



Another World is Possible. Another US is Necessary.

The US Social Forum

Plan It. Build It. Bring It.

www.ussf2010.org

The US Social Forum is a unique opportunity to develop relationships, collaborative campaigns, and a greater awareness of others' issues and programs.

The Forum brings hope, insight and inspiration to all those who attend. The USSF will send a powerful message to people's movements around the world that there are active movements in this country that oppose US policies and are developing strategic community-based alternatives to our current destructive economic systems. The USSF will gather social and economic justice organizers, environmentalists, peace & justice activists, community-based organizations, Indigenous nations, unions, and students to address the key issues of our time.

Organize Your Community. A Movement of Movements

- ❖ **Bring a delegation** = Organizations around the country are committed to mobilizing young people, women, regional caravans, and members. Leading up to June, people are hosting educational events to prepare and organize buses to come to Detroit.
- ❖ **Plan a Workshop or an Annual Gathering** = Create workshops to share visions, strategies, or dialogues that advance your work. Plan your network's national gathering to coincide with the Social Forum. Holding your meeting during the Forum allows your members to connect issues and build bridges with others.
- ❖ **Organize a People's Movement Assembly to Bring Solutions** = Gather your community to analyze conditions, come up with demands, and make commitments to creative solutions to the problems we face. At the Forum we'll connect resolutions and converge for joint action.
- ❖ **Participate in a Work Brigade** = A new Detroit is on its way. Learn from the rich movement history, support organizing in the host city, and build deeper relationships by planning a work brigade before or during the Forum. Bring a bike to ride and leave behind. Bring a book to donate to create a movement library. When we gather, work brigades can build the world we want to see.

PARTICIPATE IN THE US SOCIAL FORUM!

- ❖ **Register.** Go to www.ussf2010.org and register yourself as an individual or as an organization
- ❖ **Reserve a Table or a Tent.** Promote your organization or create a space for dialogue and convergence by reserving a table in Cobo Hall or a Tent in Hart Plaza.
- ❖ **Join a National Planning Working Group.** The Forum is not an organization. It is self-organized by people like you. People can represent their organization or community in outreach, programming, logistics, communications and build toward the forum via a working group.

GET INVOLVED! MAKE IT HAPPEN!

See reverse for US Social Forum planning committee contacts including Working Groups and general contact info. Go to www.ussf2010.org for more information.

The Outreach Working Group

- Seek out, develop, network, and engage organizations and sectors in order to connect them to the movement building work and the USSF process.
- The US Social Forum in Detroit is the place to become inspired, and to meet, share and learn from activists, community organizers and concerned citizens who are already in motion.
- If you believe that turning out 20,000 people who want to build a new civil society in a huge and necessary effort then you should join us on the Outreach Working Group.

National Co-chair: Tammy Bang Luu (Labor/Community Strategy Center),
Tammy@thestrategycenter.org, Phone: 323-309-9854

Detroit Local Organizing Committee: Ahmina Maxey (East Michigan Environmental Action Council), ahmina@emeac.org

Email: outreach_wg@lists.ussf2010.org

Date and time of conference call:

Second Wednesdays of every month @ 1pm EST, 3pm Central, 2pm Mtn, 1pm PST

Fourth Tuesdays of every month @ 2:30pm EST, 1:30pm Central, 12:30pm Mtn,
11:30am PST

Call in #: (218) 936-4700

Code: 924760#

If you have a general or specific interest we have work for you. We see outreach not only a means to publicize the USSF and gain supporters, but also to link the grassroots organizations and individual activists who have been taking on the challenges created by the prolonged economic and social crisis. Our aim is to link community groups, labor unions, organizations of people of color, women's groups, LGBTQ activist networks and much more. If the USSF in Detroit is to be successful, it will be in large part because groups and individual have already been organizing both within and between their sectors.

The 2007 USSF in Atlanta showed that this approach works. In Detroit, we aim to broaden participation by prioritizing key constituency areas. We believe that three of them in particular are that vitally important to turn out:

- Indigenous peoples
- Youth
- Gender Justice

Indigenous peoples

The Indigenous Peoples Working Group (IPWG) will be comprised of persons knowledgeable of North American and global Indigenous communities and issues. The USSF places special emphasis on the traditions and struggle of the indigenous people of North America, as they provide focus on the untold history of resistance in the U.S. against racism, genocide, slavery and exploitation. Moreover, indigenous people are at the forefront of today's struggles over land, water and environmental justice as well as age-old struggles to recover territories stolen from them. At a time of prolonged economic crisis, the movement of indigenous peoples takes on a special relevance as working people search for models and inspiration to meet the challenges they face.

