

NETWORK CONNECTION

THIRD QUARTER 2026



Inside This Issue
Our Education Campaign to
Mobilize Voters in 2026

SEE.
LOVE.
VOTE.

Grounded in Gospel values and the Catholic social justice tradition, NETWORK transforms our society by shaping federal policies that achieve racial, economic, and social justice; serve the common good; and honor the dignity of all.

NETWORK LOBBY FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE

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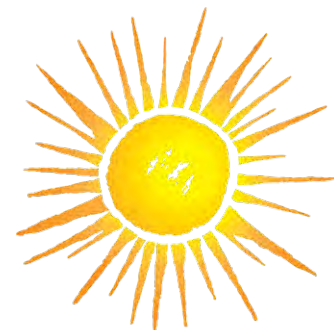
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FRONT AND BACK COVERS, PAGES 8-9 AND 13-14: SEE. LOVE. VOTE. graphics, design, and layout: Andrea Clara-Vega

PAGE 15: NETWORK Advocate Jerry Zurek passes out copies of NETWORK's new zine to Nancy Costello, Faith Pitsikoulis, and Alyssa Remington at a Cabrini University alumni event in Pennsylvania.

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Why We 'See. Love. Vote.'

We Take Seriously Our Call To Love Our Neighbor With Action

We all want to feel seen.

It's a basic emotional need, a human need, to know that someone else understands and even shares in our joys and sorrows, and our dreams for a better future.

During their strike in 1912, women textile workers in Lawrence, Massachusetts sang of their need for "bread and roses" – both physical survival (food, shelter, health care) and our sacred human birthright to spiritual thriving (beauty, creativity, community, and rest). It is only when both needs are met, for everyone, that we are truly seen and seeing – as individuals, and as a society.

To be unseen is to know the pain of erasure, invisibility, and exclusion of our needs when ignored by those in power and those who enable them, whether due to hatred, indifference, or ignorance. This is not the society we seek. In this moment, we are opening our eyes to the light of another way – the way to love and action for the common good.

NETWORK's "See. Love. Vote." 501(c)(3) nonpartisan voter engagement and education campaign invites us to see our communities' needs, and to be propelled by love to vote, inspired by the common good. Through civic engagement, we can have a say in the decisions that decide the future for hundreds of millions of people in the U.S. By making our easy-to-use resources available to everyone, NETWORK is connecting communities with the tools they need to be informed and energized voters, inspired by a commitment to inclusion, dignity—bread and roses—for all.

When Pope Leo XIV published his first encyclical letter, *Magnifica Humanitas* ("Magnificent Humanity") this spring, he addressed the moral challenges of the rapid development of A.I., but he also raised serious concerns about how decisions are driven by a small group of ultra-wealthy private tech leaders, leaving the rest of us mostly "watching and waiting, observing from afar and merely hoping for the best."

With "See. Love. Vote.," NETWORK, our volunteers, and our partners will ensure each of us is not just an observer, but a participant who sees and gets involved – and inspires others to do the same.

Through the "See. Love. Vote." campaign we invite ourselves and our communities to see the harm our neighbors, friends and families are experiencing – from patients with cancer who cannot afford life-saving medicine, to families living

in their cars, to food banks struggling to keep up with demand because people do not have enough food or money to buy groceries.

Having seen, as people of faith, we will answer the moral call to respond with love. We take seriously this call to love our neighbor, knowing that love is an action verb! We take action in many ways: direct service to our neighbors, supporting and advocating for policies that will improve our lives, and by voting.

Love propels us to vote in the 2026 elections and beyond, inspired by the common good, to make life better for all of us, to heal ourselves and our society.

As many justice-seekers may recognize, "See. Love. Vote." takes inspiration from "See, Judge, Act," a framework of Catholic Social Teaching that for decades has guided how we reflect on the world around us and take action for positive change. Just as we share Pope Leo's concerns for people's right to participate in the decisions shaping our world, our perspective is rooted solidly in the values and tradition that inspired Catholic Sisters to found NETWORK more than 50 years ago in response to the troubles of their times.

