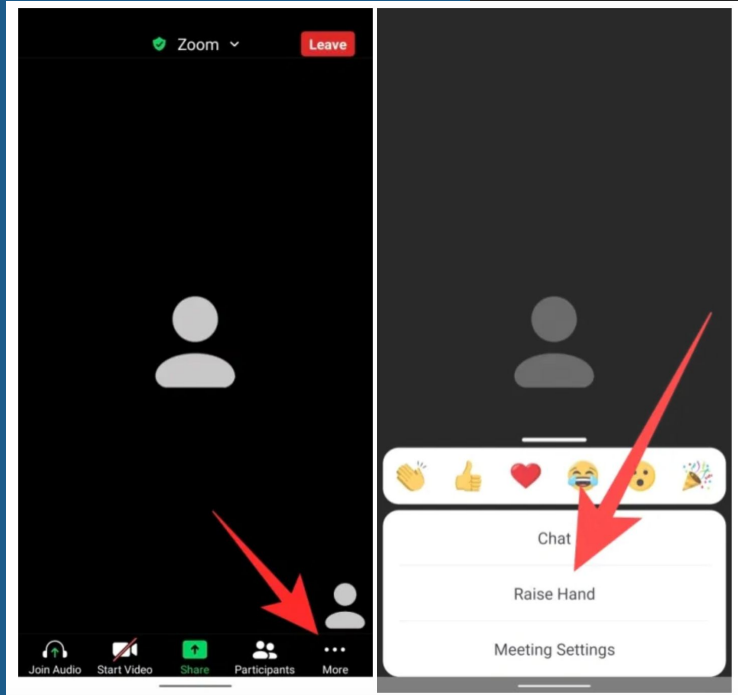
List, Listen to, and Engage Your Network

Friendly Norms

- Please keep yourself muted unless you are speaking
- Post questions in the chat
- There will be a Q & A at the end
- Meeting will be 1-hour
- Thank you for joining us!



Raising Hand on a Computer/Tablet





Caz Margenau
she/her



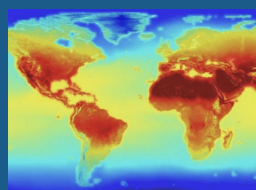
South Bend, IN



Ace/Aro



Single mom



Climate Research Administrator



Campaign Manager for
South Bend Common
Councilwoman
Rachel Tomas Morgan
2023



Operations and
Outreach for
Paul Steury IN2
2022



Grassroots
organizer for IN2
Kitchen Cabinet
2022-now



State Lead,
Colorado for Pete
Buttigieg
2019-2020



Digital Marketing
Jeni Arndt for Mayor
of Fort Collins, CO
2021



Colorado lead for
Joe Biden Facebook
Program, 2020



Co-founder and co-Director of
Leadership Development
Building Bridges for America
2020-now

BUILDING BRIDGES FOR AMERICA

Our Mission

Building Bridges mobilizes and empowers networks of relational grassroots organizers to create an equitable and informed electorate.

Our Values

We recognize that the effort adds value, regardless of the result.

We are committed to the development of a broad and inclusive coalition.

We conduct our actions and are informed by the legacy of Pete Buttigieg's 2020 Campaign's Rules of the Road.

Our Vision

A just and equitable democracy, safeguarded by an informed and engaged electorate, where everyone is valued and belongs.

Respect Belonging Truth Teamwork Boldness Responsibility Substance Discipline Excellence Joy





Live Online on Thursdays

BUILDING BRIDGES FOR AMERICA



Political Organizing Classes

8 free and accessible
courses and workbooks
for volunteers.



- *Civics 101*
- *Civics for Change*



- *Say This, Not That...*
- *Grassroots Organizing for Change*
- *Local Leaders and Precinct Chairs*



- *How to Be Politically Active*
- *Conversations that Break Through*
- *Pop the Disinformation Bubble*



Maximize your volunteer effort.

