High Impact Online Communications

Effective Online Communications for Nonprofits

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Four Processes

Audience Assessment





Tracking & Metrics





Publishing Matrix





Message Calendar



Our Goals

- Explore the importance of social media in reaching online audiences and their appropriate uses
- Learn some basic workflows for common social media tools that you can use in your work
- Create measurable goals for your communications work
- Answer your questions



What is Social Media Today?

- Conversations with people online
 - Social media
- Made for people, not organizations
 - It's not going to work perfectly
- Not your virtual megaphone





Advantages of Social Media

- Get Relevant News
 - Allows you to receive curated news from other people in your issue space
- Increase Exposure
 - Gives you easy access to new networks of people through sharing
- Generate Conversation & Feedback
 - Allows two-way conversations



Caveats of Social Media

- Can take a lot of time
 - Time = Money
- Big corporations want your data
 - You are the product
- There are a billion tools
 - It can take time to figure out which ones you need
- Tools change EVERY. SINGLE. DAY
 - You have to keep up









Limitations of Online Campaigns

- Digital Divides
 - Never forget who is left out by "e" strategies
- Trust relationships are best built in person
 - Online organizing is most effective when it leverages established social networks and communities
- Each community and campaign is different
 - Your mileage will vary



Social Media Housekeeping

- Lock down your virtual real estate
 - Reserve any accounts you could envision using now or in the future
 - Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr
- Set them up to look like a family
 - Strive for name consistency, usually an organizational domain name



Things to Consider

- Your organization/campaign is unique
- Tools change all the time
- Tracking is important to give you a sense of what is working for YOU



5 Common **Online Communications Tools**





Blogging Email Web Site



Target Audience





Email

Web Site

Know you; want constant information and details about your work.



Potential supporters,
learning about
your work
and organization



Target Audience







Target Audience





Tone and Voice





Blogging

Email

Web Site

First person singular
"I"
Informal and fun

Conversational; "Social"

First person plural or third person "We" or "The org"
Official



Tone & Voice





Tone & Voice





Frequency of Message



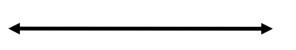


Blogging

Email

Web Site

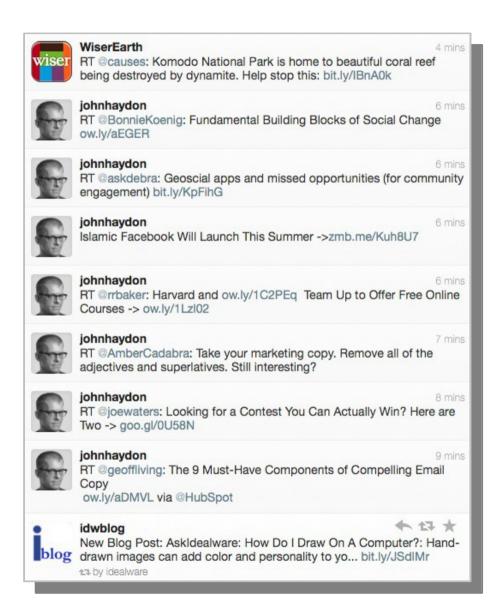
Frequent – can be daily or more often



Less frequent - Weekly to monthly



Frequency of Message





Frequency of Message





Matching Tools to Message





Blogging

Email

Web Site

Late-breaking news,
Real-time updates,
Teasers, Flirts
Opportunistic asks



Planned messaging, measured narrative Urgent alerts, Intentional asks



Matching Tools to Message

Click to view this message in a browser

{VR SOCIAL SHARING}

Forward this to a friend









I had a great lunch with CalWIC today! Love to see the work they're doing: http://www.calwic.org

Our Mission

Aspiration's mission is to connect nonprofit organizations with software solutions that help them better carry out their work. We want nonprofit organizations to be able to find and use the best software available, so that they maximize their effectiveness and impact and, in turn, change the world.

Aspiration is a values-driven nonprofit technology organization.

Read Our Manifesto and let us know what you think.