Our faith communities offer both solid networks and a trusted moral voice. When people of faith work together, we can help drive civic participation to transform society. We saw this with the labor rights and Civil Rights movements, as well as the ongoing struggles for voting rights and affordable health care, food, and housing today. In all of these spaces, faith communities and organizations are front and center. NETWORK's amazing partners and our coalition play a vital role in spreading the word and inviting even more people into our sacred work, together.

Pope Leo reminds us that, "Democracy recognizes the dignity of every person and calls each citizen to participate responsibly in the pursuit of the common good." With "See. Love. Vote.," by taking action, we strive to live democracy to its fullest.

Laurie Carafone is NETWORK's Executive Director.



Laurie Carafone

Notable Quotables

What justice-seekers have been saying this quarter

"Sometimes we are called to embody joyful defiance, speaking out when it would be easier to be silent, and when the signs of the time necessitate this, faith guides us."

— NETWORK Executive Director Laurie Carafone to the Lansing, MI Prayer Walk for Peace, Justice, and Dignity for Immigrants, May 31

"The focus needs to remain on these detainees that are living in these poor conditions and fearful about what comes next."

— U.S. Senator Andy Kim (D-NJ) after being pepper sprayed by ICE agents at an immigration protest outside Delaney Hall Detention Center in Newark, May 26

"[R]eligious language should not be used to baptize reckless power, excuse preventive war or pretend that moral seriousness belongs only to those willing to bomb first and ask questions later."

— Robert Shaw of the Virginia NETWORK Advocates Team in a letter to the editor of the Washington Post, June 8

"A more moral AI is not enough if that morality is determined by a few. What is needed is a more active political involvement that is capable of ... protecting the opportunities for communities still to be able to participate and ask questions."

— Pope Leo XIV in his encyclical Magnifica Humanitas ("Magnificent Humanity"), May 15

"You can't earn a billion dollars. ... You can get market power. You can break rules. You can abuse labor laws. You can pay people less than what they're worth. But you can't earn that."

— Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (NY-14) on the "It's Open" podcast, May 8

"Nobody deserves to go on with their day or for several days starving. We all deserve access to food because it is a necessity that can impact every aspect of our lives."

— Leslie Gracia, a student at DePaul University and a Sr. Carol Coston, OP Fellow in NETWORK's Young Advocates Leadership Lab (Y.A.L.L.), in an April 21 reflection on NETWORK's website

"It felt holy that we were engaging in actions that our forebears have engaged in for the preservation of freedoms that they had to fight for. Now it's our time to fight for it. This is a difficult, painful, intense moment to be alive in America, where our rights are being stripped away from us."

— State Rep. Justin Pearson discussing Tennessee gerrymandering in an interview, May 29

"Freedom is rare. Stretching back beyond the horizon of recorded history, most humans who have ever lived have lived at the mercy of lords and masters and kings. But we are a nation founded on the ... radical idea that all human beings have a natural right to liberty."

— U.S. Senator John Ossoff (D-GA) at a rally in Atlanta, May 31



Leeana Varga (center holding sign), stands with participants in the May 6 rally for a moral budget that she organized in New York's 17th Congressional District during her time with NETWORK's new Organizing Institute. She is joined by (back row): Dave Loretan, Sr. Roni Schweyen, MM, Casandra Chen, Sr. Genie Natividad, MM, Cecilia Brennan, Sr. Donna Brunell, OP, Sr. Carol DeAngelo, SCNY, Lou Antonelli, and Regina Blakeslee; and (front row): Sr. Janet Marchesani, OP, Sr. Bibiana Bunuan, MM, Sr. Lil Mattingly, MM, and Sr. Mary Mullady, MM.

Leveling Up — and Out

With New Organizing Institute, NETWORK Calls on Advocates to Go Deeper into Community

BY DON CLEMMER

Kathy Michel didn't see herself radically expanding her work with NETWORK, but that changed with a simple invitation to go out into her community.