Summer Session II
Every Thursday
8/3 to 9/21

2023 Get Out the Vote
Every Thursday
10/12 to 11/2

2024 Session I
Every Thursday
1/18 to 2/29

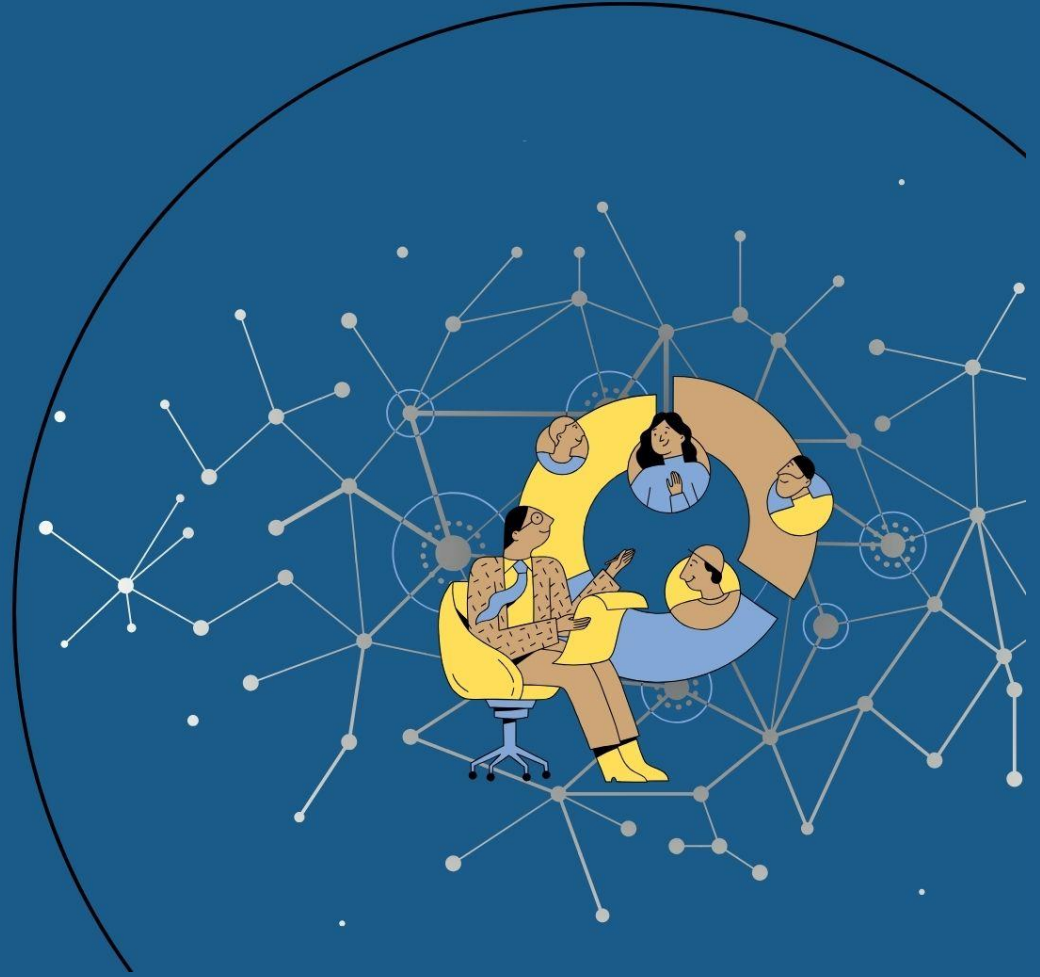
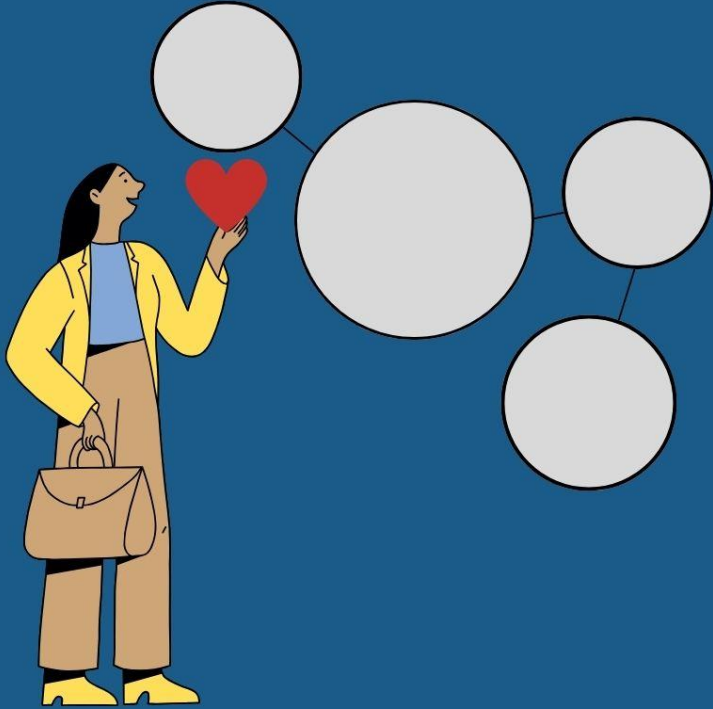
2024 Session II
Every Thursday
3/21 to 5/9

