

BEFORE YOUR GATHERING

❑ Choose a time, date, and location for your gathering.

Ideally, your gathering is between **July 31st and August 12th** so you can fully utilize the resourcing and support systems provided by One Million Rising. Consider who you want to invite to the gathering and what would work best for them.

This could be your living room or backyard, a community center, or a local café—anywhere that feels comfortable. Please note, if you are hosting your event at your home for the safety of all, you should **NOT** invite anyone who you are not socially connected with. Meaning, strangers. For example, ask folks that you know to recruit folks they know vs posting in a facebook group where you do not know everyone.

Be mindful of distractions so attendees can show up as their full selves. In-person meetings allow more space for intentional connection, but if you plan on hosting virtually, make sure your Wi-Fi is strong.

❑ Register your event on Mobilize.

See above guidance on registering your event, and if you have any further questions please email us at onemillionrising@nokings.org.

❑ Recruit attendees.

Set a goal for how many people you want at your gathering. Because drop-off is normal, plan for **twice that number** to RSVP on Mobilize. For example, if you want 10 people present, aim for 20 “yes” responses. A powerful gathering can still happen with just three or four motivated people—so start where you are.

1. Brainstorm your network and make a plan.
 - Invite anyone you think will care. Start with people you know—friends, family, co-workers, neighbors. Make a list and choose the best way to reach each person (text, phone, DM, in-person). Personal asks work best.
 - Those people may have others in mind who they’d like to bring along and that’s great! Please use your judgment on whether expanding the circle to friends-of-friends makes sense for your gathering.
2. If you are interested, cast a wider net! If you are doing so, please remember your event should **NOT** be at someone's home, but in a public location like a library, park, or community center.
 - Post your private Mobilize link in like-minded group chats or closed social media groups.
 - Ask to make a quick announcement at a club meeting, faith service, union lunch, or class.
 - Hand out flyers or knock on doors in your neighborhood.

3. Recruit helpers.

People turn out more reliably when they have a role. Delegating also lightens your load. Possible asks:

- “Could you bring snacks or drinks?”
- “Would you come early to set up chairs?”
- “Can you lead a short icebreaker?”

One role we highly recommend everyone recruit for is a Safety Lead or a De-Escalation Lead.

While Mobilize events will be set to private and only accessible to people you’ve directly invited or have the link to RSVP, having some point in removing uninvited attendees could help reduce future stress.

☐ **Prepare your space materials.**

- Sign-in sheet, or your Host Dashboard, open on a phone/laptop so you can check off names.
- Printed agenda + discussion script for each person (or one copy you project/hold up).
- Sticky notes, pens, and scrap paper for quick brainstorming.
- Large pad or butcher paper + markers if you want to map pillars together.
- Name tags (helpful if folks don’t all know each other).
- Test out the sound! Make sure the space is quiet enough so folks can hear one another or prepare to have amplified sound. Always test out any amplified sound before the event to make sure it is working properly.
- Drinks and snacks—potluck style or a simple bowl of chips; tell people what to expect.
- A small “Welcome—Community Resistance Gathering this way” sign on your door/mailbox. Or some sort of symbol, a ribbon or balloon, so folks can identify the place they are supposed to be.
- As much as possible, chairs are arranged in a circle so everyone can see and hear each other.
- If virtual: email the agenda/script link ahead of time and test your audio and WiFi.

☐ **Confirm your guests.**

In the last 24 hours before your gathering, call or text everyone who RSVP’d. Confirmation calls boost turnout by **roughly 25 percent!** Mobilize will send automated reminders, but a personal nudge makes attendance much more likely. Reach out at least a day ahead, and—if you want to go the extra mile—shoot a quick morning-of text: “Hey [Name]! Can’t wait to see you at our gathering today at [Time]!”

DURING YOUR GATHERING

- ❑ **Prepare at least 30 minutes early to set up.**
For in-person events, set everything up at least 30 minutes before the gathering starts. For virtual events, we recommend jumping on your Zoom or Google Hangout 15 minutes before to make sure there are no technical issues.
- ❑ **Greet your attendees as they arrive.** If this role is delegated, make sure your Greeter is ready to go!
- ❑ **Launch your gathering!** Kick off your gathering by welcoming everyone and grounding folks in why you're there.

AFTER YOUR GATHERING

- ❑ **Clean up.** Enlist a few volunteers to help you clean up the area in which you gathered, if needed. Please respect public property!

Organizing pro tip: People will be more likely to help if you make this ask at the beginning of your gathering and throughout the agenda.

- ❑ **Please mark all attendees in your Mobilize Host Dashboard!**
This is an important step so we can track our progress toward our one million goal!
- ❑ **[Send us your photos of your event!](#)**
- ❑ **Send thank yous** to your gathering attendees and include any follow-up asks if you have them.
- ❑ **Take a breath.** YOU DID GREAT.

If you have any concerns about safety or security, email Onemillionrising@nokings.org.