

...Howard Dean gave one of his great "everyone on your feet" speeches at the Take Back America conference in Washington DC. More than 2,000 progressive leaders, activists, and thinkers heard Gov. Dean and others speak. At the conference, Dean was awarded the Tom Paine Commonsense Award.



An excerpt from his speech:

"We will begin with this proposition. In 2004, to start taking back America, we must take back the White House. We must expose and defeat George W. Bush and his radical agenda. Our new enterprise will help in every way possible. We intend to focus on key battleground states, mobilizing our national network of supporters and the groundbreaking organizing tools we developed during our campaign. We will help some with support through our political action committee. I will travel to speak on behalf of candidates. We will put to work our national grassroots network and organizing tools to help candidates win."

Independent local groups are forming nationwide to advance the goals of Democracy For America. Contact the group near you for more information.

How can YOU get involved?



WHAT: Meetup with others to learn more about DFA & discuss local strategies. Get the latest news here.

WHEN: 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:00PM.

WHO: Supporters of Democracy Worldwide (and friends.) So far, 168,192 have signed up. Visit <http://dfa.meetup.com/> for more information.



"One of the things I learned in this campaign is, voting is the bare minimum, voting is not enough, you've got to give 10 bucks to your favorite candidate. And Lord knows we showed that you can sure raise a hell of a lot of money by getting \$10 from a half-a-million people, and you've got to run for office yourself. You have to run yourself. Democracy is not a spectator sport, and we won't have one if we don't fight for it."



"We choose a wide variety of candidates most of whom have been suggested to us by our grassroots organizations around the country. We want these candidates to win but we also cheerfully support candidates who don't have much of a chance because if we don't let candidates in places like Kansas and Mississippi hear our message we'll never have a chance to win.

Interestingly enough this is the strategy that Ralph Reed and Newt Gingrich devised in order to allow the right wing to take over the country. We're the only organization that I know of that is concentrating on both the short term election and a long term strategy to take back the country. We just have to be sure to energize the progressive voters of the country and give them a reason to support Democrats." - Howard Dean

To get involved with candidates check out the Dean Dozen at <http://www.democracyforamerica.com/candidates>

If you are a grassroots supporter who would like to recommend a candidate, please contact us online at www.DemocracyForAmerica.com.

You can also contact us by phone at 802.651.3200 Or send us snail mail at:

**Democracy for America
PO Box 8313
Burlington, VT 05402**

Democracy for America supports common sense candidates who are fiscally responsible and socially progressive.

If you are a candidate who would like the support of Democracy for America, please fill out our Candidate Questionnaire online or submit the following information.

Democracy for America Candidate Questionnaire

Please answer all the questions completely.

Candidate Name:
Office Sought:
Address:
State:
Phone, Email, Campaign Website:

Campaign Manager:
Phone:
Email:

Primary Opponent(s):
Primary Date, Primary Results:
General Election Opponent, General Election Date:

I am: *An Incumbent - A Challenger - Running for an Open Seat*

Please answer these questions and include with your submission. The following information will be posted publicly at www.democracyforamerica.com.

1. Why are you running? What are your goals in office?
2. What is your platform? What are the top three issues that you are running on?
3. Are you fiscally responsible and socially progressive? Please give examples.
4. What role will grass roots organizing play in your campaign? What outreach have you done to the Democracy for America/Dean network in your district?
5. How do you envision Democracy for America's support helping you in your race?

Please send us the following supporting documents, if available. This information will be held in the strictest confidence.

1. Field plan and district map
2. Staff structure and contact info
3. Most recent polling
4. Candidate bio, incl. previous offices held and current job
5. Endorsement list
6. Recent Press Articles

Please return the completed packet to:

**Democracy for America
Attn: Political Department
P.O. Box 8313
Burlington, VT 05402**