2024 Session III
Every Thursday (skip 7/4)
5/30 to 7/25

TRIPLE



You know people that a campaign
has not been able to reach.



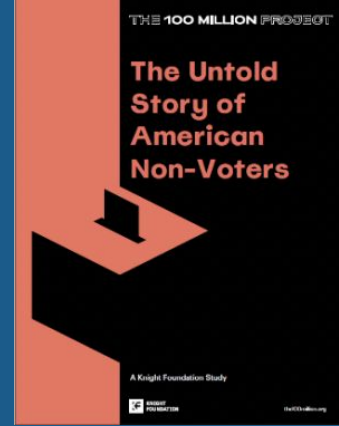
You are the one that can reach them.
Your voice carries a lot of weight.
You can help them past their barriers to voting.



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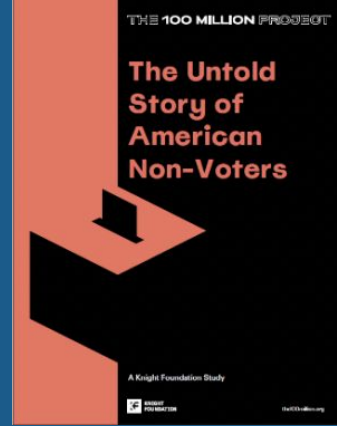


What are some common barriers to voting?



What are some common barriers to voting?

- Not knowing there is an election.
- Not knowing any of the candidates.
- Feel uninformed and not taking the time to learn.
- Not feeling that politics matters in their life.
- Feel their vote will not count.
- Not knowing how to vote.



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Today you will learn to:

**TELL
YOUR STORY**

Be ready to articulate why you care.

Today you will learn to:

YOUR STORY

Today you will learn to:

LIST YOUR NETWORK

Be organized and include everyone.

Today you will learn to:

ACTIVELY
LISTEN

Be open and build trust.

Today you will learn to:

LISTEN

Today you will learn to:

ENGAGE

Welcome others to join you.

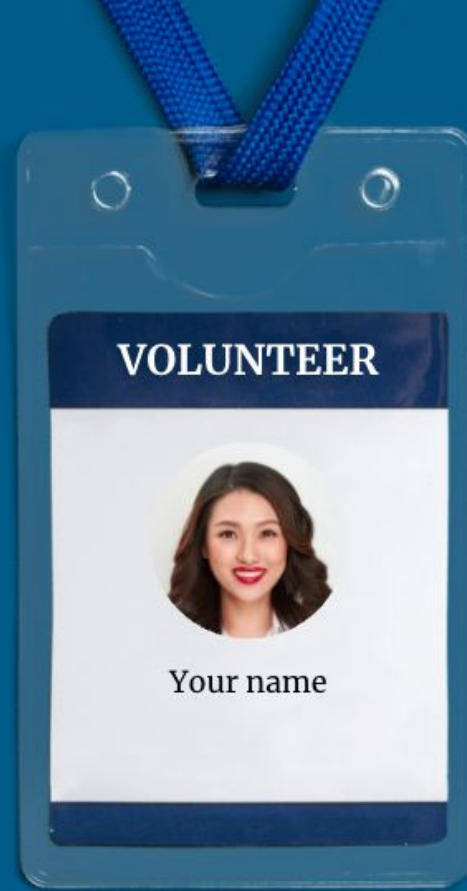
Today you will learn to:

1. Tell your story
2. List your network
3. Actively listen
4. Engage others to join you

Permission granted

You are an organizer.