"I am such an introvert," notes the Ohio-based Advocate. And so it was challenging "to go beyond the letter writing, and the calling, and the rallies."

Mary Therese Fazzini, a retired restorative justice practitioner on Chicago's south side, recently received the same challenge.

"We want to be near like-minded people, because that's our comfort zone," she says. "We have to push ourselves beyond that."

The challenge was to move beyond advocating for issues and lobbying legislators and enter the work of community organizing. That was the challenge posed to a group of almost 90 justice-seekers over four months in the spring of 2026, the first cohort of NETWORK's Organizing Institute.

The Institute is a project developed by NETWORK's Grassroots Mobilization Team in response to the dire social and political climate in the U.S. today.

"Organizing is about reclaiming our power and recognizing that we do live in a democracy," says Sr. Emily TeKolste, SP, one of the planners. "Even in the face of authoritarianism, we do have power."

To build that power, the Organizing Institute focused on deepening people's skills in areas including recruitments, team building, event planning, and authoritarian resistance. The result was an experience that forever changed and augmented how they approach their work.

(continued on page 6)



An invitation from NETWORK's Grassroots Mobilization Team prompted Kathy Michel to grow her activism into new areas through NETWORK's new Organizing Institute.

Relational building blocks

NETWORK's Organizing Institute drew inspiration in part from the Organizing Revival, a large gathering of secular and faith-based grassroots organizations.

"Last June, I was sitting in a hotel ballroom in Philadelphia with about 250 faith-based organizers from across the country, and Bishop Dwayne Royster, the Executive Director of Faith in Action, challenged us to truly build power: not simply expanding our field, but developing skilled volunteer leaders who can cultivate relationships and invite others into the work," recalls Meg Olson, NETWORK's Grassroots Mobilization Director.

"This is exactly what we're doing: the participants are developing a shared political analysis of what's at stake right now for ourselves and our neighbors as well as the organizing skills to equip them to respond with others, in community."

Practically, this means providing participants with resources and tools. They learned how to conduct an organizing one-on-one conversation to engage new people. The curriculum also introduced the snowflake model, a grassroots organizational structure that emphasizes relationship and distribution of authority. And participants also worked in intentionally diverse small groups as they processed the new information.

"I learned that organizing is fundamentally about relationships and accompaniment, not just the mobilization part," says Diandra Garcia, who serves the Sisters of Charity of New York in their Peace, Justice, and Integrity of Creation office. Garcia,

"It's stretching the horizons of my imagination and capacity to be a leavening agent within the circles of people I move."

KATHY MICHEL

whose small group gave themselves the name "Holy Trouble," says she now understands how organizing promotes sustainable work "when people feel seen and connected to something larger than themselves."

Jane Reyes, a Providence Associate who lives in Indiana, lauds the quality of resources the Organizing Institute has supplied.

"I am really being given a highly valuable skillset!" she says. "It's strategically creating space to awaken and activate our personal power."

"The materials that NETWORK has given us are so amazing," Fazzini echoes. "It's so on point. It's so useful." While she at times felt overwhelmed by the program, Fazzini finds the time she gets to spend with Catholic Sisters—one of whom was in her breakout group—to be an extra grace.

"I love hanging out with the nuns," she says, adding that it's the Sisters who have modeled for her that "we do this work with love, and it's sometimes really hard to love what's going on in my neighborhood."



Mary Therese Fazzini

"I learned that organizing is fundamentally about relationship and accompaniment, not just the mobilization part."

DIANDRA GARCIA, ADVOCACY AND PROGRAM COORDINATOR FOR THE OFFICE OF PEACE, JUSTICE, AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION OF THE SISTERS OF CHARITY OF NEW YORK

Organizational challenges



Jane Egan

Neighborhoods themselves can be tricky for the work of organizing. Jane Egan, a New Jersey NETWORK Advocates Team member, finds her life in suburbia an obstacle due in part to the literal physical distance between neighbors.

“It sometimes doesn’t seem to be as alive as a city,” she notes, adding that it’s “more challenging in terms of broadening your team and your outreach.”

