

There are a number of ways you can make your voice heard this election season. This guide is intended to help you create your own plan for taking action through HIAS' VoteForWelcome2020 campaign.

Get started by taking a few simple steps to set yourself up for success.

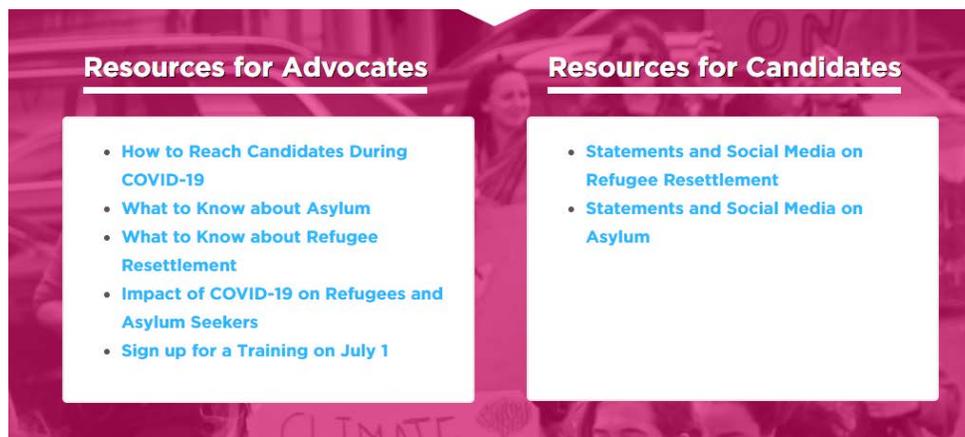
- If you have not already done so, sign up to participate in HIAS' VoteForWelcome campaign [here](#).
 - Consider signing up to be a District Captain (*District Captains are in regular touch with HIAS staff, and have taken on the responsibility to follow-through and make sure the candidates running in their district have had at least one substantive interaction with voters in their district before November about the need to reopen America to refugees and asylum seekers searching for safety.*)
- Enter your zip code and address on Ballotpedia.org, and make a list of all the candidates running in your congressional district.
- Follow the candidates on social media and sign up for their emails via their campaign page. Campaign pages can be found by googling a candidate's name followed by the word "campaign." Take note of whether candidates have already publicly voiced their support for refugees and asylum seekers this election season.

Choose tactics to take action Now that you've done some research, it's time to decide how to engage candidates. Your goal is to ask them to publicly voice their support for refugee and asylum issues. If they have already done so, your goal is to thank them and let them know that voters care about where they stand on the issue.

- I want to set up and participate in a meeting with candidates.
- I want to ask questions in virtual events.
- I want to invite candidates to attend an online event that I am organizing.
- I want to engage directly with candidates on social media.

For more detailed information on the above tactics, check out [How To Reach Candidates During COVID-19](#). Between now and the election, there will be many opportunities to reach out to candidates with asks, messaging, and resources about refugees.

Educate Yourself and Candidates on the Issues by heading to the [VoteForWelcome2020 Homepage](#):



- Read [What To Know About Asylum](#) and [What to Know About Refugee Resettlement](#) to understand our platform, talking points, and policy asks. These are the messages you will want to use when you are engaging candidates.
- Read [Impact of COVID-19 on Refugees and Asylum Seekers](#) to learn the latest on how COVID-19 is affecting refugees and asylum seekers.
- If you know that a candidate is in support of refugee welcome, send them our [Statements and Social Media documents](#) and ask them to make a public statement.

Keep us in the Loop. If you make contact with a candidate, we want to know about your work

- Fill out this [form](#) after you make contact with a candidate. We want to hear what you did, and how candidates responded.
- Celebrate your success in reaching a candidate, and see if you can make progress with another candidate!

You are here to lead. We are here to help. HIAS staff have resources to help you. If you have any questions about how to get involved in VoteForWelcome2020, please contact [Trevor Dworetz](#), Grassroots Campaign Fellow, or [Rebecca Kirzner](#), Senior Director of Grassroots Campaigns. If you have questions about HIAS' policy positions, contact [Liz Mandelman](#), Senior Director of Policy and Advocacy.