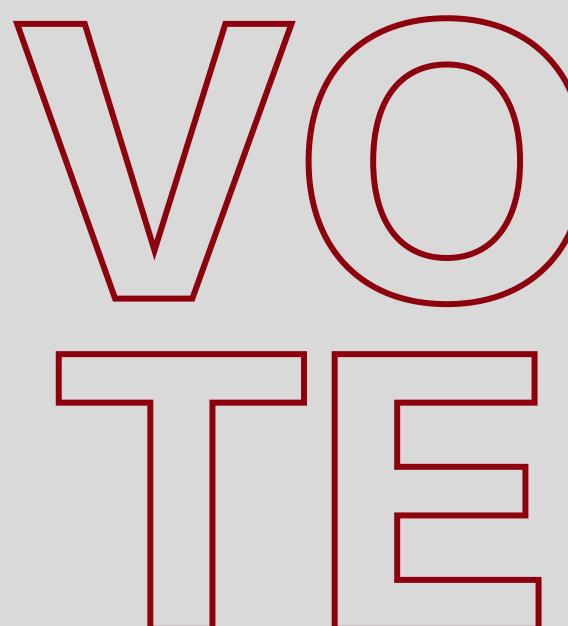


# WHY VOTE? CAMPAIGN GUIDE





Campaign produced by Arielle Beisel, MSW student intern with SPEAK (Social Policy Education, Advocacy, & Knowledge)

### Contributors:

SPEAK gratefully acknowledges the support of Simmons Sisters Fund at Texas Women's Foundation

Thank you to Voting is Social Work (The National Social Work Voter Mobilization Campaign). Thank you for your collaboration and contributions of information and materials. Much of this campaign was put together with the materials provided at Votingissocialwork.org.

Thank you to MSWSN leadership and members for their collaboration and assistance in disseminating this campaign.

Thank you to Disability Rights Florida for sharing their expertise and time to make this campaign more inclusive and accessible.

Thank you to the University of Connecticut and its school of social work for housing the Why Vote? Campaign materials and giving it a space to be easily utilized by social workers across the country.

# A NOTE FROM THE CREATORS

Thank you for taking this step to ignite your commitment to civic engagement. Social workers' voices are greatly needed in politics and we hope that this campaign can be a part of your involvement in America's political system. This campaign will give you and your peers all that you need to engage with others around the importance of voting and will help to prepare you as you host your first, of hopefully many, non-partisan voter registration drives on your college campus! Yay!

This campaign was designed to give you guidance around hosting a non-partisan voter registration drive and was prepared with all the resources and materials that you will need. This is a free tool! Please, use all of the materials and pass the campaign toolkit on to your peers so they can jump in as well! We hope that this campaign can be used by social work students across the country, to help amplify the voice of social work in the political system. We also want this campaign to empower communities across the country, to use their voice through their vote.

We hope that through hosting this campaign on your campus, that you will gain a sense of political efficacy. As a social worker, you have the skills and knowledge to do the work - all it takes is a little courage to step in. If you need more support or ideas, please visit our website at votingissocialwork.org! We have many resources and means of support to help you in your journey.

Let's get started! Happy campaigning!

Sincerely, Voting is Social Work

# SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

### 01

Please do not change the materials included in this campaign unless you are adding your school's logo to the materials.

### 02

If you are not a social worker or social work student, feel free to adjust the campaign to meet your profession's needs. You don't need to use all the materials or complete everything included in the campaign calendar. Feel free to use what you can. We are hopeful that you can still use the campaign and put on your own non-partisan voter registration campaign.

### 03

When using campaign materials on your social media accounts, please be sure to tag @votingissocialwork & @speak\_policy\_advocacy in your captions.

### 04

Review the campaign guide and materials before you start. Don't feel pressured to complete all the suggested events and activities. Look ahead and choose the activities and events that interest you and your group.

