



**DURHAM CAN | ORANGE COUNTY JUSTICE UNITED
WAKE COUNTY SPONSORS
NC CONGRESS OF LATINO ORGANIZATIONS**

NORTH CAROLINA INDUSTRIAL AREAS FOUNDATION | 4907 GARRETT RD DURHAM 27707 | 919 328 3966

HOUSE MEETING OUTLINE

I. PLANNING

- a. Decide DATE, TIME, and PLACE
- b. Make a list of at least 15 - 20 people to invite
- c. Contact each person on your list face to face if possible (and preferable) or by phone. Try to get a firm commitment.
- d. Establish one facilitator to guide the conversation + one notetaker to record concerns raised.

II. MEETING

a. Welcome and Introductions:

- Name. Where do you live? How long a member of institution?

b. Facilitator Sample Opening:

- We have organized Wake County Sponsors so that our families and institutions have a way to respond to the economic, political, social and cultural pressures that we are all facing. We are doing house meetings here at _____ in order to develop a collective understanding of these pressures.
- This is a house meeting. We hold house meetings so we can get to know our stories. This kind of conversation helps us clarify what is important to us and to clarify issues and to find opportunities for action.
- Tonight we are a part of a county wide effort to engage 4,000 people with house meetings by October 29. On October 29 we will organize an internal assembly to report what we have learned, and to begin to shape our first grassroots agenda for change.
- As the leader of this house meeting, my job is to guide the conversation. It is my job to make sure each person gets to share. My job is to help us all tell stories instead of opinions or solutions. And so, I might have to interrupt you...is that okay?



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- FOCUS QUESTION (two examples): "Tell us a short story about pressures that you, your family, or your immediate community are facing." Or "Tell us a story that would help us understand what is important to you and why you have stayed in this community."

III. STORIES/CONVERSATIONS

- Facilitator models by sharing their story (2 mins max).
- Invite all participants to respond to the focus question (examples above).
- This is NOT a survey. Engage people instead of just interviewing them.
- Ask someone to react to someone else's story: What do you think of Mrs. Garcia's story? Have you ever had a similar experience? Do you feel the same way or differently? Why? Does that surprise you?

IV. SUMMARY

- Ask the note taker to summarize what was learned: What are the three most important issues discussed here today?

V NEXT STEPS:

- Be clear that we want this conversation to go somewhere.
- Propose next steps: Would you like to host a meeting similar to this one? Will you attend the next Wake County Sponsors Meeting on Thursday, September 19 to compare our experiences with this campaign?

VI. EVALUATION:

- a. Who caught your attention as having talent and energy? Who is a leader or potential leader? What makes you think that?
- b. *Send notes from each house meeting and list of potential leaders to wakeorganizing@gmail.com.*