Contact Us









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Matching Tools to Message





Control of Message and Brand





Blogging

Email

Web Site

Shared with Audience, Tool



"Traditional" org control



Control of Message & Brand



Control of Message & Brand







Time/Labor Investment





Blogging

Email

Web Site

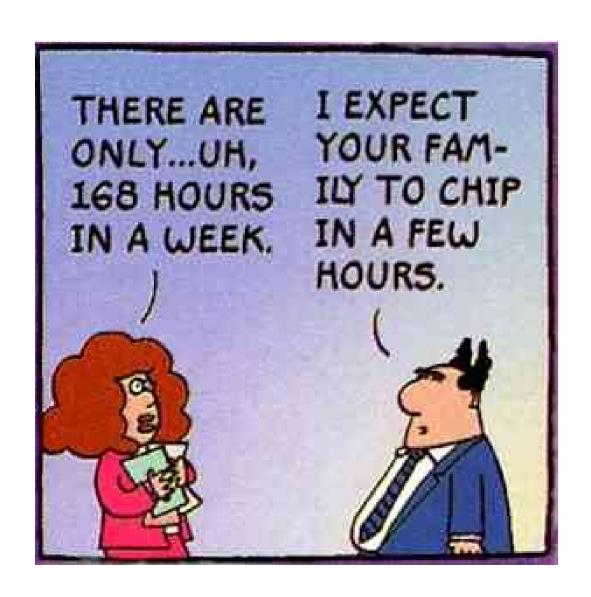
Substantial, tending towards 24/7



Manageable, based on past patterns



Time/Labor Investment





Return on Investment



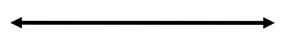


Blogging

Email

Web Site

TBD; uneven, subject to change; Depends on what you're trying to do



"Knowable", based on past patterns; baseline online real estate



Return on Investment

KEY STRATEGY POINTS

Priority #1 - Focusing on Educating California Republicans

While the WIC program has traditionally enjoyed strong bipartisan support, there are a growing number of Republican House members who do not feel that same affinity for the program and are looking to cut any and all federal programs. WE NEED WIC campaigners will reach out to California's Republicans, with stronger messages, provide them with more information about the WIC program's effectiveness, engage partners that Republicans are more likely to listen to — like the business and medical community.

Priority #2 - Keeping in Close Touch with Key California Democrats

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and her key lieutenant, George Miller, should get special attention in Washington and back home. In addition, California members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) and Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) should receive extra attention. CHC members are: Cardoza (18), Costa (20), Becerra (31), Roybal-Allard (34), Napolitano (38), Linda Sanchez (39), Baca, (43), and Loretta Sanchez (47). CBC members are Lee (09), Bass (33), Waters (35), and Richardson (37).

Priority #3 - Educating the Public and Advocating for the WIC Program

FY 2013 could be grim for the WIC program from a fiscal point of view. It is important to build public support for the program to help in funding fights in 2013 and long term. CWA needs to publicize the effectiveness of the WIC program in order to build public support.

Priority #4 - Maintenance of Traditional Congressional Support among California's Democrats

It remains important to ensure continued to be cultivated - providing their offices with up-to-date information, inviting Members of Congress to clinic openings, visiting their offices when CWA members are in Washington.

KEY MESSAGES:

- "WE NEED WIC!" WIC is vital safety net program that feeds the hungry and saves lives. It also
 generates jobs and helps local economies. Cutting WIC should not be an acceptable deficit
 reduction option no matter which side of the aisle you are on. If WIC is cut, mothers and
 children will go hungry and babies will die.
- "WIC WORKS!" WIC is one of the most effective federal programs ever devised. It is costefficient and well-managed. WIC saves federal dollars with a time-limited investment that
 prevents poor birth outcomes and chronic ill health by providing at-risk young families with
 modest food prescriptions and education that they need to stay healthy. New evidence shows
 that WIC's modernized food benefits are reducing obesity and increasing breastfeeding.

DHASE 1 ACTIONS: OCTORER 1 - NOVEMBER 23, 2011



Return on Investment





Recap

- Remember to define your social media goals to make the most of your time/resources
- Don't feel like you have to be on everything
 - Baby steps; Bite off as much as you can chew
- Think about which tool is right for your goals and audiences





End Of Section

- Questions?
- ► Comments?

Thank You!

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