As a way of broadening their outreach, Organizing Institute participants were to stage pop-up events in their cities. Leeana Varga was one such participant in the Organizing Institute to embrace this work, and she cites support from NETWORK staff as key to her confidence and eventual success.

“At first I was nervous, mostly because I wasn’t sure how many people we could gather,” Varga shares. “Once we’d picked a date and location, [Catherine Gillette, NETWORK Senior Grassroots Mobilization Organizer] spread the word among NETWORK’s other local contacts. In the end there were a dozen or so of us, from the Dominican Sisters of Hope, the Maryknoll Sisters, and others from NETWORK. Catherine made it super easy.”

She adds, “It was a lot of fun despite the rain, and we all left feeling empowered and hopeful.”

“I believe I have been given
an incredible gift.”

JANE REYES

Between 15 and 20 people attended the Dayton, Ohio rally of Organizing Institute participant Meghann Naveau. Despite some encouragement from people in passing cars, who expressed love for the signs her group held, Naveau says she still had misgivings.

“It was tempting in that moment to think ... is this really meaningful? ... Does it matter if I show up?” Naveau recalls. To these doubts, the Organizing Institute offered the validation that, not only were people impressed that she got 15 at her first event, but also that others feel the same way.

“It’s not just my tiny little bubble right where I am, right? Like, no, there are other people that also feel similarly and are continuing to find the joy in the work that we need to keep going.”



Nancy Woeste (left) and NETWORK Organizing Institute participant Meghann Naveau hold signs at the May 8 “Stop the Harm. Start the Healing.” rally in Dayton, Ohio. Naveau organized the event, which included the Sisters of the Precious Blood, Springfield Neighbors United, and Dayton area Catholics.

“It’s stretching the horizons of my imagination and capacity to be a leavening agent within the circles of the people I move,” Michel concurs. “I don’t see me going out and starting something new, but to be loving and to be encouragement.”

Egan sees the incredible importance of connecting with NETWORK and the Organizing Institute at a moment when, for instance, the Voting Rights Act—a law passed in her lifetime—has been essentially struck down. And she has found that the young people she’s encountered no longer take the freedom they enjoy in a democracy as a given.

“You don’t have to just sit back and let things happen,” she says. “The Organizing Institute says people in different places, in different places in their advocacy life ... we all have something to offer.”

Reyes notes that the Organizing Institute has activated some of her dormant strength that she had forgotten about but can now apply to public affairs.

“I believe that I have been given an incredible gift,” she says. “To whom much is given much is required, so I’m taking this very seriously.” ☀️



SEE. LOVE. VOTE.

NETWORK
NETWORK ADVOCATES FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE

Catholics and people of faith are voting this fall, inspired by the common good!

Together, we can make life better in our communities.

"See. Love. Vote." is a nonpartisan education campaign rooted in the Catholic Social Justice tradition to get out the vote in the 2026 elections! Led by NETWORK Advocates (a 501(c)(3) organization) and faith partners across the country, we are connecting communities with the tools they need to be informed and engaged voters, inspired by the common good.

Our shared message is:

**Catholics and people of faith
love our neighbors by voting.**



We will learn about policies and leaders who will work for what we all need to thrive — affordable health care, food, and housing; welcoming neighborhoods; good paying jobs; clean air and water; and more.

Equipped with knowledge and love, we will show up to vote this fall!

Learn more about
See. Love. Vote.



networkadvocates.org/vote

Invite your family, friends, neighbors, and community members to visit our website to register to vote, check their registration status, find their polling place, see who and what is on their ballot, and more!

Why "See. Love. Vote."?

Our campaign is inspired by "See, Judge, Act", a framework of Catholic Social Teaching that guides how we reflect on the world around us and take action for positive change.



SEE. We see how some policy choices are making groceries, rent, and health care unaffordable, tearing families apart, trying to keep us from voting, and prioritizing profits over people.



LOVE. To this reality, we are responding with love — love for our neighbors, our families, and all our communities.



