Participate in the 2012 Voter Registration Drive!

illinois action for children

Election Day is Tuesday, November 6th! This is a critical election, where we will be making decisions about who we want to represent our issues here in Illinois and in Washington, DC. Elected officials at all levels of government are up for election – and everyone makes a difference.

It is crucial that people concerned about children and families go to the polls on November 6th.

Why Should I Participate In a Voter Registration Drive?

Elected officials in Illinois and Washington, DC make decision on how to prioritize the spending of tax money on programs that affect the public. These programs include those that support working families and the education and care of young children. Examples of programs include the Child Care Assistance Program, Preschool for All, Head Start and Early Head Start, and K-12 education to name just a few. These programs not only affect you, but the families and the community you serve.

How do I participate?

Illinois Action for Children has created a series of fact sheets and a 3-step process to help you register parents, employees and other members of the community to vote. All voter registration materials and fact sheets are available at www.actforchildren.org.

Step 1: Beginning September 10th, make available the *Get Registered to Vote* fact sheet and the *Illinois Voter Registration Form*. Be sure to tell everyone that funding for programs such as the Child Care Assistance Program, Preschool for All, Head Start and the Healthy Food Program are determined by the officials being elected on November 6th, 2012.

Step 2: Once a person completes the *Illinois Voter Registration Form*, be sure to give them the *Registered Now Vote* fact sheet.

Step 3: Collect the completed *Illinois Voter Registration Forms* and mail all the forms to your local election authority at the end of each week. You can find the address of your local election authority at: www.elections.il.gov/electionauthorities/elecauthoritylist.aspx.

Registrations must be completed by October 10th, so be sure all registrations are mailed to the election authority by that date.

Forms and fact sheets should be made visible for parents when they drop off or pick up their kids, posted on bulletin boards, handed out at staff meetings or at parent meetings, etc.

What if somebody misses the October 10th Deadline to Register?

Not to worry. Illinois has Grace Period Registration and Voting. Please provide anyone who misses the deadline with the *Early Voting Grace Period Registration* fact sheet.

Who Can Register to Vote?

The Voter Registration requirements are:

- Must be a US citizen
- Must be at least 18 years of age by Election Day
- Must be a resident of the precinct at least 30 days prior to Election Day

Don't forget these important dates!

- **10/9/2012 – Last day to register to vote**
- **10/10/2012 – First day of grace period registration and voting**
- **10/22/2012 – First day of early voting**
- **11/3/2012 – Last day of early voting and Grace Period registration and voting**
- **11/6/2012 – Election Day!**

Thank you for participating. If you have any questions, please call Samir Tanna at 773-697-6134.