

Never Again Action partner tips and worksheet

Partnerships are essential to the success and the amplification of the power of our actions! In this complicated and overwhelming moment, Never Again Action and the Jewish Left have a unique and essential role to play that interwoven with a broader immigration and justice movement ecosystem, and Jewish communal dynamics.

As you think of who to partner with, please consider 3 groups - *whether you reach out to all 3 groups, and how much you focus on each one, will depend on your local situation*. **Fill out the worksheet below using the considerations in the rest of this document.**

Type of partner	Specific organization	Why do we want to ask them?	Plans for making the ask (who, how, when)
Immigrant-led organization			
Jewish organization (including synagogues)			
Interfaith and other			

1. Immigration-focused and immigrant-led organizations

Why partner?

As Jewish and other allies of immigrants (in our diversity and multiplicity of familial and personal relationships to immigration), **partnering with immigration-focused and immigrant-led organizations in your area is essential!**

These partnerships allow us to **uplift immigrant testimonies and stories**. They open an **opportunity for deeper solidarity** through inviting the broader Jewish community to really listen to immigrant organizers. They are also **necessary for accountability** to directly impacted communities. Working with immigrant partners can help to ensure that your action contributes to and supports, and does not in fact harm, the **campaign strategy and the safety of immigrant communities** (for example, most of the time actions at immigrant detention centers are powerful, but in certain situations immigrant organizations might not support such an action if it could result in retribution against detainees).

Context and nuanced strategy are crucial, and that can only be discovered through authentic partnerships!

Who can we partner with?

Who are the immigration and immigrant-led organizations and partners in your area? **It depends on your local context.** You may have chapters or branches of national organizations, and/or city- or neighborhood-specific formations, and the opportunities and challenges for each differ. **So do your research, and have authentic conversations** that will more likely than not be received warmly and with eagerness!

2. Jewish community

Why partner?

When we engage with Jewish ritual, we are not only offering the broader movement and specifically immigrant communities with the **moral and narrative power of our Jewish tradition**, but also rooting the Jewish Left in a **powerful heritage of communal resistance**, and just as importantly (but depending on the local context), offering the broader Jewish community (besides the Jewish Left) an **opportunity for solidarity and radical transformation**.

Having an incredible team of values-aligned Jewish leaders (friendly rabbis and lay leaders involved in Jewish practice or secular heritage) who can help you put together the program can help you make a powerful ritual action. **Consider who is already in your organizing circle with these skills, and who you might need to ask!**

Who can we partner with?

The question of reaching out to the broader Jewish community (synagogues and communal institutions) **depends on your local context and your organizing goals**. There is a wide spectrum when it comes to the relationship between local synagogues and the Jewish Left, especially when it comes to our views on Palestine-Israel.

In this moment, consider what it would look like to **stretch your relationships**. Actions around Jewish holidays and immigration, especially, may be an opportunity to **bring more members of the Jewish community deeper into radical and transformative politics**. And yet, in some cases, **it might not be possible or worth it**.

Also, consider **potential risks**. Are there potential harms to our immigrant partners based on how big a tent your coalition is? **Be discerning about who you invite**.

3. Interfaith and community allies

Depending on how large you want your action to be and your local movement ecosystem, other partners beyond immigrant-led or immigration-focused organizations and the Jewish community (**for example, interfaith allies, progressive neighborhood organizations, labor unions, climate action groups and so on**) can be an immensely valuable addition to your base for your action: **adding to the showing of solidarity with immigrants, while also inviting people into the meaning and power of Tisha b'Av!**

General tips:

- (1) **Make your outreach list, and reach out early!** Especially if your partnership outreach is essential to the action's logistical planning and asks (immigrant community partners) or necessary for the programming (Jewish Left and sometimes Jewish communal partnerships), you'll want to bring people into your action early on so that the process can be as collaborative and transformative as it can be!
- (2) **You won't vibe or click with every potential partner in the same way.** Some are used to a certain way of taking action or certain partners they work with, others are open (or are able to be open) to work with you on this idea (a Tisha b'Av action) that might not be part of their usual calendar. Try your best to build relationships, but unless you get clear flags that there are fundamental flaws and potential harms in your plan, feel free to work with those who want to or can work with you! Not every choice to decline is a failure of effort or of the value of our voice and contributions, and everyone is trying their best to fight for justice when the odds are against us!