

Part IV: Partnering in the Community – Working Coalitions

1. Working-Class & Labor Communities

You deserve security, fair pay, and dignity—not permanent struggle while others hoard.

Focus: Jobs, Healthcare, Housing, Unions, Cost-of-living relief, New organizing where none exists

Strategy for building unions and collective power

- **Open the door to organizing everywhere**

Guarantee strong legal protection for workers who explore unionization or other collective forms (worker centers, co-ops) in currently non-union industries and regions. Simplify the process for forming a union with majority sign-up, fast elections, and automatic first-contract arbitration when employers stall.

- **Seed organizing in new sectors**

Fund and support organizing drives in emerging and historically under-organized sectors—gig and app-based work, care and domestic work, logistics and warehousing, retail and food service, tech and white-collar workplaces—through grants to unions, worker centers, and community groups that commit to long-term presence.

- **Community-rooted labor hubs**

Create local Worker & Community Resource Centers where people can learn their rights, meet organizers, access legal help, and build campaigns around wages, scheduling, safety, and discrimination. Place these centers in neighborhoods, not just downtown offices, and co-locate services like childcare, language support, and benefits counseling.

- **Support alternative vehicles where unions are blocked**
Where formal unions face legal or political barriers, promote worker associations, co-ops, and sector-wide councils that can still negotiate standards, share information, and exert pressure on employers and regulators. Over time, these structures can evolve into full collective-bargaining organizations as laws and conditions change.
 - **Link workplace issues to community issues**
Integrate labor campaigns with fights for affordable housing, transit, healthcare, and public safety so that non-union workers see organizing as a way to change their whole environment, not just their paycheck. Use joint committees of tenants, workers, parents, and faith leaders to plan and win local campaigns.
 - **Leadership development from the base up**
Invest in training programs that turn trusted people—shop-floor leaders, church volunteers, neighborhood organizers, gig-worker chat moderators—into effective labor organizers and negotiators. Provide ongoing political education on how wages, prices, public budgets, and corporate power interact.
 - **Make victories visible**
Publicize concrete wins: new contracts, wage increases, safety improvements, paid leave, or schedules that let people be with their families. Show workers in non-union shops how organizing in similar workplaces produced real, measurable gains.
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2. Faith Communities (Non-Nationalist)

Core message: Faith is strongest when it is chosen—not imposed.

Practical engagement:

- Convene **listening circles** with clergy and lay leaders about religious freedom, safety, and conscience, without asking anyone to change theology.

- Develop **model sermons, study guides, and discussion prompts** on themes like “faith and freedom,” “conscience and coercion,” and “pluralism as protection for all.”
 - Build **interfaith freedom coalitions** that respond publicly when any group is targeted or when government oversteps into religious control.
 - Offer **legal and advocacy support** to congregations facing coercive policies—showing, in practice, that you defend religious liberty for all.
 - Lift up **respected faith voices** (pastors, rabbis, imams, etc.) who say clearly: “Government religion is bad for both faith and democracy.”
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3. Small Business Owners

Core message: Real competition, not monopolies, is the backbone of free enterprise.

Practical engagement:

- Host **roundtables with local businesses** on fees, credit access, landlord power, and platform dependence; turn their stories into case studies that inform antitrust and banking reforms.
- Create **plain-language policy briefs** titled “What this means for your business,” explaining antitrust, fair-credit rules, healthcare reform (taking coverage off employers), and public banking.
- Partner with **local chambers, Main Street alliances, and co-op networks** to advocate for fair contracts, transparent fees, and protections from predatory franchising and online platforms.
- Offer **toolkits on collective procurement and co-ops**, helping small businesses band together on purchasing, marketing, and benefits.
- Highlight **success stories** where breaking monopolies or adding public banking actually lowered costs and opened markets for small firms.

4. Veterans & National Security Voters

Core message: A strong nation protects its people, alliances, and democracy.

Practical engagement:

- Form **veteran councils** that advise on anti-corruption, foreign influence, and election security, framing these as national-security issues.
 - Use **vet-to-vet outreach**: town halls led by veterans on topics like “Corruption as a security threat” and “Alliances that keep us safe.”
 - Support **transition programs and public-service pathways** for veterans —into civil service, oversight roles, and election protection efforts.
 - Develop **security-framed narratives**: clean government, strong alliances, and independent courts as core defenses against hostile powers.
 - Collaborate with **veterans’ organizations** on campaigns to protect voting rights for service members, defend whistleblowers, and curb foreign money in politics.
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5. Young People & Students

Core message: Your future should not be stolen by debt, climate collapse, or authoritarianism.

Practical engagement:

- Organize **campus and online assemblies** about student debt relief, climate jobs, housing, and digital rights (privacy, data ownership, algorithmic fairness).
- Support **youth-led councils and climate or democracy hubs** that can directly propose policies (green jobs, free transit, campus voting, mental-health investments).
- Provide **digital organizing toolkits** (content packs, meme banks, short explainer videos) that students can adapt and share.

- Tie policies to **tangible wins**: debt cancellation, tuition-free public college, climate internships, paid fellowships in local government.
 - Ensure **youth representation** on oversight bodies, citizens' assemblies, and budgeting processes so they see real power, not just symbolic consultation.
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6. Centrists & Institutionalists

Core message: This is about restoring stability, legitimacy, and trust.

Practical engagement:

- Frame reforms as **institution-repair**, not revolution: ethics rules, independent courts, professional civil service, stable long-term planning.
 - Convene **non-partisan forums** with former judges, regulators, civil servants, and business leaders on “rules-based governance” and “guardrails for all parties.”
 - Emphasize **incremental but durable steps**: statutory ethics rules, transparent appointments, oversight with teeth, constitutional review cycles that preserve continuity.
 - Produce **risk-and-stability briefs** showing how corruption, captured courts, and chaotic budgeting increase business and geopolitical risk.
 - Invite centrists into **oversight, auditing, and standards-setting roles** where their preference for order and predictability becomes a stabilizing force.
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How These Narratives Work Together

Across all six groups, the practical through-lines are:

- **Co-creation** (assemblies, councils, roundtables) rather than top-down messaging

- **Concrete benefits** tied to each group's daily reality (wages, safety, fairness, risk, debt, dignity)
- **Visible roles in governance** so people see themselves not as "targets" of a campaign but as co-authors of the new order