

# Relational Voter Program Conversation Starter Worksheet

A Relational Voter Program means talking to people already in our lives about the issues we care about. It means leveraging our personal relationships to help turn out the vote and encouraging increased levels engagement from our networks.

## Why do RVP?

- It's effective – RVP has 10x the impact of canvassing and increases voter turnout up to 22%
- It's easy – Talking to people you know takes relatively little time and effort
- It builds power – Conversations build relationships and relationships build power in our organizations.

## What do I say?

This program is about starting conversations in our communities to make sure that people know that their voices count and their votes are important. It's also about listening. When you talk with people on your list, be authentic, transparent and open about why this election is important to you.

## Suggestions for starting conversations:

"Hey, are you following this election? I've been really involved lately and I just wanted to touch base and see what your thoughts are and if you're planning to vote in November. Would you mind if I share some information with you about what's going to be on the ballot this year?"

"So, I'm participating in a project that asks people to reach out to friends and family members and have conversations about important issues. Sort of like an exercise in civility 😊 Would you be open to sharing your thoughts with me occasionally?"

"This is gonna sound a bit odd. I'm participating in a program that asks people to have conversations with people in their lives about real issues. I'd like to contact you occasionally to check in with you about what's going on in our state and hear your thoughts. Would you be willing to be one of my partners in this? It's not a political debate or anything like that. Mostly it's a listening campaign for me and sometimes there might be information for me to share with you but never any obligation. Whaddya think?"

Use the back of this sheet to think about how to start conversations with different people in your life.

**Close friend or relative**

For example:

Email | Text | Phone call | In Person

Conversation Starter:


**Neighbor or casual acquaintance**

For example:

Email | Text | Phone call | In Person

Conversation starter:


**Old friend or Facebook friend**

For example:

Email | Text | Phone call | In Person

Conversation starter:


**How to get started:**

If you haven't already set up your MyRVP account, go to [NCWins.org](http://NCWins.org) and click on "Talk To Friends and Family." For a good overview of the RVP system and how it works, watch the 15-minute training video at: <https://vimeo.com/293186955>