REV UP Campaign

The REV UP Campaign is an initiative of the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD). AAPD is a convener, connector, and catalyst for change, increasing the political and economic power of people with disabilities.

The REV UP Campaign, which launched in early 2016, engages in nonpartisan activities to increase the political power of the disability community while also engaging candidates and the media on disability issues. REV UP stands for Register! Educate! Vote! Use your Power! REV UP helps organize the disability community at the state and local level to get more people with disabilities registered to vote and involved in the political process. It also raises the national profile of the disability community as an influential voting bloc.

National Disability Voter Registration Week 2017

July 17-21, 2017

This year, National Disability Voter Registration Week (NDVRW) will occur on July 17-21, 2017. The goal is to coordinate voter registration efforts across the country to get more people with disabilities registered to vote as well as to gain attention from political candidates and the media regarding the potential political power of the disability community.

The NDVRW webpage includes numerous voter registration resources as well as other ideas on how you and your organization can get involved that week. In addition to voter registration, we are again encouraging advocates to gather Proclamations from their state and local governments to officially declare the week of July 17-21 as National Disability Voter Registration Week. Former Senators Bob Dole and Tom Harkin have again added their support to the Week.

- Submit information about your event(s)
- Submit data on the number of individuals you register

Establishing REV UP State Disability Voting Coalitions

This year, in 2017, we are focusing on developing a more organized structure to the REV UP Campaign by establishing and supporting REV UP State Disability Voting Coalitions. These Coalitions are composed of state and local leaders representing the cross-disability community to lead the effort to increase the political participation of people with disabilities across their state. These Coalitions include local centers for independent living, protection & advocacy organizations, developmental disability councils, Secretaries of State and/or Elections Offices,
and other organizations interested in participating. So far, we have Coalitions established or developing in 17 states with another 4-5 states that have expressed an interest in launching a Coalition. We hope to have established Coalitions in 20 states by the end of 2017.

State Resources & Events
The REV UP Campaign regularly updates a webpage with information about events in states across the country. These events include voter registration and education events, debate watch parties, town halls, candidate forums, and more. This webpage also lists state-specific resources for voters with disabilities. Visit the State Resources and Events page here.

REV UP Images and Toolkits
The REV UP Campaign offers a customizable toolkit to help advocates at the state and local level collect and organize information and resources that are specific to their state as well as a “How To Launch a REV UP Campaign” toolkit. We also offer a variety of REV UP logos and graphics that are free for partners to use and modify for their own campaigns. Visit the REV UP Images and Toolkits page.

Voter Resource Center
The REV UP Campaign hosts a webpage that compiles a host of resources on voter registration, voter education, casting a vote and access to the polls, and amplifying the power of the disability vote. Visit the Voter Resource Center.

REV UP Presidential Candidate Questionnaire
During the 2016 Presidential Election AAPD and the REV UP Campaign partnered with the National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) to create a presidential candidate questionnaire in order to gain more insight from the candidates on how they would address issues important to the disability community. We received responses from Hillary Clinton, Donald Trump, and Jill Stein.

For more information about the REV UP Campaign and to get involved please visit www.aapd.com/REVUP or contact Zach Baldwin at zbaldwin@aapd.com or 202-521-4310.