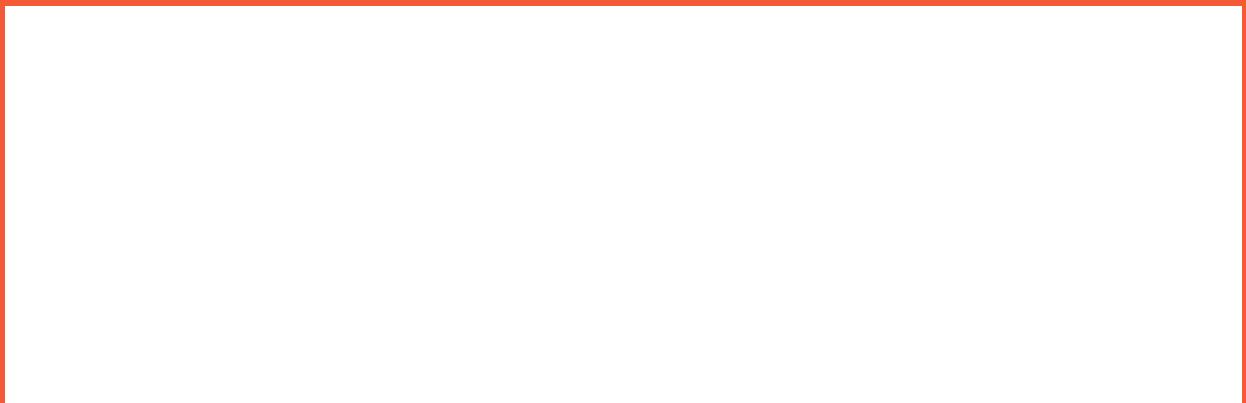


Engagement: Build Your Volunteer Network

Volunteers are heroes. They fight for you, work with you and are constant cheerleaders for your cause. As you grow, it's important to cultivate and foster these warriors in a meaningful way. This worksheet will help you build your network of committed advocates who can drive your mission and initiatives.

1. What do you need?

What parts of your mission will be moved forward by volunteers? What actions will be required of volunteers to do this?



2. Build your committed coalition

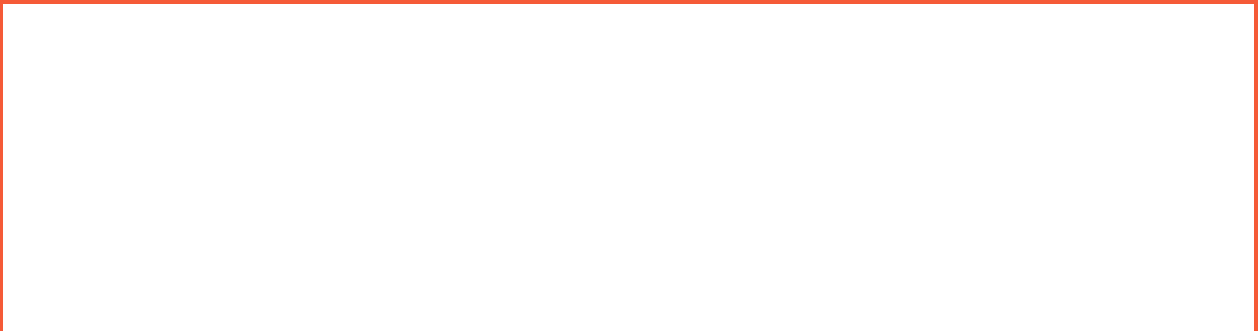
It's time to reach out and find some committed champions! Find passionate advocates by checking out related disease forums on social media, going to events and conferences around your issue and posting content on your own platform. As you meet these advocates in different settings, engage with them to understand a bit more about their passion while explaining what you are building. Find their skills, gifts and interests and see how they might intersect with your needs. This part is hard and vulnerable, but know that people want to make an impact and want to be empowered to lead.

Start building your list of committed advocates:



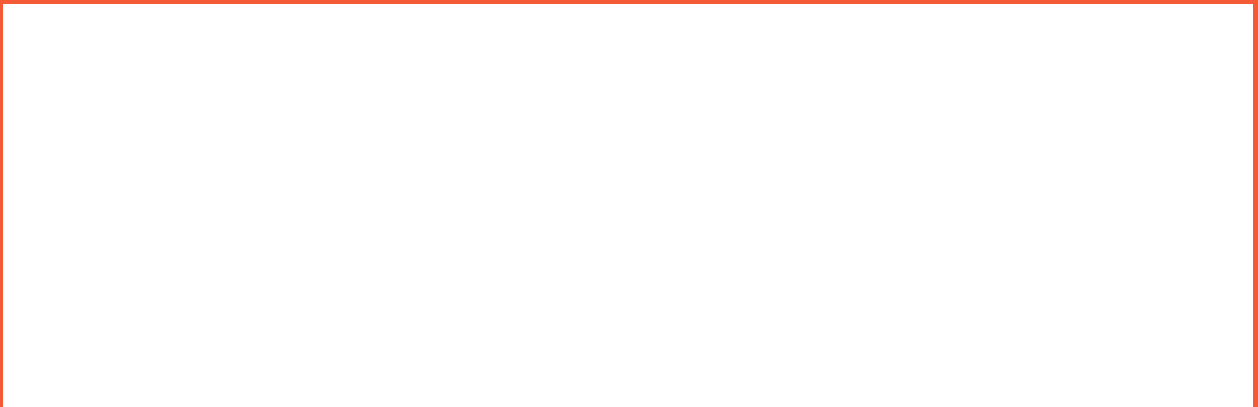
3. The devil is in the details

Now that you have your committed coalition, decide on what you'll meet about, how often and what you'll get done during and between the time you meet:



4. Grow your team

Ask your team of committed advocates to bring in five more people each to grow your team. Ask them to find people committed to the mission and willing to do the work that the group is striving to accomplish.



5. Simple enough right? Kind of. We know volunteer management is a big job, but it's so worth it. Putting a few key leaders in place who understand your goals and can become mentors to others as you grow is a great place to start. Who on your team is or has the potential to be a leader? Put their names here:



Keep listening to your volunteers. As much as you ask them to help on efforts, be sure to continuously share with them how important they are to driving forward your mission. You literally couldn't do it without them! Our last bit of advice as you go on this journey of building a movement is to not stop innovating. Not every idea will be worth acting on, but make sure you take the time to listen and give your team(s) the tools they need to roll with ideas they prioritize. Amazing innovation is born of opportunity.