# STRATEGIC POLITICAL DONATIONS

If you are inundated daily by requests for money for Harris/Walz and PACs claiming to support them, you can delete them with a clear conscience by making your political contributions to the proven and vetted organizations we've listed below.

**POLLS ARE NOT VOTES!** It is time to double down and invest in our future, in grassroots groups and research grounded assessments of where your donations will have the greatest impact.

(Jess Craven (Chop Wood, Carry Water) has informed our suggestions. (You can watch her 45-minute "Strategic Giving" webinar <u>here</u>.)

# FUNDING GRASSROOTS GROUPS

Movement Voter Project (MVP) vets and then funds the most effective grassroots organizing groups working on the ground year in and year out in swing (and other) states. If we want youth turnout, BIPOC turnout, and a growing progressive electorate then funding MVP is how we best get it. They're absolutely amazing. For example, they were one of the first organizations to fund Black Voters Matter. Their fundraising parties and zoom calls are very inspiring and exciting.

The <u>Rural Democracy Initiative</u> is driving a growing array of organizing efforts in states like Michigan, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Montana, and Arizona, where new work is underway to engage rural voters, speak to their concerns, and otherwise show up in places that many Democrats have written off. RDI is an all-important hub of these exciting efforts. This year, its 501(c)(4) arm—the Rural Victory Fund—is going all out to woo rural voters in key battleground states. These efforts could help decide the election, which is why RDI is one of Blue Tent's top 2024 recommendations to donors. <u>Give here</u>.

# FUNDING HOUSE AND SENATE CANDIDATES

<u>Force Multiplier</u> started here in Brookline by friends of Activist Evenings. An entirely volunteer group that raises funds for Democratic House and Senate candidates and for groups that ensure people can and do vote. Their research about where dollars will be most impactful is impeccable.

#### FUNDING VOTING

Reclaim Our Vote- <u>The Center For Common Ground</u> works to help Black and Brown voters who are the targets of voter suppression in Southern states get the information they need to vote. <u>Give here</u>, We relied on their addresses to send hundreds of thousands of postcards to Georgia in 2020 saving the country and democracy. VoteRiders https://www.voteriders.org. provides voter ID assistance so that every American can cast a ballot that counts. Voter ID laws, like the one in AZ requiring proof of citizenship, silence millions of Americans. Navigating the confusing and changing laws requires volunteers and funds.

For voter registration in all swing states support <u>Field Team Six</u>. They have data to back up their success and it only costs them \$.93 for every new blue or purple voter, and \$2.24 for every new blue or purple vote. That's value on the dollar! Their strategy to attract Democratic leaning voters to register is brilliant, we've been on college campuses decked out in our blue regalia asking students if they want to save the world from Trump. No surprise who walked away and who excitedly completed voter registration cards.

#### FUNDING HOUSE AND SENATE CANDIDATES

Run For Something\_–specifically PAC money for them— RFS recruits young progressives to run for office across the country for municipal, school board, election administrator, county supervisor, and statehouse seats. They offer candidates support, help with volunteer recruitment, and fund their races. Their candidates have a high win rate and their school board candidates absolutely destroyed Moms for Liberty everywhere in November. (Their school board win rate was 72%.)

The States Project — donate to the general fund here. Consider becoming a fundraiser for them by creating a giving circle. An absolutely vital group focussed exclusively on winning state-level elections and flipping state legislatures. They also help candidates and elected reps write good progressive policy. They are so, so good at what they do—they are the

reason we won in VA, and also the reason we had the brilliant election in 2022 that we did. Flipping the MI statehouse? That was them. Flipping the MN statehouse? Them too. They have tons of other good press on their <u>website</u>. Consider becoming a fundraiser for them by creating a giving circle.

Sister District — is laser focussed on state legislatures, complementing The States Project by providing grassroots dials, postcards, \$\$, and datadriven advice — all going directly to the most strategic campaigns in battleground states that will also boost Harris's numbers.

## FUNDING JOURNALISM

Courier Newsroom. The vast majority of Americans are no longer consuming traditional media, no longer have access to local news, and are inundated with free-flowing disinformation and right-wing propaganda that shapes the story they are absorbing about the state of our country and this election. The work Courier's newsrooms do — showing up every day in millions of under-reached and new voters' newsfeeds and inboxes with relevant, empowering news, human-driven stories, and trusted voices — is flooding the zone and tangibly increasing the flow of factual information millions of tuned-out Americans are seeing about the issues, candidates, and unprecedented stakes of this election on their lives.

## WANT HELP DECIDING WHERE TO GIVE STRATEGICALLY?

Sign up for updates with **Focus For Democracy**—they do deep, deep research dives on which orgs are most effective at turning out voters and then raise money for them.

<u>Subscribe to Blue Tent</u>. Blue Tent helps donors at all levels give effectively to elect Democrats and enact policies for a fairer America.

Learn from a group run by dedicated volunteers like Boston based Force <u>Multiplier</u>, which can do the vetting for you. You can also check out similar organizations: <u>Walk the Walk</u>, <u>Airlift</u>, <u>, 31st Street Swing Left</u>, and <u>Flip the</u> <u>Vote</u> (which has a small paid staff).