The IPWG will provide guidance to the USSF planning process on matters concerning Indigenous Peoples.

Contact Persons:

- Local Detroit Native Community: Sharon George, American Indian Health & Family Services of Southwestern Michigan, Inc., Detroit, MI. Phone: (313) 846-3718, Email: sgeorge@aihfs.org
- Representative from the USSF [National Planning Committee](#): Tom B.K. Goldtooth, Executive Director, Indigenous Environmental Network, Bemidji, MN. Phone: (218) 751-4967, Email: jen@igc.org

Youth

The Youth Working Group is central to the USSF and the social forum process. Young people are being made to pay an especially high price for the economic crisis: if trends continue, they face a sharply lower standard of living than their parents' generation. For that reason alone, youth must be a central focus of the USSF. Even more important is the fact that the youth provide the energy and conscience of social justice movements, from the sit-down strikes of the 1930s to the civil rights movement of the 1960s to the immigrant rights movement of today. As the left seeks to rebuild itself to face the challenges of a new era, the USSF will provide a space for today's young activists and a platform to make their demands heard.

Contact Persons:

- Co-Chair: Derek Rankins, People's Institute, New Orleans, LA
- Co-Chair: Corina McCarthy-Fadel, Project South, Atlanta, GA
Email: youthussf@gmail.com

Date and time of conference calls:

Every 2nd and 4th Monday at 9pm EST, 8pm Central, 7pm Mtn, 6pm PST

Conference Dial-in Number: (218) 339-4300
Participant Access Code: 189810#

Gender Justice

Ensure that gender, transgender justice and LGBTQ issues are well integrated into the planning, implementation and program of the USSF. The LGBTQ movement has a special significance for the USSF, as it shows how previously “invisible” oppressed groups can burst onto the scene with their self-activity and create major social change. The recent struggle for marriage equality--including the Equality March of 2009-- underscored the continued importance of the LGBTQ struggle as well as providing an important model for the struggles developing today.

Contacts:

- Detroit Local Organizing Committee Representative: Oya Amakisi
- National Planning Committee Reps: Susannah Bartlow and Jacqui Patterson, Email: jpatters1@yahoo.com Phone: 301-890-3212

Date and time of conference calls:

Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 12pm EST, 11am Central, 10am Mtn, 9am PST

Conference Dial-in Number: 1-605-475-4333

Participant Access Code: 819050#

Peoples Movement Assembly

People's Movement Assemblies grew out of the World Social Forum process as a forum in which vast arrays of social movements gather to assess their experience and chart the way forward. The PMA will develop alongside the USSF process in order to build the event and gather forces for a revived and active left.

The Assembly process offers the opportunity to collectively create action plans and political directions for our movements in the US, our regions, and our local communities.

Currently Planned People's Movement Assemblies include:

- Border PMA, San Antonio, Texas, February 13, 2010
- Brownsville PMA, Texas, February 20, 2010
- Houston PMA, Texas, February 27, 2010
- Detroit PMA, Michigan, March 13, 2010
- Portland PMA, Oregon, May 9, 2010

To hold your own PMA:

Go to: <http://ussf2010.org/pma> to Download the ORGANIZING KIT

To find out more about the process or to become part of the Peoples Movement Assembly Working Group contact Steph Guilloud at Stephanie@projectsouth.org or Ruben Solis at grulla@swunion.org

TOOL KIT FOR OUTREACH TO INDIVIDUALS/ORGANIZATIONS

- Protocol and Considerations When Doing Outreach
- Phone invite to a meeting rap
- Example of Local Coalition Building Structure
- Info Session Agenda
- USSF FAQ Sheet
- US Social Forum 2007 video
- <http://video.ussf2010.org/play/ussf-2007>
- Short Powerpoint Presentation with Social Forum History and Detroit Schedule http://wiki.ussf2010.org/wiki/National_Outreach_Working_Group
- Sample Agenda for Facilitating a Social Forum Info Session in Your Town http://wiki.ussf2010.org/wiki/National_Outreach_Working_Group

How to do effective outreach at your local/regional level

The USSF in Detroit will give activist and progressive groups a national profile at a time when the left urgently needs to present an alternative to politics as usual. But the impact of the USSF will be much greater if local and regional organizations and individuals take the opportunity to forge alliances as they work to bring members, supporters, allies and friends to Detroit.