VOTE. This love propels us to vote in the 2026 elections and beyond, to make life better for all of us.

***We take seriously our
call to love our neighbor.***

*The Catholic tradition calls
all people to participate in
shaping our shared future,
including by voting.*

*Together we can build a
country where all of us can
thrive!*



Get Involved! Get Out the Vote.

Democracy takes all of us

It's important to make sure that not only YOU are registered to vote and have your voting plan, but that your family, friends, and neighbors are, too!

When we all vote, we can deliver what our communities need to thrive — quality health care, affordable housing and groceries, good jobs with paid leave, and more!

Ways to Take Action

- **Pass out the See. Love. Vote. Checklist in your community**
 - *Bonus: Host a checklist party and fill out the checklists for your candidates together!*
- **Invite 5 people to register to vote** using the tool on our website
- **Host a Voter Registration Drive** at your local park, farmer's market, or parish
- **Host a Community Dinner** to talk with your neighbors about your concerns and hopes for your community
- **Canvass** door-to-door or at a local event
- **Write and send postcards to Catholic voters** reminding them to get out and vote
- **Invite 5 friends or family members** to make their voting plans using our voting plan worksheet
- **Host a Ballot Research Party** to learn with friends about who and what is on your ballot
- **Write a Letter to the Editor** about the importance of voting
- **Share about the campaign on social media** to inspire others to vote
 - *NETWORK has graphics and sample language you can share*
- **Donate to our campaign** so that more people across the country can access our resources and get out to VOTE!

Learn more!

Head to our website

networkadvocates.org/vote

to find **guides and materials** to support you on these actions.
(continually updated)



Loving Responses

Troubled Times Call for Action at Every Level

In her final event before the 2024 election, Vice President Kamala Harris said, “When you love something, you fight for it—and I love this country with all my heart.”

It is that same sentiment that draws many of us to the streets for No Kings Rallies or prayer vigils and marches. It calls us to join ICE Watches, fold countless zines about the Big Bad Budget Law, write Letters to the Editors, call our Members of Congress, and other forms of activism. We do this because we love our country and we can’t stand to see the direction in which we are heading.

We yearn for the beautiful tomorrow, where people have the right to immigrate and seek asylum or programs like Temporary Protected Status (TPS), where our freedom to vote is protected, where kids have access to fresh food and quality health care, and where we don’t have to worry about another war. Even in the midst of these difficult times, we know that this world is possible. We know that it is possible to have a world—a country—where everyone has what they need to thrive and where families are kept together.

In some ways, we were made for such a time as this. The Second Vatican Council taught us to “read the signs of the times.” Right now, we see that the signs of the times are calling us to stand on the side of the oppressed; to fight for immigrants, women and children, clean air and water; and to protect voting rights and our democracy. We can’t ignore the signs of the times or the attempts to erase our democracy. They shout at us from news feeds, every alert that ICE has been spotted, and every social media post stoking false narratives.

We see families and individuals languishing at detention centers, long lines at food pantries, soaring electric bills, loss of jobs as longstanding organizations are gutted, and an increase in violent rhetoric. We cannot pretend that this is business as usual nor can we feel so dismayed that we lose hope.

Even as we hear of one bad bill (or Supreme Court ruling) after another, we must take to the streets and chapels to fight for the inclusive country we want.

We must pay attention to what is going on around us. We must stay embedded in our local communities *and* read (or watch the news). Sometimes this is challenging—especially when the need or the news is so overwhelming. Even as we hear of one bad bill (or Supreme Court ruling) after another, we must take to the streets and chapels to fight for the inclusive country we want.

From my vantage point, I get to witness people across the country—who see what is going on in Washington D.C. and in their own communities—take action. Partnering with others in their community, they host or attend prayer vigils outside of ICE detention centers. They host pop-up rallies with their neighbors calling on their Members of Congress to stop funding billionaires and to protect SNAP and Medicaid from further cuts. They write letters educating other members of their community about the threats of the SAVE America Act, the 2026 House version of the Farm Bill, and 2026 budget bills. And, in doing so, our field shows us the harm these bills would cause in cities and towns across the country.

