Reasons to Register to Vote

Reasons to vote are different for everyone. For many it’s voting for or against an issue or candidate. It can be making sure voter turnout in your community is high so you and your community have greater access to elected officials. Or expressing your voice on the outcome of an issue or important race. For first time voters it’s often just understanding voting easier than they think - and they can get help. Try different approaches.

For this nonprofit, your community…or those that can’t vote

For this nonprofit
Our nonprofit depends on support from the city or state to maintain our funding and services. Elected officials respond to neighborhoods and communities where more people are registered to vote and vote.

For your community
Neighborhoods and communities that vote get more attention from candidates and office holders. They are less likely to visit and listen to communities that don’t participate in elections.

For our kids and youth
People under 18 can’t vote. Our children or youth depend on us to represent their voices too! When we vote, we are looking out for our kids, and their futures. Vote for their future as well as yours.

For neighbors not yet citizens
Many in this community are not citizens. They can’t vote. They need you/us to vote for them.

Because of what’s at stake in the next election

An issue
Cite an issue specific to your nonprofit or community like health care access, affordable housing, school funding, etc. Who we elect can be as much about protecting a program as it is starting a new one.

A specific race
Mention an important or high profile race they might know about. Even if the election doesn’t look close, the size of the victory or loss can make a difference in what happens next.

A new candidate running
It is nonpartisan to point out interesting new candidates, like the first time an Asian-American or Latino candidate is running for a seat up for election.

An important ballot measure
Nonprofits can advocate for and against ballot measures and can be good reasons to vote.
To express your voice on an issue or candidate  
(*don’t let others decide for you*)

Every vote does count!
Remember: there is power in numbers. When we vote and get our family members to vote, we can impact outcomes and change the debate.

★ Many elections are decided by less than 100 votes.
★ You send a message by what candidate or party you vote for. Even if your candidate doesn’t win, the number of votes they do get impacts what’s decided by government.
★ How close the vote is changes who might run and win the next time.

Don’t let others decide for you
If you don’t vote, you’re letting others decide for you who wins and what issues matter.¹

Send a message. Register to vote for change
More people voting can send the message that we want new policies and more attention to this neighborhood.

Honor our history and the right to vote
Voting is one of our most important right as citizens. As long as this country has existed, communities like ours have had to fight for the right to vote. There are still people today who still don’t want some people to vote. It’s our turn to stand up and vote to preserve this right the honor of those who went before us.

It’s easier than you think

It’s easy
You do it once and it becomes easy to do

Even easier
If your state has recently expanded early voting, no-excuse mail voting or added language assistance, use that to say it’s become easier.

You can get help
You can get help voting. Ask your family and friends or someone follows politics. They’ll have good ideas on what’s important on the ballot for a candidate or ballot measure. (Have a handout on voting in your state and how to get help.)

Don’t know the candidates?
Say we’ll make sure you get information on the candidates before then next election. Or In the meantime, ask you friends and family. They may have some ideas.

And finally…

If you’re not registered, you can’t vote!

Learn more about the benefits of voting – for individuals, nonprofits and your health here.  
www.nonprofitvote.org/benefits-voting

¹ Today’s non-voters favor government and social services at a much higher rate than people who vote regularly on issues like health care spending on education, income inequality and public safety.