



THERE'S NO TIME OFF IN THE OFF YEAR!

Four Ways You Can Make A Difference This Year

"Off season key to ballplayer's success, " was the recent headline for leading sports authority, John Kissik. Ballplayers don't loaf in winter, he said. They prepare for what's ahead, whether at the plate in the field, or on the mound.

He's right. And why should politics be any different?

When we founded *Partner's for Democracy* three years ago, we knew that the years between elections were crucial. They meant protecting the rights all of us hold dear.

They help defeat those opposing gun control, reproductive rights, and separation of church and state. They help us win the right to limit greenhouse gas emissions and preserve a Constitutional Republic.

Today, we already see the dangers ahead. Take the recent rejection of Ohio's ballot initiative. Had we not stood up to that challenge, Ohio voters would have had no ability to enshrine abortion rights in the Ohio Constitution. Reproductive rights proponents are already organizing for 2024.

And in Wisconsin, more than 1.8 million voters showed up in April for a state supreme court election that flipped the Wisconsin court from conservative to liberal. The extreme gerrymandering that gives Republicans 6 of 8 House seats in a state that Joe Biden carried is now being challenged in that Court.

And that's why, like ballplayers, we have to look ahead.

The good news: we're making strides. In 2020, many groups like *Partners for Democracy* organized around the country. We helped elect Joe Biden and kept control of the Senate. We also fended off MAGA candidates in critical Secretary of State elections, secured key judgeships and restored Democratic majorities in state legislatures.

But polls show that a 2024 race between President Biden and Donald Trump would likely be close. We face the threat of third party candidates -- like a potential No Labels candidate. Like Ralph Nader back in 2000, they'd siphon off votes from the Democrats.

Meanwhile, Republicans trying to keep control of statehouses, have not taken time off. And we have all become painfully aware in recent years that decisions about our most basic rights are made, primarily, at the state level.

That's why between now and 2024, *Partners for Democracy* will keep working. We'll offer intimate discussions with experts and insiders. We'll introduce you to grassroots organizations working year-round to assure we never get out-organized by the Far Right.

But to do that we need you. Not next year. Now. We ask you to help in four ways.

The first “ask”, of course, is MONEY!

We'll succeed only if our candidates and groups supporting our GOTV efforts have the **financial support** they need. One target: young voters. In 2022 only 23% of young voters went to the polls. Eight out of ten of eligible voters stayed home! Here is a chance to **CONTRIBUTE NOW**

Each month we will offer carefully vetted recommendations to help groups or candidates that need your help.

The second “ask” – PAY ATTENTION!

READ our emails offering insights into key issues and opportunities to volunteer. **Join** our P4D Special Events. They are interesting, accessible, and easily digestible.

Want to sample them?? (they are archived for your viewing pleasure **HERE**). And if you like the grassroots organizations we profile during the event, we make it easy for you to support them.

The third “ask” – VOLUNTEER!

Want to do more? Invest in what we call “sweat equity”. Write postcards. Canvass. Make phone calls. Text. They change votes. Over the next 15 months, we will offer plenty of chances to get involved. We offer some suggestions below.

The fourth “ask” – REACH OUT!

Do friends and family members share your concerns? **Invite** them to our Special Events. **Share** our emails with them. **Enlist** them to help with P4D actions. If you prefer—and they don't object -- send us their email addresses. We'll send them exactly what we send you. The broader our reach, the more effective we become.

And if you think there is nothing more this year that is important, remember this: In 2021 Republicans won the Virginia Senate by two votes. And in just 12 weeks, we have a chance to capture both houses of the legislature by holding the Senate and winning back the House by flipping just two seats.

We can succeed. But only if we start now – and you are part of the effort.

Because it's not just in baseball that the offseason is our key to success.

CALL TO ACTION

Volunteer today with *PARTNERS FOR DEMOCRACY*

Write Postcards: We are well underway in our GOTV postcard writing to Virginia. We have lots of names/addresses, prescribed messages and a mailing date in October. Please join us by emailing Nancy at nhc2@mac.com.

Volunteer Opportunities With Other Organizations

Canvas in Virginia: 31st Street is leading a canvassing day (Aug. 26 from 9am-1pm) in Loudon County VA to boost progressive candidates for the State legislature, including Russet Perry (Senate) and Marty Martinez (House). Training will be provided and carpooling arrangements are possible. Register at <https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/575105/>

Register College Students in Virginia: Virginia Democracy Forward is leading an effort to register college students in Loudon County. There is an [online training course](#). Contact april.breslaw@gmail.com to register youth voters before the November 2023 elections!

Be a Poll Worker: The [Power the Polls](#) website is your first step to becoming a poll worker. Click and enter your zip code to complete an application. You will find information about hours, compensation, training and basic requirements nationwide.

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