

HOW TO: HOST YOUR MEET & GREET

Once you've recruited your team of 3-5 leaders to launch your chapter, you'll want to organize a Meet, Greet, & Petition Day. The purpose is to get to know each other, and then hit the streets with clipboards to do some petitioning and engage your community. Use our sample meet and greet agenda here.

Sample Agenda for your chapter's first Meet/Greet & Petition Day

Before hitting the streets to petition, it's important for the members of the team to get to know each other and get on the same page about what your chapter is doing. This is a great opportunity for team-building, and is also a perfect chance to practice the petitioning pitch with each other. Even better that it can be over tea or coffee!

5 MINUTES: INTRODUCTIONS:

Say your name, what you do when you're not volunteering with Represent.Us, and your favorite ice cream flavor.

5 MINUTES: OVERVIEW OF REPRESENT.US STRATEGY AND YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER

You can use the sample script below to introduce folks to the campaign in general and what your chapter will be doing in your town:



The long term goal of Represent.Us is to pass Anti-Corruption reform nationally. We know this reform isn't going to come from Congress. So, our strategy is to build up momentum by passing anti-corruption reform at the local level in cities and states across the country.



Over 40 volunteer-led chapters across the country are working to build political momentum and support for anti-corruption reform by passing resolutions in their home towns, cities, and states. The process for passing these nonbinding resolutions is very clear and Represent.Us will provide us with a lot of resources to help us along the way.

These resolutions call on the state and federal government to pass anti-corruption reform. We've also found the process of passing resolutions to serve as a great vehicle for building relationships with local elected officials and partner organizations as well as growing public support for the campaign.

Does anyone have any questions?



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5 MINUTES/PERSON: STORY OF SELF:

Get to know each other by talking a little bit about why you're interested in this issue. Go around and have every person talk about why they are here today. Use the following questions for guidance, but tell your story in whatever way you choose.

- » What drew you to the issue of political corruption?
- » Have you done any other political work before?
- » Are there other factors in your life that have pushed you to be more involved in this issue?
- » Why did you decide to get involved, and what do you hope to accomplish?

2 MINUTES/ WHAT DO REPRESENT.US CHAPTERS FOCUS ON?

- 1) Supporting the national campaign
 - » Phone banking voters to pass and defend anti-corruption reform
 - » Participating in Representation Day, our national day of action
- 2) Building an anti-corruption movement locally
 - » Passing anti-corruption resolutions
 - » Partnering with local organizations to pass and defend binding reforms

3 MINUTES/ RESOURCES AND SUPPORT FROM REPRESENT.US HQ

- » Once monthly chapter leader calls
- » Facebook forum to share ideas and best practices with other chapters
- » Online trainings and support
- » Promotional materials
- » A page on the Represent.Us website for your chapter

- » Access to Represent.Us petition signers in your area
- » Database infrastructure to support local organizing and public engagement
- » An email address for your chapter
- » A branded, public facebook group for your chapter (HQ will create for you)
- » Sample meeting agendas
- » Example local resolution strategy chart

10 MINUTES: ROLES WITHIN YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER:

Review the list of suggested chapter leadership roles below. Let them know what qualifications each position has, what responsibilities come under each, what the estimated weekly time commitment is, and ask if there are any that sound particularly interesting to them.

You can find the full descriptions of the roles at <http://volunteer.represent.us/roles>



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Chapter Leader: The Chapter Leader is responsible for pushing the chapter forward, developing meeting agendas, and working directly with staff at headquarters to make sure the chapter is supporting Represent.Us' national policy, strategies and objectives.

Logistics Coordinator: This person supports the chapter by reserving spaces for regular chapter meetings and sending out email invitations and reminders to area Represent.Us supporters.

Membership Coordinator: The Membership Coordinator helps grow and maintain the chapter's membership by building relationships with new volunteer signups to get them excited about joining the chapter.

Press Coordinator: This person serves as the chapter's media spokesperson, by drafting and sending press releases for local chapter events.

5 MINUTES PLANNING FOR YOUR RESOLUTION KICK-OFF MEETING:

The Resolution Kick-Off Meeting is your chapter's public launch. You'll want to decide on a time, date and location for the meeting.

Be sure to plan it at least 2 weeks out and email grassroots@represent.us to let us know. We'll send you a chapter starter kit in the mail, share a phonebanking list of local Represent.Us supporters to invite as well as a local press list to contact about your kick-off.

- » Assign responsibilities leading up to the Resolution Kick-Off meeting.
- » Who will confirm the location for the meeting?
- » Who will phonebank the local Represent.Us supporter list? When?

- » Who will draft and send a press release to local media?
- » Who will lead the presentation at the meeting?

10 MINUTES: PETITIONING ROLE PLAY

Split into pairs and practice our petitioning pitch. Take turns being the petitioner and the passerby.

30 MINUTES - 1 HOUR: PETITIONING

Getting people to sign-up to join the Represent.Us campaign is crucial for growing our national network and your local chapter. When someone signs up to join the campaign you can also recruit them to join your local chapter.

Finish your coffee, and hit the streets with your clipboards and petitions!



HOW TO: TALK ABOUT REPRESENT.US

Below is a well-tested “pitch” to describe Represent.U.s and our mission. You can use it when petitioning or hosting a table in public to recruit new members. You can also use the “pitch” when talking with friends or family about the campaign.

Initial Hooks

“Hi, want to get big money out of politics?”

“Hi, can I tell you about our campaign to stop money from corrupting our elections and politics?”

“Hi, do you agree that big money is corrupting American/City/State/Local politics?”

“Hi, want to help stop government corruption?”

“Hi, want to protect [CITY] from corruption?”

Pitch

Represent.U.s is a national campaign that brings conservatives and progressives together to fix America’s corrupt political system.

We’re going around Congress by passing Anti-Corruption Acts in cities and states. These laws protect our local communities from corruption and build momentum for national reform.

Will you add your name in support of the American Anti-Corruption Act?

Volunteer Ask:

If you’d like to join our local chapter, just check off the “I want to volunteer” box on the sign-up sheet and we’ll let you know when our next meeting is. Thank you.



WHAT TO BRING PETITIONING:

- This Action Handbook
- 2 or 3 pens
- Wear a Represent.U.s sticker or pin.*
- A clipboard, folder, or something hard and portable as a writing surface.
- Represent.U.s postcards or stickers to give away.*

*Email us at grassroots@represent.us and we’ll send you some stickers and postcards in the mail

Ways to Sign Up Represent.us Members

Link to petition/member sign-up online <http://volunteer.represent.us>

Printable hard copy sign-up sheets <http://volunteer.represent.us/petition>



I SUPPORT THE AMERICAN ANTI-CORRUPTION ACT

I want to join Represent.Us, the campaign to stop political bribery, end secret money, and fix our broken elections.
I also call on cities and states across the country to pass Anti-Corruption Acts.

PRINT NAME	ZIP	I WANT TO VOLUNTEER Take action locally <input type="radio"/> Start a chapter <input type="radio"/>
EMAIL	PHONE	

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EMAIL	PHONE	

Please send all supporter information to Represent.Us. Use one of these options and keep a copy for yourself.

SCAN THE PAGE
AND EMAIL IT TO:
grassroots@represent.us

OR

FAX TO:
(413) 585-8110

OR

MAIL A HARD COPY TO:
Represent.Us
PO Box 60008
Florence, MA 01062

ORGANIZER	EMAIL
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