

Advocate Acquisition and Petition Platforms

**Nick DeSarno** 

### **About Me:**



- Digital Advocacy
- Grassroots
- Public Affairs
   Communications
- Association Network
- Advocacy Software and Technology



## Today's Agenda

- Advocate Acquisition
- Lead Generation
- Leveraging Advocates
- Petition Platforms
- Open Discussion



# Advocate Acquisition Basics



# What is an advocate acquisition program?

#### Why you might need a advocate acquisition program?

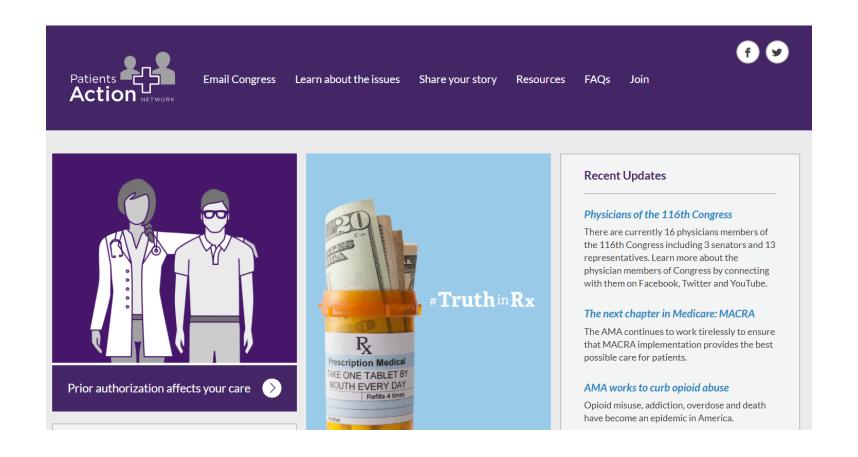
- Grow beyond your traditional supporters
- Show specific support in a district or state
- Demonstrate broad appeal for your policy efforts
- Have an army of willing supporters engaged on your issues

#### What should you consider:

- Is your message or policy position relatable and understandable?
- Do people care about your issues?
- What type of actions are you looking for?
- Do you need to use these advocates for more than one campaign or issue?

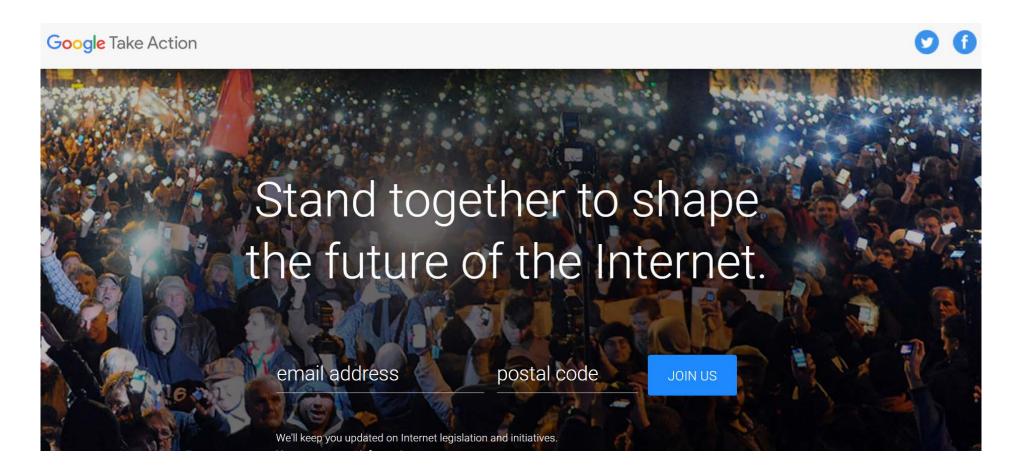


## Front Facing Advocate Website





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Lawmakers could soon give Lyft the green light to operate throughout Texas, but we need your help to make it happen.

Currently, ridesharing is governed by a patchwork of local rules in Texas. As a result, Lyft cannot operate in every community in the Lone Star State.



# **Avoiding Astroturfing**

#### Best practices:

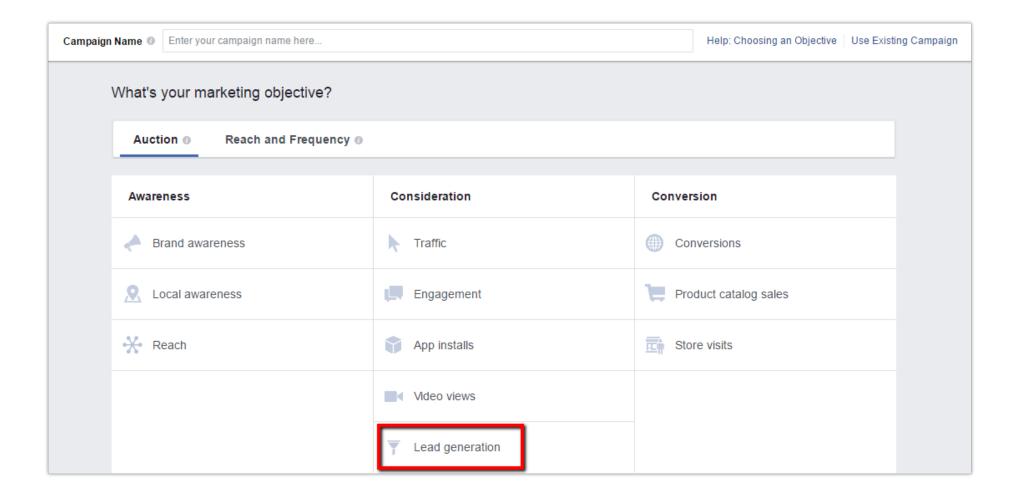
- Transparent: be upfront about who your organization is and who is funding your campaign
- Clarity: develop easily understandable requests and stick to one issue or related set of issues
- Education: help advocates understand the policy issues and provide a fact-base approach to your arguments
- Don't Bait and Switch: if your advocates join your pogrom for one reason, don't assume they will take action on something unrelated
- **Be relevant:** make sure your issues are free from legalese, that all communications are relatable, and remember to segment your audience as it grows
- Offer value: give advocates information on developments, engage them with quizzes, contests, or surveys