Our activism does not stop with rallies, vigils, letters to the editor, zines, our countless prayers. Our activism fuels our power and determination to change the direction of our country. We are called to respond to the needs of the time with boldness and courage. And we have the ability to do this every election—when we carry the needs of the people around us and our hopes for the future to the ballot box and exercise our right to vote.

Sr. Eilis McCulloh, HM, is NETWORK’s Grassroots Education and Organizing Coordinator.



Sr. Eilis McCulloh, HM, (center) attends a vigil outside ICE headquarters in Washington, D.C. on April 23 along with (L to R) Sr. Carol Zinn, SSJ, Sr. Robbie Pentecost, OSF, Sr. Maria Orlandini, OSF, and Sr. Marie Lucey, OSF.

The Sacred Work of Voting

It's Not Just Whether We Vote, But Whether We Help Make Voting Work for Everyone

Voting has never been abstract for me. I grew up in South Dallas, where policy is not a debate but a daily condition—where disinvestment shapes neighborhoods, where exclusion leaves visible marks, and where power is unevenly distributed by design. As a Black man in America, I carry a history in which my ancestors were counted for representation but denied it in practice, governed by systems they could not fully shape, and told that their freedom would come later.

That history is not past. It lives on as policy memory—present wherever communities are mapped out of power, wherever eligible voters are forced to prove again what the Constitution already guarantees, and wherever the will of the people is treated as a problem to be managed rather than a mandate to be honored.

Racist gerrymandering across the South—and endorsed by the Supreme Court—threatens to erase what gains we have made in representation. Talk of increased law enforcement presence near polling places—even when not fully implemented—has a chilling effect. For communities with long memories of voter intimidation, these signals matter. They reinforce a message that participation may come with risk.

Today, I live in Washington, D.C. and serve in pastoral ministry and government relations daily on Capitol Hill for a more just democracy. This work—and the threats to it and my people—is not theoretical to me. It is deeply personal. And for those of us shaped by faith traditions that proclaim human dignity, the vote is not a partisan tool. It is a moral instrument, one way dignity becomes visible and lived out in public life.

Disinterest and nonparticipation are not options in a year like this. The choice and act of voting in 2026 will shape whether this country moves further toward authoritarianism or re-commits itself—however imperfectly—to multiracial democracy. Voting alone will not solve every injustice, but without it, the communities most affected by injustice are pushed even further from the decisions that shape their lives.

We must prepare, participate, and protect the vote: Check and update your voter registration early, and help others do the same. Make a concrete plan to vote, whether early, by mail, or on Election Day. Follow all instructions carefully if voting by mail, and return ballots promptly. Learn your rights and share voter protection resources within your community. Support election integrity by volunteering as a poll worker or nonpartisan monitor.



Min. Christian S. Watkins protests outside the U.S. Supreme Court in April.

These actions are practical, but they are also moral. Participation in public life is an act of charity, but it shapes the conditions in which people either flourish or struggle. When access to the ballot is restricted, it is not just a procedural issue. It is a wound to human dignity and the common good.

Voting is not the whole of democracy, but it is one of its load-bearing walls. Without it, accountability weakens and exclusion deepens. With it, we create the possibility—however imperfect—of a more just and inclusive society. So, the question before us is not simply whether we will vote. It is whether we will defend the conditions that make voting meaningful for everyone. That work requires persistence, solidarity, and a refusal to accept disenfranchisement as inevitable.

In my own work, and in the mission of NETWORK, voting rights remain central because they sit at the intersection of so many struggles: racial justice, economic equity, and the fight against concentrated power. I carry both the weight of history and the hope of my faith: that every person is endowed with dignity and has a rightful voice in shaping our shared future.

In this election, may we act on that belief, not only by casting our own ballots, but by ensuring that every eligible voice can be heard and counted.

Min. Christian S. Watkins is NETWORK's Senior Government Relations Advocate.



(far left) NETWORK Executive Director Laurie Carafone speaks at an Earth Day Celebration on Capitol Hill, April 22.



