

# Our Power, Our Block

This year, instead of canvassing for individual candidates, OneAmerica Votes went out into our communities to have deep, open-ended conversations.

In Kent, Burien, Vancouver, and Yakima, we went door to door in apartment complexes and neighborhoods to hear directly from people about the issues they care about.

This was more than a canvass. It was an opportunity to connect with our community, listen to their stories, and make sure that every voice on our block was heard.

## CONVERSATIONS

**1,100 DOORS KNOCKED**  
**200 CONVERSATIONS**  
**113 VOLUNTEERS TRAINED**  
**91 PEOPLE MOVED TO TAKE ACTION WITH US**

1. **Start with empathy and concrete needs**, not politics.
2. **Validate fears**, normalize emotional reactions.
3. **Provide tangible resources early in the conversation**, especially Know Your Rights and English classes.
4. **Ask about the intersections:** work + housing + immigration.
5. Remind people that **our communities have agency**.
6. **End with trust-building** and an invitation.

*"Their husband is undocumented and he's scared to go to work. While he is there, he is exploited because of his status. It's impacting his mental health because he feels like he's not taking care of the family."*

*"She recently became a Legal Permanent Resident through her daughter... She doesn't want to take risks. However she feels the heaviness of the targeted attacks to immigrants."*

## NEXT STEPS:

- 1) INVITING PEOPLE INTO OUR REGIONAL CHAPTERS TO BUILD POWER WITH US
- 2) LAUNCHING DEEP LISTENING 2.0 – TESTING MESSAGES TO MOVE PEOPLE TO ACTION



# WHAT WE HEARD

Immigration was the top issue people were facing, but housing and cost of living shape their daily struggle most directly. Work, childcare, and discrimination appear as practical barriers to stability. And healthcare and safety appear as deeper stressors tied to poverty.

Beneath it all, political distrust and information gaps prevent many people from seeing clear paths to action, highlighting the need for trusted messengers and relational organizing.

Despite all of this, below the surface lies hope, evidence of resilience and openness to connection. And in these moments of gratitude and curiosity, organizing opportunities exist.

Frequency	Story Themes	Feelings	Issues
Very High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Immigration &amp; Anxiety About Legal Status</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fear, Worry &amp; Overwhelm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Immigration &amp; Deportation</li></ul>
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Economic Insecurity &amp; Cost of Living</li><li>• Safety, Racism &amp; Discrimination</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Frustration &amp; Anger</li><li>• Sadness &amp; Concern</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Housing &amp; Cost of Living</li><li>• Work, Wages &amp; Labor Rights</li></ul>
Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community, Belonging, &amp; Disconnection</li><li>• Family &amp; Childcare Challenges</li><li>• Fear, Fatigue &amp; Guarded Hope</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gratitude &amp; Hope</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Racism &amp; Discrimination</li><li>• Childcare &amp; Education</li><li>• Healthcare &amp; Social Supports</li></ul>

*“He expressed the challenges of just asking for help. Knowing who to go to and getting someone who connects with him and truly cares about helping him. He received the support he needed and now has an apartment. He’s looking forward to moving his girlfriend and son in soon.”*