### 05

When posting to social media, please use alt-text or provide a short description of the post to assist those who use screenreaders.

### 06

Do some research on the ways that voter suppression impacts different populations and consider inviting organizations on your campus that represent those groups' interests, to participate with you and your group in the campaign. The more the merrier.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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**Additional Resources** 

# INTRODUCTION TO THE CAMPAIGN

This campaign is meant to be an 8-week advocacy project for social work students around why voting matters. This campaign is designed to assist you every step of the way and to help you prepare for the final aspect of the campaign: hosting of a non-partisan voter registration drive.

By this point, you've opened the campaign guide. Read through it to get a sense of what's involved in the campaign. You will see below that the campaign guide is organized into weekly modules and includes a copy of the calendar for that week. Additionally, this guide provides visual references to the materials needed for the activities of that week. To find the accompanying materials, go back to the zip file that you downloaded from Voting is Social Work's website, and open the corresponding week in the campaign materials folder. The social media posts for each week are organized into series. Simply pick a few of the posts from that week's social media series to post to your social media platforms throughout the week. When in doubt, refer back to the campaign zip file. You will find everything you'll need in there.

By the end of the campaign, you will be ready to host your first non-partisan voter registration campaign! We are excited for you to make a difference on your campus and empower your peers by registering others to vote!

Plan your social work student network meeting to discuss the campaign, fill in the volunteer sign up sheets, get permission from your school to host a non-partisan voter registration drive on campus, and be sure to educate yourself on your states' laws around how to register others to vote!



CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

TUESDAY

MONDAY

SUNDAY

process easier registration Order your **Badges** to make the Vot-ER

# WEDNESDAY

voter registration drive as registration forms to the homes of online students who don't leave the house, can your out of town group members register their neighbors, making the campaign and falk to your group about Can you get a multi-lingual inclusive as possible translator, can you bring

(Fill in Volunteer Sign Up Sheet &

meeting

familiarize yourselves with

campaign materials)

work student network

drive during a social

Discuss the campaign

& voter registration

### NOTES

registration process in rights in your state as Be sure to educate yourself on voting well as the voter your state

(Fill out the State Specific Voter Registration Information page)



# SATURDAY

**SET THE DATE for the** Get permission from drive on campus and school leadership to nost a non-partisan voter registration voter registration



# THURSDAY

FRIDAY



### WEEK 1 MATERIALS



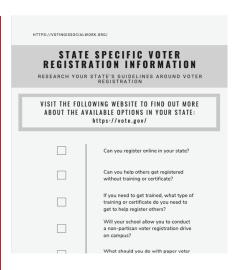
State Specific Voter Registration Information Form

Volunteer Sign Up Sheet

Vot-ER Badge







### WHY VOTE? CAMPA VOLUNTEER SIGN UP S

	FULL NAME *	PHONE *
1		EMAIL
	FULL NAME *	PHONE *
		EMAIL
_	FULL NAME *	PHONE *
3		EMAIL
	FULL NAME *	PHONE *
		EMAIL
	NAME *	PHONE *
		EMAIL
	FULL NAME *	PHONE *
		EMAIL
_	FULL NAME *	PHONE *
7		EMAIL
	FULL NAME *	PHONE *
		EMAIL
_	FULL NAME *	PHONE *
9		EMAIL
	FULL NAME *	PHONE *
		EMAIL

\*\*\* THANK YOU SO MUCH \*\*\*

It's time to start incorporating social media content to advertise for the campaign and upcoming voter registration drive. We've already mocked up some social media content for you and organized it into "series". Simply incorporate the campaign's series into your group's social media content for the week. There are a few other important things to do this week! Be sure to reference the calendar and look ahead to the next couple of weeks so you're prepared. Keep up the good work!