For example, activists in Texas and New Mexico plan to repeat their 2007 caravan to Atlanta by making a similar trip to Detroit. It's an ideal way to generate news and discussion about the USSF while at the same time strengthening local organizing efforts. In the case of the Midwest, the Chicago to Detroit group has begun regular meetings--not only to maximize turnout, but to knit together groups that too often otherwise are focused almost solely on their locality or their sector.

Thus building the USSF means not only organizing for a national event, but sinking deeper roots in all the struggles of our time.

WHAT IS THE US SOCIAL FORUM?

The US Social Forum (USSF) is a movement building process. It is not a conference but it is a space to come up with the peoples' solutions to the economic and ecological crisis. The USSF is the next most important step in our struggle to build a powerful multi-racial, multi-sectoral, inter-generational, diverse, inclusive, internationalist movement that transforms this country, and changes history. We must declare what we want our world to look like and we must start planning the path to get there. The USSF provides spaces to learn from each other's experiences and struggles, share our analysis of the problems our communities face, build relationships, and align with our international brothers and sisters to strategize how to reclaim our world.

WHY A 2ND US SOCIAL FORUM?

The gathering in Atlanta in June 2007 had 12,000 people come together in the belief that "Another World Was Possible!" Movement forces from all over the country took advantage of the opportunity to celebrate, organize, teach, debate and otherwise contribute to a growing sense that "Another U.S. Was Necessary!" The USSF made it clear our need for greater convergence among progressives and the left in this country and to begin to articulate our vision for "Another World."

The purpose of the USSF is to effectively and affirmatively articulate the values and strategies of a growing and vibrant movement for justice in the United States. Those who build towards and participate in the USSF are no longer interested in simply stating what social justice movements "stand-against," rather we see ourselves as part of new movements that reach beyond national borders, that practice democracy at all levels, and understand that neo-liberalism abroad and here in the US is not the solution. The USSF provides a first major step towards such articulation of what we stand for.

WHY DETROIT?

To win nationally, we must win in places like Detroit. The Midwest site of the USSF marks a fierce resistance movement for social, racial, gender, and economic justice. Detroit has the highest unemployment of any major city in the country—23.2% (March 2009)—with nearly one in four Detroiters unable to find work. Michigan has had the highest number of unemployed people in all 50 states for nearly four years. Thousands of living wage jobs have been permanently lost in the automotive industry and related sectors. Some think that it will take at least until 2025 for Michigan to recover from the economic collapse and social dislocation. What is happening in Detroit and in Michigan is happening all across the U.S. Detroit is a harbinger for what we must do in our communities! As grassroots activists and organizers, we work to address the indignities against working families and low-income people, and protect our human right to the basic necessities of life. In Detroit, we can make change happen!

The US Social Forum provides this space—drawing participants from different regions, ethnicities, sectors and ages across the U.S. and its colonies. Community-based

organizations, Indigenous nations, immigrants, independent workers organizations, unions, unemployed, youth, children, elders, queers, differently-abled, international allies, academics, and advocacy organizations will be able to come together in Detroit for dialogues, reflection and to define future strategies.

WSF TO USSF--GLOBALIZING THE RESISTANCE

A global movement is rising. The USSF is our opportunity to prepare and meet it! The World Social Forum (WSF) has become an important symbol of global movement convergence and the development of alternatives to the dominant paradigm. Over the past nine years, the WSF has gathered the world's workers, peasants, youth, women, and oppressed peoples to construct a counter-vision to the economic and political elites of the World Economic Forum held annually in Davos, Switzerland. After gathering 100,000 people in Porto Alegre, Brazil in 2005, the International Council (IC) decided that in 2006 there would be regional social forums to culminate in a WSF in 2007. The IC delegated Grassroots Global Justice Alliance (GGJ) to help shepherd the US Social Forum process, stating that it was strategic to hold a gathering of peoples and movements within the "belly of the beast" that were against the ravages of globalization and neoliberal policies in the US and world wide. GGJ is an alliance that grew out of people-of-color-led grassroots groups who participated in the first WSF. These grassroots leaders initiated a process to create the first USSF National Planning Committee (NPC), and Atlanta was selected as the USSF host city. In early 2009, the NPC selected Detroit as the second host city for 2010. Learn more on WSF: www.forumsocialmundial.org.br

CALL TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BUILDING THE ROAD TO DETROIT