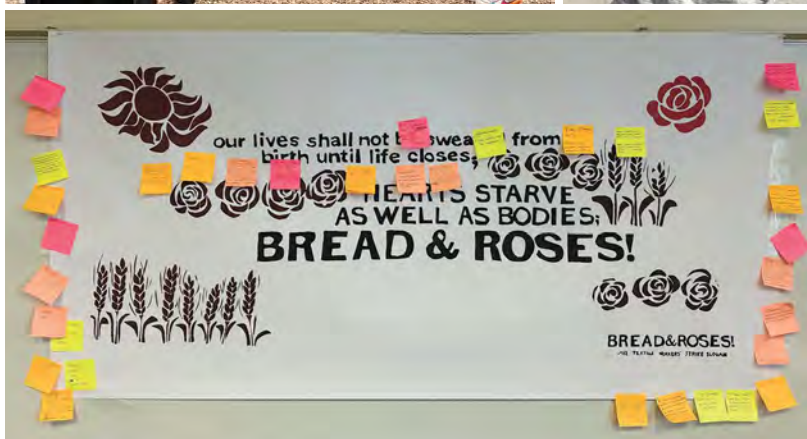
(near left) Giovana Oaxaca, NETWORK Senior Government Relations Manager, speaks on April 21 at the Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD) gathering for "Protecting People, Peace, and Planet" in Washington, D.C.

(near right) Sr. Elis McCulloh, HM, walks with Sr. Barbara Beasley, RGS, at the Corpus Christi Eucharistic Procession for Immigrants in Washington, D.C. on June 7.

(far right) Rep. Pramila Jayapal (WA-07) and NETWORK Executive Director Laurie Carafone appear at the Tax Day Rally sponsored by Americans for Tax Fairness on Capitol Hill, April 15.



Participants in the interfaith Prayer Walk for Peace, Justice, and Dignity for Immigrants carry signs toward the Michigan State Capitol in Lansing (left) on May 31. Dominican Sisters of Grand Rapids (below) were among the many people who attended the event.



NETWORK's Sr. Carol Coston, OP Fellows hosted on-campus events throughout their spring semester. (above left) Amiyuh Tobias leads a Stations of the Cross service at Loyola University New Orleans. (above right) A student at Manhattan University displays the items she received while participating in a Bread and Roses dinner. (above) A sign at University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio bears the reflections of students at a Bread and Roses Dinner on what would help them not only meet their basic needs but live fully.



SEE. LOVE. VOTE. Checklist

As Catholics, we are called to love our neighbors. Today, we **SEE** how immoral policies are harming all of us – making our groceries, rent, and health care unaffordable, tearing apart immigrant families, and trying to keep us from voting. Grounded in the Catholic Social Justice tradition, we are responding with **LOVE** – love that propels us to **VOTE** in the 2026 elections and beyond, to make life better for all our communities!

How do Catholics love our neighbors?

We vote for leaders who will make sure that all of us have what we need to thrive!



"Democracy recognizes the dignity of every person and calls each citizen to participate responsibly in the pursuit of the common good."

NETWORK
NETWORK ADVOCATES FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE

Candidate name: _____

Will your candidate work for...

Good-paying jobs with benefits and protections?

- ☐ Ensure all workers can earn a living wage with benefits including paid leave and a secure retirement
- ☐ Protect the right of all workers to join a union for better pay and working conditions
- ☐ Protect workers from unsafe and inhumane work conditions and from being replaced by artificial intelligence
- ☐ Make community college and training and apprenticeship programs free

Catholic teaching affirms the dignity of work and workers and calls for wages that let us "live a truly human life." (Mater et Magistra, #71)



This resource can support you in educating yourself as a faithful voter. Fill this out for your candidates, share it with friends, and make a plan to vote!

Learn more at
networkadvocates.org/vote

Quality, affordable health care for all?