CAMPAIGN CALENDAR



# WEDNESDAY

TUESDAY

MONDAY

SUNDAY

Run the Intro to the



**Ensure your** 

register voters team is ready in your state and able to

### NOTES



# SATURDAY

Request voter registration materials in languages multiple



# FRIDAY

# THURSDAY

(Flyers, posters, Print Campaign Materials brochure)

### throughout the week) Media Series (Post a few of the posts from Campaign Social that series

### WEEK 2 MATERIALS



OUR
PROFESSION'S
VISIBILITY, VOICE
AND INFLUENCE

info@votingissocialwork.org votingissocialwork.org



Campaign Flyers, Posters, & Brochure



Why Vote? Campaign an 8-1 for so aroun partic and b



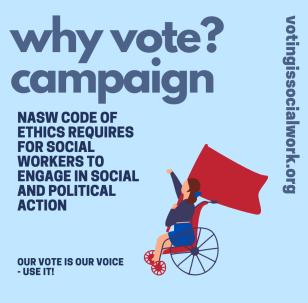
your vote is your democracy depends on an accessible & inclusive electoral process.

communities who vote receive more attention and resources.

people who vote report higher levels of

# INTRO TO THE CAMPAIGN SOCIAL MEDIA SERIES

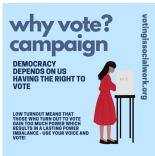














This week, it is super important to fill out the "voter engagement" worksheet and the "voter registration drive" check list. Be sure your entire group understands these documents. By filling out these documents, you will ensure that you and your group are ready to take on a voter registration drive! You're making progress! Good job!

# #protip use these worksheets and check lists as a group activity during a student network

meeting so everyone's

on the same page



CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

your group

# WEDNESDAY

### Engagement" work Registration Drive sheet and "Voter Check List" with Fill out "Voter

TUESDAY

MONDAY

SUNDAY





### NOTES



# SATURDAY

### Have your group social media banners to change their campaign banners



Social Media Series (Post a few of the

& Voting Rights

Run the Social Work

# THURSDAY



FRIDAY

posts from that series throughout the week)

### WEEK 3 MATERIALS





Worksheet for Integrating Nonpartisan Voter Engagement into Social Work Practice and Organizational Culture

Your organization/ school?

Who are the groups you could engage to vote (i.e., clients, staff, students, parents, etc.)

Potential partners (i.e., League of Women Voters)?

What steps can we take to help people to register

When is the right time to ask clients whether they are registered to vote?

Can we offer to help look up voter registration status, address and polling location?

Can we run/support voter registration drives at events or meetings?

How can we share information about registration deadlines and resources in office website and/or social media?



Checklist and FAQ's

0

adv

et permission to do a onpartisan voter drive, find olunteers, familiarize yourself ith the rules and deadlines, et your supplies

2

ke sure your volunteers are trained, d you have all your supplies: posters, ers, decorations, laptop to look up istration status, forms, pens, pledge ds, words, etc. 0

set goii

turi reg rigi

cel

### **SOCIAL WORK & VOTING** RIGHTS SOCIAL MEDIA **SERIES**

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTIONS (NCCC) ADVOCATED FOR VOTER-RELATED ISSUES AND ENCOURAGED SOCIAL WORKERS TO BECOME POLITICALLY INVOLVED FROM 1897-198: (ABRAMOVITZ, HILL, SHERRADEN, RHODES SMITH, § MIZRAHI, 2019).

### SOCIAL WORK & VOTING **RIGHTS**

ial workers have long encouraged civic participation. Start cticing civic engagement by joining the Why Vote? Campaigr

AFTER THE PASSAGE OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965, PEMBERTON (1965), WADE (1966), YOUNG 3R. (1965), RHODES (1969), & COHEN (1970), ACCIVED AND COATES FOR SOCIAL WORKERS TO USE CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AS AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF THEIR DAILY PRACTICE (ABRAMOVITZ, HILL SHERRADEN, RHODES SIMIT, & MIZRAHL (2017).