We call those who fight for justice to converge and act, and to reflect on the potential of our position and the power of our connections. Although we have built organizations that push forward an integrated, multi-issue, multiracial strategy, we have yet to build our movement on a scale relative to our sisters and brothers in the Global South. The USSF II offers the opportunity to continue to gather and unify these growing forces. We must seize this moment and advance our collective work to build grassroots leadership, develop collective vision, and formulate strategies that keep a strong movement growing. There are many ways to get involved. Your organization can join the NPC, you can join the working groups or start building regional and local committees to ensure a massive and diverse participation in Detroit, June 22-26, 2010. Get more info at www.ussf2010.org

TELL US YOUR STORIES & SOCIAL FORUM EXPERIENCES ON OUR WIKI

We invite you to tell us why the USSF matters to you, what your experience was like at USSF 2007, and more! Help us show others what the Social Forum is about as we kick-off 2010! Go to wiki.ussf2010.org/wiki/Press_and_People's_Stories

¿QUÉ ES EL FORO SOCIAL EE.UU.?

Foro Social de los EE.UU. (FS-EE.UU) es un proceso de construcción de movimiento. No es una conferencia, pero es un espacio para llegar a soluciones a la crisis económica y ecológica. El Foro Social es el siguiente paso más importante en nuestra lucha por construir un poderoso movimiento diverso que es multi-racial, multi-sectoriales, inter-generacional, inclusivo, internacionalista. Tenemos que declarar lo que queremos para nuestro mundo y tenemos que empezar a planificar la ruta para llegar allí. El Foro Social proporciona espacios para aprender de las experiencias y luchas de los demás, compartir nuestro análisis de los problemas enfrentados por nuestras comunidades, construir relaciones nuevas, y también alinearnos con nuestras hermanas y hermanos del resto del mundo para formular estrategias en común.

¿POR QUÉ UN SEGUNDO FORO SOCIAL EE.UU.?

El Foro en Atlanta en junio de 2007 había más de 12.000 personas que se unieron en la creencia de que "Otro mundo es posible!" Movimiento sociales de todo el país aprovecharon la oportunidad para celebrar, organizar, enseñar, debatir y contribuir a un sentimiento creciente que "Otro EE.UU. es necesario!" El Foro Social ha dejado claro la necesidad de una mayor convergencia entre los progresistas y la izquierda en este país para comenzar a articular nuestra visión de "otro mundo".

El objetivo del Foro Social es de articular de manera efectiva y positiva los valores y las estrategias de un creciente movimiento por la justicia en los Estados Unidos. Los que construyen y participan en el Foro Social ya no están simplemente interesados en lo que los movimientos de justicia social "en contra," y nos vemos como parte de nuevos movimientos que van más allá de las fronteras nacionales, que practican la democracia en todos los niveles, y comprenden que el neoliberalismo en el extranjero y aquí en los EE.UU. no es la solución. El Foro Social constituye un primer paso importante hacia este tipo de articulación.

¿PORQUE DETROIT?

Para ganar al nivel nacional, tenemos que ganar en lugares como Detroit. El Centro-Oeste del país marca un fuerte movimiento de resistencia social, racial, de género y la justicia económica. Detroit tiene el desempleo más alto de cualquier ciudad en el país-el 23,2% (marzo 2009)-con casi uno de cada cuatro Detroiters no pueden encontrar trabajo. Michigan ha tenido el mayor número de desempleados en los 50 estados durante casi cuatro años. Miles de puestos de trabajo se han perdido definitivamente en la industria de automobiles y sectores afines. Algunos piensan que se tardará al menos hasta 2025 para recuperación económica y social en Michigan. Lo que está sucediendo en Detroit y en Michigan está ocurriendo en todo los EE.UU. Detroit es un símbolo de lo que debemos hacer en nuestras comunidades! Como activistas y organizadores de base, que trabajamos para hacer frente a las humillaciones en contra de las familias que trabajan y las personas de bajos ingresos, y proteger nuestro derecho humano a las necesidades básicas de la vida. En Detroit, podemos hacer el cambio!

El Foro Social EE.UU. ofrece este espacio- participantes de diferentes regiones, etnias, edades y sectores a través de los EE.UU. y sus colonias. Las organizaciones de base comunitaria, las naciones indígenas, inmigrantes, organizaciones de trabajadores independientes, los sindicatos, los desempleados, los jóvenes, los niños, los ancianos, la comunidad LGBTQ, personas de diferentes capacidades, aliados internacionales, académicos y organizaciones de defensa serán convocados a reunirse en Detroit para el diálogo, la reflexión y definir estrategias futuras.

