

# DFL DAY OF ACTION TOOLKIT

## HOST A FUNDRAISER

Choose a location that is large enough – a park, a union hall, a DFLer’s home. To keep costs low, recruit volunteers to donate refreshments. Plan for a two-hour event – the first hour for guest arrival and conversation, the second for speakers. Have guests sign-in and be sure to record their donations.

## CANVASS LOCALLY

The goal is to identify likely DFL voters and bring more people into the political process. Precinct officers can be helpful in identifying where new residents live. In a non-election year, door knock to distribute flyers inviting neighbors to a DFL picnic or other activity.

## DO COMMUNITY SERVICE

A day of action doesn’t have to be about politics. To get people involved, organize a roadside trash clean-up, plant and tend a community vegetable garden, volunteer at the local library, and so on. DFLers share a passion for helping others and you’ll build relationships among like-minded people.

## CONDUCT A PHONE BANK

Prepare for precinct caucuses by identifying Unknowns by phone. If you are close to St. Paul, you can arrange to do a phone bank at DFL headquarters, using the predictive dialer. It’s also possible to set up a virtual phone bank with a call list from the VAN wherever you are located.

## REGISTER NEW VOTERS

On-site outside a grocery store or going door-to-door in an apartment building, a voter registration drive brings new voters on board. Precinct chairs can be helpful in identifying where new residents live. Printed forms are available from the Secretary of State’s office in multiple languages at no charge.

## ENCOURAGE EARLY VOTING

“No Excuses” absentee voting allows anyone to vote in advance of Election Day for any reason. It’s especially convenient for infrequent voters, college students, retirement home residents and anyone with a demanding schedule. Hold an information meeting in your community to spread the word.

**HERE’S AN IDEA:** Print postcard invitations to a DFL barbecue or other event and have a party for volunteers to hand-address the cards, sign their name and apply stamps (the added personal touch makes a big difference to recipients). Serve refreshments and play a political trivia game during a break – the work will go fast!

## TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL TEAMWORK

1. **Make friends.** Give several people the important job of welcoming volunteers and, especially, greeting newcomers. Take a few moments to learn something about them and introduce them around to others. This is about building positive relationships with each other, because it’s always easier to ask friends for help the next time!

- 2. Have fun.** Add some elements of fun to all your activities: wear brightly-colored Hawaiian shirts at a voter registration table, offer popsicles to volunteers after collecting trash along the roadside, order pizza for the phone bank crew, vote on the tastiest snack at a house party – get creative. When people have a good time, they'll come back again!
  
- 3. Celebrate together.** No matter what activity you choose, be sure to set a time for everyone to regroup at the end to relax, get refreshments and recount their experience. There are sure to be stories you'll laugh about! Report how many calls were made, doors were knocked, registrations collected, etc. Show appreciation for each other and gratitude for a job well done.