### **SOCIAL WORK** & VOTING RIGHTS

ocial workers have long encouraged civic participation. Start racticing civic engagement by joining the Why Vote? Campaign

STARTED IN 2017, THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK VOTER MOBILIZATION CAMPAIGN IS "SET OUT TO REGISTER AGENCY CLIENTS AND TO MAINSTREAM VOTER ENGAGEMENT IN SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION" (ABRAMOVITZ, HILL, SHERRADEN, RHODES SMITH, 6 MIZRAHI, 2019, P.5)

### **SOCIAL WORK** & VOTING **RIGHTS**

Social workers have long encouraged civic participation. Start practicing civic engagement by joining the Why Vote? Campaign at votingissocialwork.org.

IN THE 1920'S, HARRIET ELIZABETH VITTUM, "A CHICAGO SETTLEMENT HOUSE LEADER, URGED SOCIAL WORKERS TO OVERCOME THEIR FEARS OF POLITICS TO TEACH PEOPLE HOW TO VOTE, AND TO LINK IT TO IMPROVED NEIGHBORHOOD CONDITIONS" (ABRAMOVITZ, HILL, SHERRADEN, RHODES SMITH, & MIZRAHI, 2019, P.3).

### **SOCIAL WORK** & VOTING RIGHTS

Social workers have long encouraged civic participation. Start practicing civic engagement by joining the Why Vote? Campaign at votingissocialwork.org.

To learn more visit: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/336076752\_Voting\_is\_Social\_Work\_Voices\_From\_the\_National\_Social\_Work\_Voter\_Mobilization\_Camp.

AMID A WITHERING POST-WORLD WARLI ATTACK ON THE EXPANDING WELFARE STATE, \*1.C. CLARK IN 1954.\*\* URSED SOCIAL WORKERS TO REMIND POLITICIANS OF WHAT THE VOTES WANT! AND THAT 'IN A DEMOCRACY EVERY CITIZEN'S YOTE CARRIERS EQUAL WEIGHT (CLARK, 1954, P. 93. AS CITED IN ABRAMOVITZ, HILL, SHERRADEN, RHODES MITH, 5 MIZRAH, 2019, P.3).

### **SOCIAL WORK** & VOTING RIGHTS

Social workers have long encouraged civic participation. Start practicing civic engagement by joining the Why Vote? Campaign at votingissocialwork.org.

"HUMAN SERVE PURSUED TWO STRATEGIES: MOBILIZATION OF THE SOCIAL SERVICE SECTOR AND ADVOCACY FOR UNIVERSAL VOTER REGISTRATION" A CARLIFUZE PETERAL LEGISLATIVE REFORM, NI 19793, WITH IT PRESAGE OF TH NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT (NNRA), WHICH "REQUIRED STATES TO OFFER VOTER REGISTRATION SERVICE OFFER. AND AT MOTION VEHICLE OFFICES" (ABRAMOVITZ, HILL, SHERREADEN, RHODE SMITH, SHEZRAH (20) P. 32).

### **SOCIAL WORK** & VOTING RIGHTS

It's time to get in front of your peers! Talk to a professor and request some time to talk with the class about the campaign and upcoming non-partisan voter registration drive. Maybe you can recruit some more volunteers! Ask the campus' newsletter editor if your group can advertise in the next issue. We need people to know what's going on, so get out there and spread the word!



CAMPAIGN CALENDAR



# WEDNESDAY



### NOTES

# student groups

# TUESDAY

MONDAY

SUNDAY

meeting during a professor and Speak with a informational class session schedule an

# SATURDAY

answer questions and to host on your social media accounts to Plan a Q&A session gain support from other students or



# FRIDAY



# THURSDAY

throughout the week)

few of the posts from Media Series (Post a

that series

**Municipal Social** 

**Run the Vote** 

spot in a campus advertisement Request an newsletter

### VOTE MUNICIPAL SOCIAL MEDIA SERIES



This week we are focusing on getting prepared for advertising for the campaign: write up your advertisement for the voter registration drive that will go to your school's newsletter & create a quick, 5 minute, presentation that you can give to classes to get people motivated for the upcoming voter registration drive. Again, consider creating a coalition of different groups on campus who may by interested in participating in the voter registration drive. Perhaps they can reach a different audience. The more people that know about the voter registration drive, the better. Advertise, advertise, advertise.



CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

# WEDNESDAY

give to classes in presentation to your program

Create a quick

TUESDAY

MONDAY

SUNDAY

### NOTES

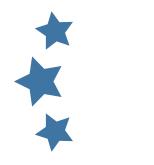
group is confident in vote and get all the registering other to supplies you'll need registration drive Make sure your for the voter



# SATURDAY











# advertisement for Write up an

posts from that series throughout the week) Social Media Series (Post a few of the Run the History of Voting in America

your campus

newsletter

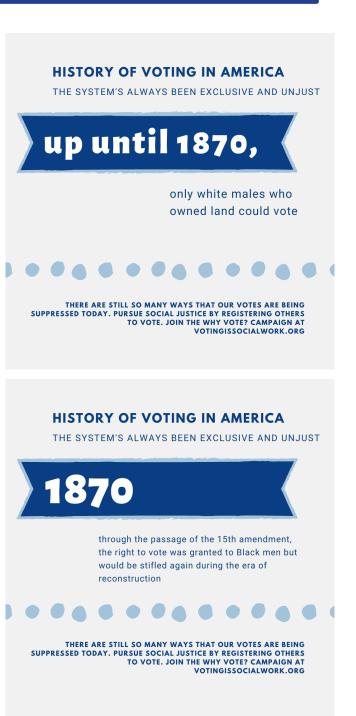
# FRIDAY

THURSDAY



### HISTORY OF VOTING IN AMERICA SOCIAL MEDIA SERIES & INFOGRAPHIC





Keep up the good work! This week, we encourage you to host a Q&A session on your social media platforms. While you are out on campus spreading the word about the campaign and the upcoming voter registration drive, we encourage you to pass out the campaign posters, flyers, and brochures to students as a visual reminder of the upcoming event.



CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

social media about registration drive and recruit a few Host your Q&A new volunteers! session on your the voter

# WEDNESDAY

series throughout the

week)

Series (Post a few of Know? Social Media

Run the Did You

the posts from that

TUESDAY

MONDAY

SUNDAY

advertisement for Send in your newsletter the school

### NOTES



SATURDAY

campus - advertise Pass out campaign voter registration for the upcoming materials on drive!



FRIDAY



THURSDAY

meeting during a class session informational Host the

### WEEK 6 **MATERIALS**



**HELP US ELEVATE** OUR PROFESSION'S VISIBILITY, VOICE AND INFLUENCE

info@votingissocialwork.org votingissocialwork.org





Why Vote? Campaign

for so partic and b





REG





AMI





WH CAI

**ENGAGE** 





Campaign Flyers, Posters, & Brochure

# DID YOU KNOW? SOCIAL MEDIA SERIES



**DID YOU KNOW...** 

# 5.2 million

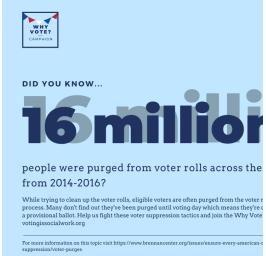
Americans were barred from voting in the 2020 election due to felony disenfranchisement laws?

Felony disenfranchisement laws vary state-to-state and disproportionately affect Black men. Help us

Facebook Posts







# DID YOU KNOW? SOCIAL MEDIA SERIES

39% of young people struggle

to know where to vote

VOTING IS SOCIAL WORK & THE WHY VOTE CAMPAIGN

Did you know...