DE FORO SOCIAL MUNDIAL AL FORO SOCIAL EE.UU. -- GLOBALIZANDO LA RESISTENCIA

Un movimiento mundial sigue creciendo. El Foro Social es nuestra oportunidad de prepararnos y responder a ella! El Foro Social Mundial (FSM) se ha convertido en un símbolo importante del movimiento mundial en la convergencia y el desarrollo de alternativas al paradigma dominante. Durante los últimos nueve años, el FSM ha reunido a los trabajadores del mundo, los campesinos, los jóvenes, las mujeres y los pueblos oprimidos a construir una ofensiva a la visión de los élites económicos y políticos del Foro Económico Mundial que se celebra anualmente en Davos, Suiza. Después de reunir 100.000 personas en Porto Alegre, Brasil en 2005, el Consejo Internacional (CI) decidió que en 2006 habrá foros sociales regionales para culminar en un FSM en 2007. La delegación de CI le pidió a Grassroots Global Justice Alliance (GGJ) para ayudar a los EE.UU. a pastorear un proceso del Foro Social, afirmando que era estratégico para organizar una reunión de los pueblos y los movimientos dentro de la "barriga de la bestia" que estaban en contra de los estragos de la globalización y las políticas neoliberales en los EE.UU. y en todo el mundo. GGJ es una alianza que surgió de la gente de color-que condujo los grupos de base que participaron en el primer FSM. Estos líderes de base iniciaron un proceso para crear el primer Comité Nacional de Planificación (NPC), y Atlanta fue seleccionada como la ciudad anfitriona para el primer Foro Social EE.UU. A principios de 2009, el NPC seleccionó Detroit como la segunda ciudad anfitriona para el año 2010. Más información sobre el FSM: www.ForumSocialMundial.org.br

CONVOCATORIA PARA PARTICIPAR EN LA CREACIÓN DEL CAMINO A DETROIT

Hacemos un llamamiento a los que luchan por la justicia a converger, actuar, y reflexionar sobre el potencial de nuestra posición y el poder de nuestras conexiones. Aunque hemos construido organizaciones que impulsan un enfoque integrado, multi-sectoral, multirracial, todavía tenemos que construir nuestro movimiento en una escala relativa a nuestras hermanas y hermanos en el Sur Global. El Foro Social II ofrece la oportunidad de continuar reuniendo y unificando estas fuerzas cada vez más. Debemos aprovechar este momento y avanzar en nuestro trabajo colectivo para construir la base de liderazgo, desarrollo de visión colectiva, y formular estrategias que mantienen un fuerte movimiento creciente. Hay muchas maneras de involucrarse. Su organización puede unirse al NPC, puedes unirse a los grupos de trabajo o empezar a crear comités regionales y locales para garantizar una participación masiva y diversa en Detroit, junio 22-26, 2010. Obtenga más información en www.USSF2010.org

COMPARTA SUS HISTORIAS DEL FORO SOCIAL EN NUESTRO WIKI

Le invitamos a que nos diga su experiencia y historia con el FS-EE.UU 2007! Vaya a la pagina web: http://wiki.ussf2010.org/wiki/Press_and_People_Stories

EXAMPLE LOCAL MOVEMENT-BUILDING MOMENT

Building locally toward the Social Forum can take on many forms. From planning your own delegation, to holding a local People's Movement Assembly, to joining the National Planning Committee to represent your region or sector. Below is a sample of how groups can use the Social Forum as a moment to strengthen local movements.

The [your local] Road to Detroit Coalition

Mission

The **[local]** Road to Detroit Coalition is a volunteer grouping of individuals and organizations committed to facilitating broad participation of affected communities in the 2010 U.S. Social Forum. The Coalition approaches the forum not as an end in itself, but as a process through which to build stronger movements for justice in **[your city]** and **[your region]**.

Purpose

Our city is rich with a history of organizing for social justice. Despite that legacy, we can often be segregated by community, by issue, by turf, and don't have a deep history of working together beyond our immediate networks. That said, groups are often already pretty thoroughly networked within their spheres.

In that context, the purpose for the Road to Detroit Coalition is

1. **Ensure the participation of low-income and people of color in the US Social Forum (specifically the members of base-building organizations)**

Recognizing that academics, activists with resources, and organization staff are likely to attend, how do we make sure that neighborhood people and organizations' members represent?

2. **Use the effort of mobilizing for the Social Forum to strengthen cross-sector, cross-city movement-building in [your city] and the region.**

How do we use this big umbrella moment to encourage more interaction, exchange, and support between already existing community formations?