Your job is to organize
the people you know.



**TELL
YOUR STORY**

Self Reflection

- Step ① What are your core values?
- Step ② Recall a time that you felt one of your values.
- Step ③ Share how that values is reflected in a campaign or cause.
- Step ④ Why is it important to you that we act and get involved now.



What are values?

What you value

What is important

Values \neq Morals
Values \neq Issues or Policy

We share values.

We may not interpret them exactly the same, but the gut feeling is the same.

Example: Freedom



What are values?

Issue

Economic inequality

Policy

Raising the minimum wage

Values

Justice

Equity

Freedom

Compassion

Resilience

What are values?



Issue

Economic inequality

Policy

Raising the minimum wage

Values

Justice

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DIG DOWN

How does an issue make you feel?

Why do you feel that way?

“It’s not fair!”
Justice, equity

“It is my right!”
Freedom

“We need to care!”
Compassion


“Give people a chance!”
Resilience


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FOR
AMERICA



Grace	Justice	Respect	Leadership
Patience	Appreciation	Joy	Renewal
Forgiveness	Willingness	Forgiveness	Home
Self-Respect	Family	Goodness	Contentment
Service	Freedom	Involvement	Friendship
Reciprocity	Security	Wisdom	Courage
Enjoyment	Loyalty	Beauty	Balance
Entrepreneurship	Intelligence	Caring	Compassion
Happiness	Connection	Personal	Fitness
Harmony	Creativity	Development	Professionalism
Peace	Humanity	Teamwork	Diversity
Relationships	Success	Communication	Generosity
Knowledge	Belonging	Learning	Adventure
Patience	Truth	Excellence	Kindness
Growth	Resilience	Innovation	Clarity
Prosperity	Integrity	Spiritualism	Invention
Wellness	Love	Strength	Equity
Finances	Openness	Power	Perseverance
Gratitude	Transparency	Cooperation	Patriotism


Need more help finding your words?

[WHO WE ARE](#)[WHERE WE STAND](#)[TAKE ACTION](#)[VOTE](#)[SHOP](#)[DONATE ↗](#)[EN ESPAÑOL](#)



WHERE WE STAND

Democrats believe that the economy should work for everyone, health care is a right, our diversity is our strength, and democracy is worth defending.



Party platform ↗

The Democratic Party writes and adopts a new party platform at each Democratic National Convention to detail our shared Democratic values and policy priorities.

Sharing Your Story

Use the common language of personal stories to connect, even with people who disagree with you.

We share: Values. Empathy for people we know. Personal stories.

We do not share: Morality. Logic. Interpretation of facts.

You cannot use these differences to make a connection.

Speak to what is most important to you by sharing a story about how an issue affects you or someone you love.

DO NOT USE:
FACTS
LOGIC
MORALITY

USE:
YOUR VALUES
YOUR STORY



I feel _____*[say it!]*_____

because _____*[core value]*_____ is important to me

and _____*[share a time you felt this core value]*_____.

That is why I support____*[group, candidate, campaign]*_____

I am ____*[action you are taking]*____. Will you join me?

LIST YOUR NETWORK

ORGANIZE YOUR NETWORK

Start making a list of people you know.

Make a plan to talk to each person.

Track who you talk to, how they respond.

Make a plan to reach out to them again.



Who is the last adult person you spoke with?

In the chat:

Type your relationship to that person.

Making Your List

USE THE PROMPTS BELOW TO HELP YOU
START TO LIST YOUR NETWORK

YOUR NETWORK TRACKER

The Power of Your List

1. Organized
2. Inclusive
3. Your power
4. This is data

[illegible]

ACTIVELY

LISTEN

Conversation Style

Discussion

Debate

Dialogue

- Open-minded & curious
- Focused on listening
- Ask questions so you can understand

STARTING THE CONVERSATION

Stay open and listen.

You may have to fight your instinct to push back or defend.

No matter what they say, be curious and respond with
“Tell me more about that.”



ACTIVE LISTENING GUIDE

THE BEST WAY TO CONNECT AND BE HEARD IS FIRST TO ACTIVELY LISTEN.