2 52% of young people struggle

to scheduling in time to vote - they need to

Instagram Story

You're almost there! Congratulations on all your hard work! Now for some logistics...make sure you have all the things you will need for the day of your voter registration drive: pens, clipboards, volunteers, decorations, and a place to set up on campus. And don't forget to keep advertising - the more the better!



CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

# WEDNESDAY

TUESDAY

MONDAY

SUNDAY

campus - advertise Pass out campaign for the upcoming voter registration materials on drive!

# NOTES





SATURDAY

Make sure you have boards, registration decorations, etc. to set up on campus your pens, clip forms, table, next week

posts from that series throughout the week)

(Post a few of the

Social Media Series Run the Why Vote?

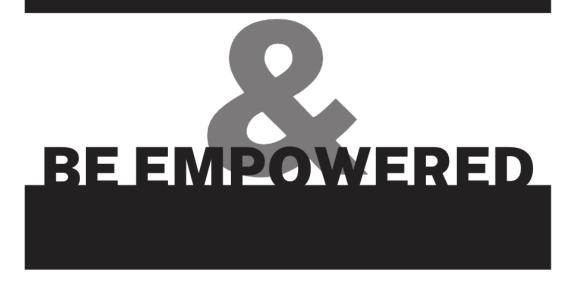
# THURSDAY

FRIDAY



# WHY VOTE? SOCIAL MEDIA SERIES

### **EMPOWER**



**OUR VOTE** 

**OUR VOICE** 

**VOTING IS A** 

**HUMAN RIGHT** 

The time has come to host your first, of hopefully many, non-partisan voter registration drives! Get out from behind the table, stay positive, and get it done! Don't forget, updating a registration is just as important as securing a new one! Once your team is finished, if you've collected voter registration forms, don't forget to turn those in right away! Congratulations on all of your team's hard work...it's definitely paid off. One step closer to a more inclusive democracy! YAY!

# #protip

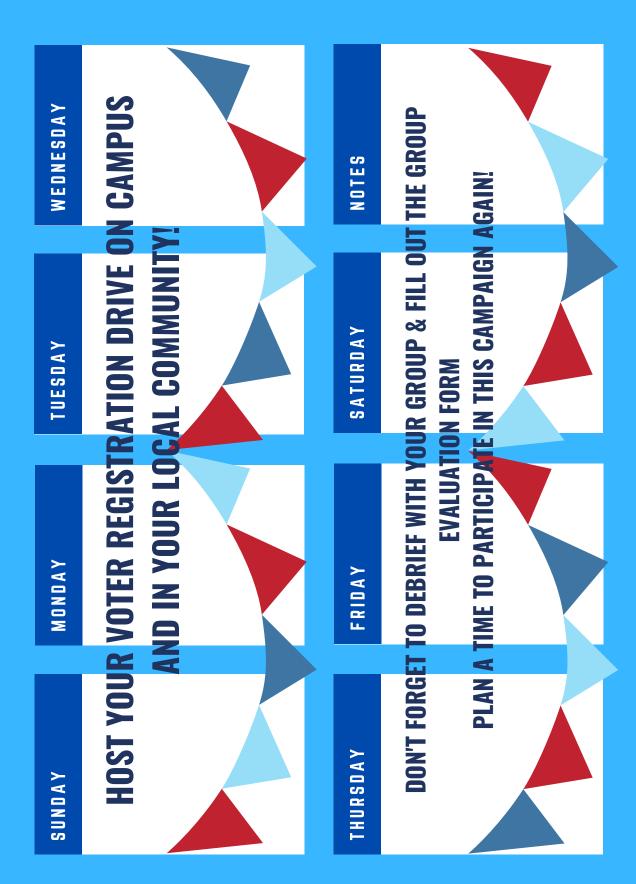
when you're talking with someone, start to put the pen and clipboard in their hand - you'll be surprised at how many people will automatically start filling it out





