

WELCOME TO



BERRIEN  **DEMS**



neighborhood
OUTREACH

We are
grateful
you are
here!


“

THE BEST WAY TO SAVE
DEMOCRACY
IS TO PARTICIPATE IN IT.



TODAY'S AGENDA



1

Introductions

2

Why Join Us

3

Roles Defined

4

How to Help

5

Meeting & Contact Info

LET'S BEGIN!

Are You Ready?



INTRODUCTION

Meet your hosts & co-chairs

Stephen R. Hayes

Watervliet City Precinct 1

Jennifer Tomshack

St. Joseph City Precinct 1



Picture yourself here!



This could be you!

WHY JOIN US

1

connect with others

2

win elections

You can help Berrien Dems right where you are—in your neighborhood.

HOW? SIMPLE!

Represent the Democratic Party in your neighborhood and your neighborhood in the Democratic Party.

WAYS TO REPRESENT IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

- Help Democrats get registered to vote.
- Take information on issues and candidates to the voters.
- Recruit new party members and candidates.
- Help turn out the Democratic vote in your neighborhood on Election Day.

- Monitor local government meetings.
- Keep Democratic leaders informed about developments and the issues that concern voters.

**THESE ARE JUST A FEW
OF THE MANY
IMPORTANT WAYS!**

ROLES DEFINED

Before we describe our roles, we need to understand what a precinct is:

Many people colloquially refer to their local precinct as their neighborhood.

When our precinct organization is strong, our party is strong.

What is a Precinct?

A precinct is the smallest political unit in our electoral system.

How many precincts are in Berrien County?

Berrien County has 62 precincts over 30 cities and townships.

Some cities or townships have only one precinct while others have up to six precincts.

ROLES DEFINED

Let's look at the different types of Neighborhood Representatives we have in Berrien County:

What do Neighborhood Representatives do?

They are the primary link between the Berrien County Democratic Party and their neighborhood voters. They work to engage with voters, inform voters, inform the party, and help to turn out voters.

Precinct Delegates are elected every 2 years during the Primaries.

Precinct Captains are appointed by the Neighborhood Outreach chairs at any time.

What types of Neighborhood Representatives are there?

Precinct Delegates, Precinct Captains, Precinct Volunteers

How many Neighborhood Representatives can we have?

There is a limit of 269 Precinct Delegates in Berrien County, but there is no limit to the amount of Precinct Captains or Precinct Volunteers.

Precinct Volunteers help their fellow Neighborhood Representatives.

HOW TO HELP:

1

TALK TO YOUR NEIGHBORS

An easy first step to get involved! It doesn't have to be a formal pitch. Just make it known in casual conversation that you're involved with the Berrien Dems and what you support. Tell us what people are saying in response!

2

CANVASS YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

We'll show you how and pair you up. Canvassing is not as intimidating as you think!

Studies show door-to-door canvassing is the MOST effective means of connecting with voters and getting out the vote (3x more than phoning, 34x more than email, 130x more than dropping flyers).

MORE OPTIONS!

PHONE BANKING

We provide an easy-to-follow online system that includes scripts and everything you need. Do it at home in your spare time—or in groups at the Berrien Dems office.

LOCAL PUBLIC BOARD MEETINGS

Pick a public meeting in your neighborhood, such as school board, library board, or city/village/township board. You don't have to say a word. Gather the agenda and minutes, and take notes. Your presence creates accountability. Learn who the players are and gain a base of knowledge that you can relate back to the party and candidates.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers gather regularly at the Berrien Dems office (more so closer to elections) to help with various crucial tasks. Meet people who share your values—and have fun!

VOTER PROTECTION TEAM

Fight voter suppression and ensure that voters can access a ballot and have their vote counted. Volunteer as a challenger or observer in polling places and absentee vote counting boards. Training is provided.

MEETINGS

Come to the Neighborhood Outreach meetings via Zoom at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of every month. You are welcome!

CONTACTS

1

Stephen
269.359.0009

2

Jennifer
269.849.9827

BerrienDemsOutreach@gmail.com

berriendems.org

2517 Niles Ave.
St. Joe 49085



**THANK
YOU!**

Go
Berrien
Dems!