

# TIPS FOR CANDIDATE VISITS |

## MAKING THE MOST OF CANDIDATE VISITS

Candidates are allowed to visit your organization and/or any events being held by your organization.

### ALL CONTACT MUST FIT INTO THE FOLLOWING THREE TYPES:

#### I. As a public figure (elected official or field expert)

- Should not mention candidacy at any point, event should be free of all campaign materials or discussion
- Can speak about legislative accomplishments
- It IS appropriate to give an elected official an award, even in an election year. But it is a best practice that the award be given on a regular basis, such as annually

#### II. As a candidate invited by the nonprofit

- Must invite all candidates and cannot give any indication of support or opposition
- No fundraising at these events
- As a best practice, have residents or members lead these events, ask questions, and tell their stories

#### III. Of their own initiative and interest

- Candidates can attend nonprofit-sponsored events
- Nonprofits should ensure that there is no endorsement of candidate, implied or otherwise
- Do NOT give candidates the opportunity to address the gathering, unless it is clearly in another capacity and does NOT reference their candidacy

Whenever possible, capture the exchange with video, audio, or pictures, and use social media to share and amplify. Use the #OurHomesOurVotes hashtag. Share the video with [outreach@nlihc.org](mailto:outreach@nlihc.org) for posting on the [www.ourhomes-ourvotes.org](http://www.ourhomes-ourvotes.org) website.