# WHY VOTE?

CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

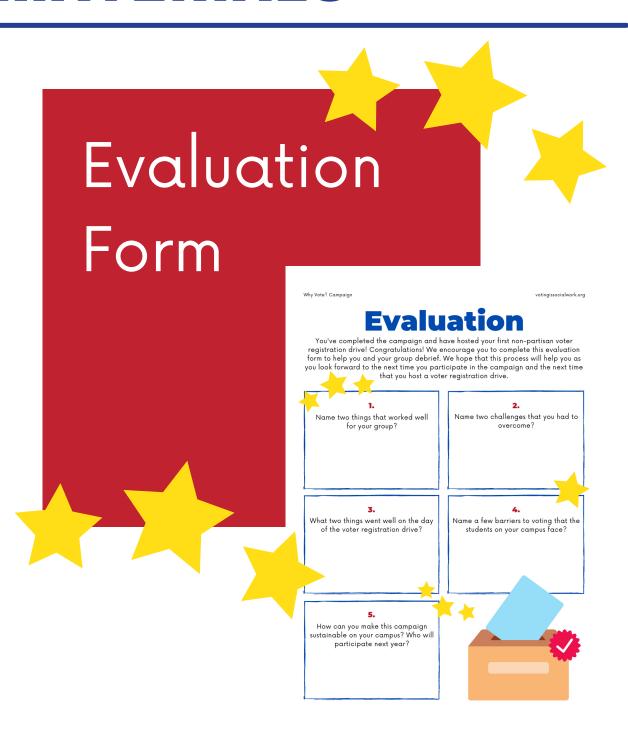


# WEEK 8 MATERIALS

Congratulations on completing your first voter registration drive! Now that you're done, we want to get your group together to evaluate your efforts. Please take some time to fill out the evaluation form to debrief on you group's experience. What worked well? What could be improved for next time? We hope that this is the first of many registration drives for you and your group. Please take some time to fill out the evaluation form to debrief on your group's experience.

The work is not done - we need to you continue this effort so that we mobilize as many voters as possible, and continue to empower social work students to incorporate civic engagement as a part of their daily activities as students and professionals. We encourage you to repeat this campaign on a yearly basis! Be thinking about who can carry this tradition on in your group. Or perhaps you elevate your efforts through becoming a part of the Voter Mobilization Campaign through Voting is Social Work. Either way, we hope that you will take advantage of the additional resources that we've compiled for you at the end of this guide. We hope that they help you amplify your efforts and inspire you to join in the work that is already being done in the field around these topics.

### WEEK 8 MATERIALS





### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



# THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK VOTER MOBILIZATION CAMPAIGN



### INTEGRATE VOTER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES INTO THE CLASSROOM AND FIELD EDUCATION

- Make voting rights and voter mobilization skills a part of your classroom and field assignments
- Encourage students to organize voter registration drives at your school, agency or field placement
- Activate both micro and macro students
- Raise awareness of the importance of voting to social work practice and social policy

Find activities and assignments to help you get your students involved at https://votingissocialwork.org/forfield-education/

PROFESSORS! Elevate
your efforts by joining
the National Social Work
Voter Mobilization
Campaign



Association for Community Organization and Social Action (ACOSA)

Voting is Social Work (VISW)

Congressional Institute for Social Work and Policy (CRISP)

Influencing Social Policy (ISP)

Latino Social Work Organization

Nancy A Humphreys Institute for Political Social Work

Network for Social Work Management (NSWM)

SPEAK - Social Policy Education, Advocacy, & Knowledge

Special Commission to Advance Macro Practice in Social Work

Vot-ER: Building a Healthy Democracy

# RESOURCES ON REGISTERING SPECIAL POPULATIONS

Formerly Incarcerated or Convicted of a Felony...?

Restore Your Vote

<u>ACLU</u>

Experiencing Homelessness..?

National Coalition for the Homeless

Survivor of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking or Risk of Injury to a Minor...?

National Network to End Domestic Violence

People with Disabilities...?

American
Association of
People with
Disabilities