- ☐ Expand affordable, quality health care for all and end medical debt
- ☐ Lower the cost of lifesaving prescription medicines
- ☐ Invest in maternal health programs to support the lives of parents and babies
- ☐ Reinvest in rural hospitals, nursing homes, maternity wards, and other critical services that have closed due to massive cuts to health care

The Catholic Church affirms that food, housing, and health care are not privileges reserved for the wealthy, but universal rights. (Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, #166)

Affordable food and housing for all?

- ☐ Lower rent by expanding affordable housing programs, especially for seniors, young adults, disabled people, and low-income families
- ☐ Stop corporations from buying up single-family homes and driving up housing costs
- ☐ Lower the cost of groceries by removing tariffs on food and other essentials and stopping corporate price hikes



SEE LOVE VOTE Checklist



Candidate name: _____

NETWORK
NETWORK ADVOCATES FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE

Will your candidate work for...

An economy that puts families over billionaires?

- ☐ Ensure the wealthy and corporations pay their fair share in taxes, including with a billionaire's tax, to fund the essentials our families need
- ☐ Support U.S. jobs by removing corporate tax incentives that shift jobs overseas
- ☐ Fund childcare programs to ease the cost of living for families
- ☐ Provide the full Child Tax Credit to all families

Catholic teaching calls for an inclusive economy that places people over profit and ensures that we all have what we need to thrive. (Populorum Progressio, #33)

Affordable energy, clean air, and safe drinking water?

- ☐ Lower energy prices by investing in clean energy
- ☐ Protect our communities from AI data centers that pollute our water and drive up our utility bills
- ☐ Protect clean air and safe drinking water for every community

Care for our common home is a requirement of the Catholic faith. (Laudato Si', #8)

Safe and welcoming neighborhoods?

- ☐ Invest in vibrant neighborhoods instead of funding mass deportations and more for-profit prisons
- ☐ Keep families together, support the right to seek safety from persecution, and create pathways to earn citizenship
- ☐ Ensure immigrant families can go to religious services, schools, and hospitals without fear
- ☐ Support common-sense gun safety laws to save lives and create safe neighborhoods

The Catholic Church insists upon every person's intrinsic dignity, our right to live free of violence, and our right to migrate to seek a safe and good life for ourselves and our families. (USCCB, Strangers No Longer, #19, 28)

Our say in shaping our future?

- ☐ Ensure all eligible voters can cast a ballot and have an equal say in the decisions that affect us
- ☐ Ensure the will of the people prevails over the interests of corporations and the ultra-wealthy

Catholic teaching calls each of us to participate in public life, especially through voting, to serve the common good. (Christifidelis Laici, #42)

- ☒ Check or update your voter registration status
- ☒ Find your polling place
- ☒ See who and what is on your ballot
- ☒ Learn more and get involved!

VOTE!



networkadvocates.org/vote

Your IRA Can Make a Difference for the Next Generation of Justice-Seekers

Are you obligated to withdraw required minimum distributions (RMD) from your IRA?



If you are 73 years of age or older and own a Traditional IRA account, or if you inherited an IRA, you could make a powerful impact on our justice ministry — while potentially reducing your taxable income.

You may be able to make Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) from your IRA to 501(c)(3) organizations like NETWORK Advocates for Catholic Social Justice, totaling up to \$111,000 in tax year 2026. Your QCDs can count toward your RMD and help fulfill your obligation to withdraw funds from your IRA. And they can make a real difference in our high-impact justice advocacy efforts.

You can also name NETWORK Advocates as a beneficiary of your IRA. If you do so, please let us know, so we can honor your generous commitment as a member of our Bread and Roses Society.

Please consult your tax advisor or financial professional to determine what is best for your personal situation.

To get started, IRA Administrators often need the following information to make your gift:

RECIPIENT NAME: **NETWORK Education Program**

TAX ID NUMBER: **52-1307764**

ADDRESS: **820 First Street NE, Suite 350
Washington, DC 20002**



For more information about making a gift from your IRA to NETWORK Advocates, contact:
Maggie Brevig, Development Director, at mbrevig@networklobby.org or (202) 601-7864.



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