# Social Media Lead Generation

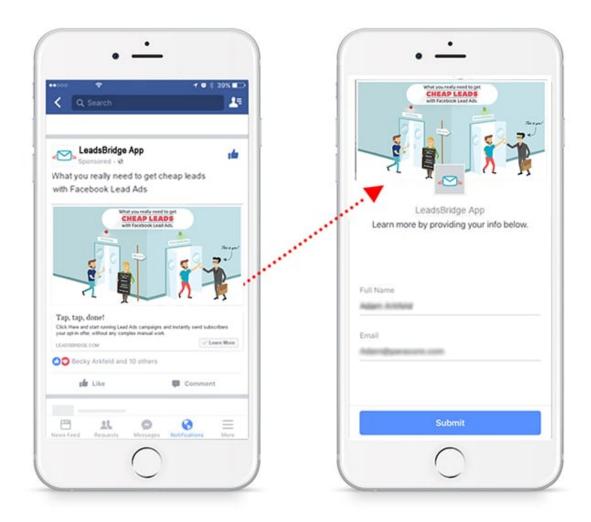


#### **Facebook**



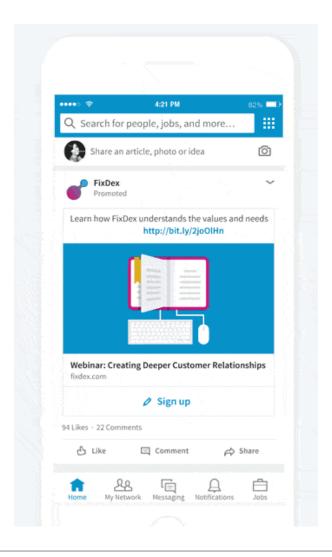


### **Facebook**





### LinkedIn

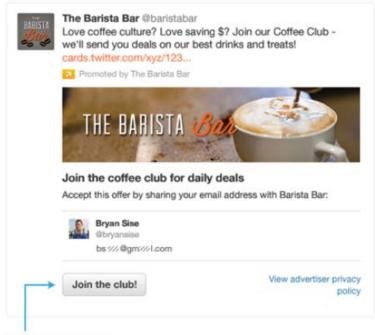




#### **Twitter**

1) Bryan expands @BaristaBar's Tweet to show a signup opportunity

Bryan's info is already filled in. He only has to click the button to sign up.



Customizable call to action

(2) Bryan's info is securely sent to The Barista Bar

He completed the entire signup in his Twitter timeline. Now he'll receive great coffee deals by email.



Other Petition
Advocate Acquisition
Ideas



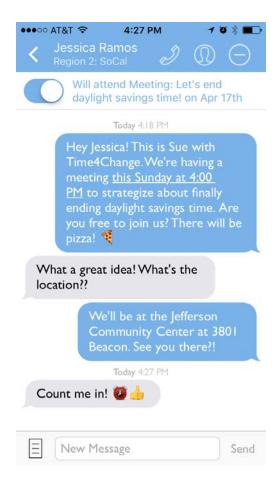
### **Live Events**



Source: Phone2Action



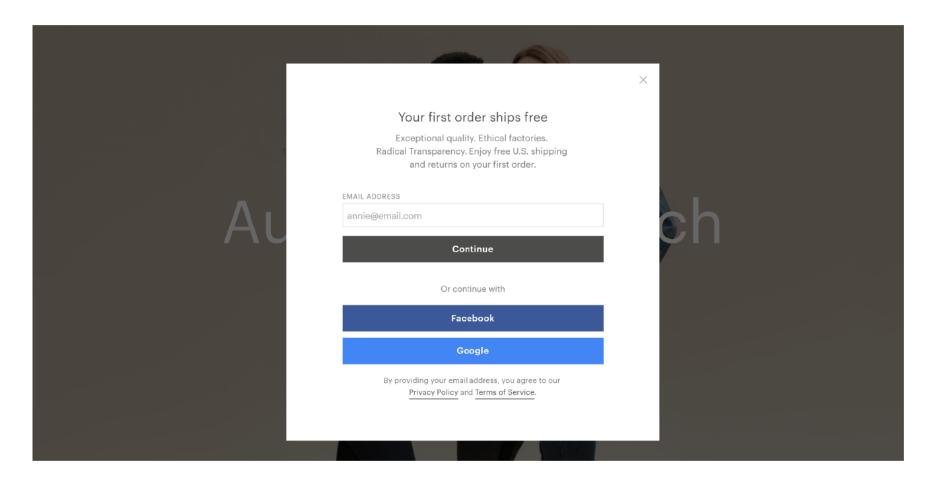
## Peer to Peer Texting



Source: Hustle



# **Email Pop-Ups**





#### **Key Takeaways**

- Understand your goals
- 2. Develop an advocate profile for your target audience
- 3. Identify a tactic or several tactics to acquire your advocates
- 4. Use engagement strategies to keep your supporters active
- 5. Don't AstroTurf
- Continually test, learn, and optimize to grow slowly-- and sustainably



## Contact Information

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## **Public Affairs Council**

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