

Who We Are

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NONPARTISAN REFORMERS

Introduction

As we approach the first annual NANR summit, it is important that we help clarify our mission and distinguish our purpose from other organizations and unofficial groups that are pursuing nonpartisan alliances.

The core scope of our associations members' focus is on structural reforms that will increase electoral competitiveness, voter participation and choice.

The limited purpose of the association's activities should be to provide support for its members success.

In that regard, NANR is more analogous to a trade association than a traditional political organization.

Mission and Preamble

The nonpartisan mission of NANR is to "provid[e] support to local and national efforts to create a more equal playing field for all voters, candidates, and office holders, regardless of party affiliation or non-affiliation."

As stated in NANR's preamble, our members seek to, "facilitate shared resources, establish common objectives, and promote general efforts," to advance this mission.

Who We Are

NANR was founded by representatives from ten organizations that have led significant successful efforts in the face of two-party opposition to change electoral rules to expand voters' meaningful choices by increasing electoral competition outside of and/or within both major-party establishments.

These structural reforms and related legal efforts include, but are not limited to, nonpartisan and open primaries, ranked choice voting, competitive redistricting, a level playing field for nonpartisan candidates, and debate access.

The association now includes 22 dues-paying members and expects a significant number of additional members heading into and following our first-annual summit on November 30, 2018.

What We Do

As an organizing body for nonpartisan reformers, NANR's functions should be limited in scope and directed toward activities that serve the benefit of its entire membership.

For example, NANR may:

1. Host an annual summit for nonpartisan leaders
2. Execute agreements for the benefit of its members
3. Develop long-term strategies and goals on behalf of its members
4. Connect members with credible nonpartisan resources, vendors, and funders
5. Facilitate nonpartisan investment opportunities on behalf of funders including legal support and media platforms
6. Issue endorsements
7. Publish editorials and conduct press relations on behalf of its membership

What We Do NOT Do

As an organizing body for nonpartisan reformers, NANR's functions shall not exceed its limited scope as to participate in activities that could otherwise be accomplished by one or more of its members.

NANR will not:

1. Lead legislative or initiative efforts
2. Provide professional services
3. Expand beyond an organizing and supportive body

The Opportunity

Today, the momentum for nonpartisan reform is growing exponentially. To capitalize on this growth, organizations within the space need to start building an institutional knowledge base, learning from and leveraging each success and/or failure for each successive effort.

NANR's members, collectively, have the experience and resources to begin the long-term process of building these resources including:

1. Branding
2. Database(s)
3. Funding sources
4. Press and public relations
5. Professional vendors
6. Political action committees

NANR, itself, cannot and will not build these resources. Rather, NANR is a vehicle for its members to collaborate on strategies that are pursued in a manner that helps build these resources for the long-term benefit of all of its members. That pursuit has just begun.