

End Deportations: Local Strategy Sessions

A strategy session is a 2-4 hour container for leaders of a local NAA chapter to develop clearer strategy, roles, and/or structure. In the context of the End Deportations campaign, it is specifically designed to help local leaders set priorities and direction that deepen their skills and relationships in service of both local and national goals.

Potential outcomes of a strategy session include:

- Regrounding in orientations to partnership, growth, and our stake in the work.
- Getting clear on the relationship between local activity and national campaign frame.
- Setting strategic goals or organizational priorities to guide chapter activity under the end deportations frame.
- An organizing or campaign plan including trainings, base-building, and external tactics including actions.
- Clear roles and internal structure (working groups, point people, etc.).

Strategy sessions are developed by a working group composed of NAA chapter members and an NAA field organizer.

- The field organizer will meet with the coordinators or a small working group to decide on the goals and outcomes of the Strategy Session. They will then work together to create a timeline, work plan, and brainstorm who needs to be invited and/or consulted on the agenda, including members and/or partners.
- Local chapters can decide if they would like to divide facilitation or have a national Field Organizer facilitate (depending on capacity).
- After the strategy session, the field organizer will follow up on the commitments and next steps made at the Strategy Session with the local coordinator.

What happens in a Strategy Session depends on the goals and needs of the local chapter. Below are some ideas for tools that may be useful in framing different pieces of the Session.

Overall flows	 WHY → WHAT → HOW Why are you doing this campaign? What are we trying to achieve? (goals) How will we reach those goals
	assessments → goals → plans • What is happening in the political moment/local ecology?

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	 What are our goals given what's happening? What are our plans? What can we do to reach our goals?
	 Turning what we have → into what we need → to get what we want (want → have → need) At the top of a sheet, what do we want? (what's the big picture goal of the campaign?) At the bottom, what do we have? (people, skills, resources, connections, etc) In the middle, What do we need to take what we have to get what we want? Narrative strategy → campaign arc
	 Local ecology → NAA role Ecology mapping: who is doing what to meet the needs? NAA role: what is our unique add to fill meaningfully contribute to the ecology?
Openings	 Relational time - go arounds, pair shares, storytelling Vision/visualization - big picture, what does it mean to win? Framing/how did we get here? Campaign launch module - what is the national campaign and how do we start to embody it?
Strategic assessments	 Ecology mapping/updates SWOT - Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats Asset mapping Midwest strategy chart Spectograms to temp check statements
Brainstorms & narrowing	 Blue skies brainstorm Sober visualization & categorization (base-building, partnerships, etc.) Dotmocracy Narrative strategy
Planning	 Make an arc and get it on a calendar Breakouts to map out what different directions could look like

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	 Pre-created proposals Decide on bottomliners & structures, e.g. delegate making an organizing plan before next meeting
Structure/Closings	 Next steps Go around- what is everyone interested in taking on? 1 takeaway Appreciations