

Make a Difference: Volunteer Opportunity from the Dismantling Racism Ministry

Protect the right to vote and the integrity of the voting process by volunteering with Grand Rapids PROACTIVE, a nonpartisan voter empowerment organization.

You can help dismantle racism by supporting the voting rights of all citizens eligible to vote and the integrity of the voting process in the November 3 elections. St. Mark's parishioners Mike and Nancy Dodge and Deirdre Toller-Novak have worked previously as volunteers with PROACTIVE. See below for more Information about PROACTIVE and Mike's account of his experience.

Mike: In November of 2018 I volunteered with PROACTIVE to serve as a monitor and information source at polling places on my side of Grand Rapids (southeast). For three hours I and another volunteer (they don't tend to send people out alone) answered questions from voters standing in line at two voting sites. Our primary function (as it turned out) was to ensure that people were at the correct precinct and voting site. I helped over a dozen people confirm that they were, indeed, in the right place. My partner did the same; also, she had two voters who were at the incorrect site and with the help of the handy dandy apps with which the PROACTIVE team leader supplied us, she was able to direct them to the correct site.

PROACTIVE is non-partisan, focused on ensuring the right and privilege of all qualified voters to exercise the franchise. The group focuses on those who, in the past, may not have voted or even understood that they were entitled to do so. The training for the job for which I volunteered was simple and straightforward. There are multiple ways to help and registering to volunteer is quick and easy.

ABOUT P.R.O.A.C.T.I.V.E - - People Reaching Out and Coming Together Increasing Voter Empowerment

Since 2004, Grand Rapids PROACTIVE has served the Grand Rapids community as the largest non-partisan election protection coalition that works collaboratively with the GR City and Kent County Clerk's offices. Our mission is to protect the rights of all voters on Election Day, empower our community, and preserve the purity of the election process. PROACTIVE assembles hundreds of individuals and non-partisan organizations to help EDUCATE, REGISTER, EMPOWER, and GET OUT THE VOTE. Our primary target is the low-voter turnout precincts in the city of Grand Rapids.

Questions? Contact Mike Dodge at midodgefamily@gmail.com or Anne Hiskes at alhiskes@gmail.com

For more information or to volunteer, contact:

Kathi Harris, Lead Organizer at kathijharris@yahoo.com
Or GR PROACTIVE at gr.proactive@gmail.com

Mailing address: PROACTIVE Project, 1333 Brookview Dr. N.E., Apt. 30
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Click Here for the Volunteer form: [GR PROACTIVE Volunteer Form](#)