POLITICAL PHONE CANVASSER JOB DESCRIPTION
Applications DUE MONDAY, OCTOBER 19 (or until positions are filled)

Who we are:
Seniors and Disability Action mobilizes and educates seniors and people with disabilities to fight for individual rights and social justice. Through individual support and collective action, we work together to create a city and world in which seniors and people with disabilities can live well and safely. SDA’s programs include education and empowerment classes, peer advocacy, computer training, and community organizing and advocacy in health care, home care, housing, and transit justice.

The opportunity:
In the final weeks before the November 3rd election, SDA will be conducting phone canvassing to engage San Francisco and Alameda County residents in conversations about the upcoming election. While we will discuss how to vote and key ballot initiatives in this year’s election, conversations will also be used for deep canvassing and cover aging, disability and whatever issues matter most to those we are speaking with. As described by People’s Action, “Deep canvassing is one of the most proven and durable forms of persuasion and is far more effective than other forms ... Deep canvasses are candid, two-way conversations where canvassers ask voters to share their relevant, emotionally significant experiences and reflect on them aloud.” We will also work to increase voting among residents of nursing homes and other care facilities, whose voting rights are threatened by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our goal with these calls is to build the larger senior and disability movement, while also increasing voter turnout and building support for key ballot measures. Please note that as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, we are not allowed to take positions on political candidates. This position is part-time; hours will be mostly in late afternoons and evenings. 10-15 hours per week, starting immediately and going through November 3, 2020.

The job consists primarily of 4-5 hour shifts of calling bay area voters. The goal will be to reach 8 people per hour and have in-depth conversations with 1-2 people per hour. Other job duties include entering and reporting data and reaching out to long-term care facilities.

Responsibilities include:

- Having non-judgmental phone conversations to hear voters’ views and experiences.
- Sharing narratives about personal experiences with disability and aging and discussing the impact of local ballot measures on older people and disabled people.
- Explaining SDA’s stance on three key propositions (Prop I in San Francisco, Prop 15 and Prop 17 statewide).
- Supporting with problem solving to access different voting options.
- Making many phone calls in a row.
- Data entry and note-taking from calls.
The ideal candidate will be passionate about community organizing with the senior and disability communities and understand the value of deep listening. The person will be flexible, confident in their beliefs but open to hearing those of others, good at working with people, and comfortable with learning on the job.

Requirements for this position:

- Availability for a group interview on Tuesday, October 20 and mandatory training on Wednesday, October 21.
- Commitment to social justice and SDA’s mission and values.
- Support for San Francisco Proposition I and California Propositions 15 and 17.
- Interest in community organizing; experience or willingness to learn.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Ability to both follow a rapport-building script and to personalize the conversation.
- Good interpersonal and relationship skills; ability to work with a wide variety of people.
- Phone service that allows call-out to all Bay Area counties.
- Regular computer and internet access during working hours.

Not required but advantageous:

- Bilingual in English and Cantonese, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, or another language.
- Experience with the disability or senior communities.
- Experience with Latino, Chinese, Russian, or African-American communities.

Wages: $18 per hour.

Hours: Between 10 and 15 per week.

TO APPLY:

Please submit a resume by email to Jessica Lehman, Executive Director, at Jessica@sdaction.org, cc’ing Ligia@sdaction.org and peter@sdaction.org. Use subject line Political Phone Canvasser Application. In your email, please include a brief explanation (no longer than 200 words) of your interest and relevant skills for the job.

Seniors, people with disabilities, people of color are strongly encouraged to apply. SDA is an equal opportunity employer.