

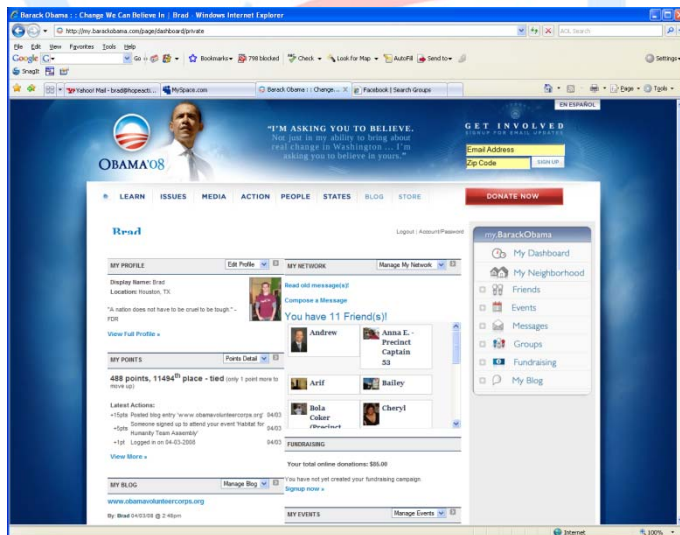


Networking to find members near you

Setting up your own Obama volunteer organization is not an entirely difficult process. It requires you being willing to reach out to other supporters of Senator Obama and pulling everyone together toward causes that need your group's attention. The idea behind forming a volunteer group is to make Senator Obama's message of change a reality in your community. Secondly, you want to generate positive visibility for the national campaign by showing that while we all love a good speech, we are fully aware of the fact that change is never easy to achieve and it takes effort.

If you volunteered for the Obama Campaign when it was in your state, then you're already off to a great start. The odds are good that you made some connections with people while helping with the campaign that you will be able to use to pull together your initial group.

If you did not volunteer for the campaign, or you live in a place that has not yet held its primary, then that is okay too. The great thing about Senator Obama is that he started his career as a community organizer and the campaign has created a complex infrastructure based on those ideas. You can find people in your area immediately by going to the official Barack Obama website at <http://www.barackobama.com>.



WWW.BARACKOBAMA.COM

Just like a social networking site you can register there and find people in your area who might be interested in participating in your group. You can also create Events on the website that other people can sign-up to via the website. It's a great and extremely useful resource, so take advantage of it. You can also sign-up to message lists in your area where other Obama supporters can be found. I have found most of our members by sending out messages on the Obama boards for my city, surrounding cities and my state. If you do not see your city listed with a group, CREATE ONE.

It is truly about empowering yourself to start something, why wait for someone else to do it for you?

And start with your friends and your family. If you know someone close to you that is an enthusiastic Obama supporter, ask them to join. They might also know another person and they another person and on and on. Your best case scenario is to create a domino effect of supporters all willing to step-up and take part in making your community a little better through some hard work.

If you are a member of other social networking sites, such as Myspace or Facebook, take full advantage of those as well.

Also, try to find local politicians who are supporters or admirers of Senator Obama – City Council Members, Congressmen, Senators, Mayors, etc. And remember that asking them to support your group is not so much asking them to endorse Senator Obama, but to recognize the impact that his Presidency has already had on regular citizens like you. More often than not these politicians will see the good that your group is trying to do in the community and appreciate that effort.

