



## **Hosting a kid-friendly phone banking party**

Phone banking is a critical tool to raise awareness of upcoming elections and get out the vote. Most campaigns have online platforms that allow you to make calls from home at your convenience, but it can be more fun to phone bank with friends. Here are some suggestions for organizing a kid-friendly phone banking party.

### Venue:

- Find a host with sufficient space for attendees to spread out to make calls. Togetherness is fun, but too close quarters make it hard to focus.
- Playroom or yard for children (supervised by a babysitter or parent(s) who doesn't like making calls)
- Alternatively, consider renting library or community center space.

### Invitation:

- Decide whether to keep it a closed invite list or open to all ACDC volunteers.
- Use Evite, Paperless Post, or Facebook to track RSVPs.
- Remind guests that you are mostly calling Democrats. This isn't telemarketing—most people you reach aren't going to hang up on you.
- Let guests know the stakes. They'll want to know their calls are making a difference.

### Hosts should provide:

- Powerstrips for chargers
- Paper copies of call scripts
- Login instructions for the online phone banking platform
- Fact sheets on the candidate. It's easier to phone bank for someone you know about.
- Snacks and drinks (or do potluck)
- Instructions for logging into phone banking software.

### Guests should bring:

- Laptop/tablet + charger
- Mobile phone + charger

### Ways to make it fun:

- Set overall goal for number of calls/positive voter contacts.
- Turn it into a competition.
- Give award for funniest voter interaction.
- For lower profile races (e.g., state legislatures), consider contacting the campaign to see if the candidate can Facetime or Skype for a few minutes at the beginning of the party. It's even easier to phone bank for someone you've "met."

### SAMPLE EVITE INVITATION

We have a very important election coming up in [HERE]. This election is critical because [EXPLAIN WHAT IS AT STAKE]. Every vote counts, and we need to make as many calls to Democrats in the [district/state] as we can in order to raise awareness and get people to the polls. Cold-calling Democrats is also way more fun when done in the company of friends, a drink in hand, and someone watching your kids. So come over to [HOST NAME, ADDRESS] for an [afternoon/evening] of calls, and bring your kids! All you need to bring is yourself, a laptop + charger, a mobile phone + charger, a snack, and a determination to take back our government. We'll provide call scripts, drinks, and [crafts/child care] for the little ones. (If you have high school kids, this is also a great way to improve their phone skills.)