AN EFFECTIVE ORGANIZER'S GREATEST SKILL IS TO LISTEN. TO BE HEARD AND UNDERSTOOD FIRST YOU NEED TO OPEN THE DOOR OF UNDERSTANDING. PRACTICE THESE BASIC HABITS AND SKILLS TO SHOW YOU ARE LISTENING AND WATCH AS THE CONVERSATIONS YOU HAVE GROW DEEPER.

AVOID DISTRACTION

Set your intention to listening.
No daydreaming or multi-tasking.
Remove things, persons or animals that might keep you from paying attention.

DO NOT INTERRUPT

Allow the other person to finish what they are saying.

REFLECT, PARAPHRASE OR CLARIFY

Repeat back what you have heard
"It sounds to me like you are saying..."

USE DOOR OPENERS

Keep them engaged and talking
"Tell me more"
"That's interesting"

PAY ATTENTION

Do not use this time to prepare for a rebuttal. Ignore the divides and listen for the connections.

DO NOT ARGUE

"I can tell you are very upset/frustrated""I know that it has been hard for you to change gears"

ACTIVE LISTENING GUIDE

REFLECT AMBIVALENCE

"So, on the one hand you want ___ and on the other you don't think you can ___"

LOOK FOR COMMON GROUND

"Where do you think we could find common ground?"
"We agree on this, what else do we agree on?"

EXPRESS YOUR ATTENTION

Words and phrases like "Oh", "I see", "uh huh" and "hmm" show that you are listening.

CREATE DISSONANCE

"Tell me (describe to me) what your feeling are on ____"
"Can you tell me what is keeping you from supporting ___?"

SHOW EMPATHY FOR THEIR FEELINGS

"I am hearing you say that you are frustrated because ____"

WRAP UP

"Thank you for talking with me."
"I appreciate your opinion and understand your concerns."



ENGAGE

SHARE YOUR STORY

WELCOME OTHERS TO JOIN YOU

I feel _____*fired up*_____

because _____*mental healthcare*_____ is important to me

and _____*our mayor stepped up and funded the mental health center after Indiana Republicans shut it down*_____.

That is why I support____*Mayor Mueller for re-election*____

I am _____*going to vote on Saturday*____. Will you join me?

ENCOUNTERING TENSION

Fight your instinct to defend.

Ask them, “Tell me more” to get them thinking and feeling for themselves.

Do not use facts or logic or morals.

The subject of the story should be you or someone they know.

Give yourself permission to walk away.



AVOID FATIGUE

**Just till the soil, plant a seed,
and touch on it over time.**

**Limit political talk to 20 minutes
at a time.**



BUILDING BRIDGES
FOR
AMERICA



Triple Your Vote

Democracy is for everyone. This means every person is seen and heard. The people we have not been able to reach in our campaign are your family members, your friends, your classmates and co-workers, your neighbors. We need you to tell them that their vote matters.



Self Reflection

Take a minute to think and feel in your own words. Dig down, get personal:

Why does voting matter to you?
What about the campaign resonates with you?



Jot down a list

Make a list of people you know. If you need help, start with the last person you talked to. Then add someone you think will vote. And then someone who will likely not vote.

Talk with them

Make a plan to bring up in conversation:
"Do you know who you are voting for in the upcoming election?"



Listen

No matter how the person responds, be curious and want to hear more. Say "Tell me more about that" to create space for them to be heard and share how they feel.

Share your why

Share why you feel voting is important and why you support the campaign.



Ask them to vote

"It matters to me that you vote."
"Will you make a plan to vote?"

Follow Up

"Did you get your ballot?"
"Did you vote yet?"
"Do you need a ride to the polls?"



LEARN MORE AT [BUILDINGBRIDGESFORAMERICA.COM](https://buildingbridgesforamerica.com)

Vote. And commit to getting 3 more people to vote.



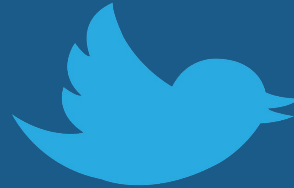
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share it with others.



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Learn more at
www.buildingbridgesforamerica.com

Thank you for joining us.