On top of the Forum specific effort, we can also use this moment to create greater cohesion among our groups by:

1. Facilitating the political exposure of organizations' members interacting with other communities
2. Co-hosting events together where organizations share and exchange visions and practices

3. Providing tools to promote each others' work and actions (such as a centralized event calendar)

Through those practices, greater cohesion may occur where groups may want to plan joint actions, hold a people's movement assembly, start a new coalition, etc.

The Road to Detroit Coalition is not about starting another organization. There's a practical reason for us to work together for the next **[x number]** of months to travel together to the forum, learn more about each other through that process, and come back with a greater sense of unity and shared work to allow us to collaborate in deeper ways in the future.

Structure

The Road to Detroit Coalition is open to anyone who agrees to the mission stated above and is participating in the collaborative process leading up to the Social Forum. The Coalition is organized in working groups to carry out specific tasks.

Working Groups These groups will coordinate the activities to organize the Road to Detroit effort. To get involved, contact the working group chair listed at the beginning of the document.

- **Outreach:**
 - Identify target groups and communities
 - Create an outreach plan to share USSF information (including hosting information sessions, publicity in local publications, etc.)
 - Adapt and develop content for promotional materials to support Road to Detroit's vision and goals.
 - Work with the national communications/media working group to promote the Social Forum in Chicago.
- **Technology:**
 - Create & maintain tools to facilitate organizing and communication.
 - Ensure organizing teams understand and use tools
- **Program & Events:**
 - Coordinate a series of events under the banner of Road to Detroit (workshops, panels, protests, etc.) with organizations to
 - support existing work, strengthen networks between individuals and organizations
 - and build excitement leading up to the social forum.
 - Support groups interested in facilitating programming during the social forum or presenting resolutions during the People's Movement Assembly
 - Collaborate with the Tech team to publicize Road to Detroit Coalition member events and activities.

- **Housing & Logistics:**
 - o Arrange logistics around accessible transportation, housing, and food.

- **Fundraising:**
 - o Ensure financial accessibility of the Social Forum and ongoing efforts of the Road to Detroit Coalition.
 - o Secure resources including grants, in-kind donations, organizational support, and individual contributions.
 - o Establish accountable and transparent practices for allocating/distributing funds and resources.

- **Post-USSF Planning:**
 - o Plan and schedule events to capture the momentum of the movement after the Social Forum.

[Local] Organizing Committee To ensure accountability and coordination within the planning, representatives from each working group collaborate in the Organizing Committee. Committee meetings are open to all but are intended for the sharing of information and coordination among working groups.

Sponsoring Organizations

The Road to Detroit Coalition formed out of an information session in **[x month]** hosted by several organizations. Sponsoring groups are those who have made an organizational commitment to the Social Forum process. Sponsoring organizations include:

- [list sponsoring groups here]

Protocol and Considerations for Outreach

To ensure that working-class, communities of color, and other affected communities are at the center of the results of our organizing, they must be consistently at the center of our process.

Before deciding on doing an information session or meeting

- Identify your target audience:
Who are the organizations and/or individuals I hope to have participate?
- Establish Buy-in and Ownership:
What is their perspective on the Social Forum?
Are they already planning on participating in some way?
What information or resources are they seeking that I can connect them to?
What roles can those groups/individuals play in the session/meeting?
(provide location, host it themselves, icebreaker, invite others, closing reflection, bring snacks, etc.)
What do they want to see? Do they want a meeting? One-on-One? Etc.
What is the best format for getting their involvement?
If I don't know them at all, who am I connected to they may respond to more immediately?
- Ensure Accessibility:
What location do those organizations and individuals frequent regularly?
What places are familiar to their members?
What dates and times would work best for them?

Feeling like one has ownership in the Forum and seeing oneself reflected in the process are key pieces to involving affected communities and their organizations. Making sure the process is rooted in the spaces and institutions familiar to the community members we are prioritizing ensures the accessibility and familiarity of the process.

Whoever is facilitating or performing outreach literally is the face of the Forum. When hosting city-wide, neighborhood or sector-based information sessions, who can we partner with or support to ensure facilitators, etc. are representative of or deeply connected to the communities we're organizing?

Before announcing an event

- Have I confirmed with the location that we can use their space at that date and time?
- What is the capacity of that space? Does my outreach respect that limit?
- Are there other considerations that partners or hosts may have for me to be aware of?

Sample rap for phone Call invitations to Local Social Forum Planning Meeting

“Hello _____, it’s (your name) from (your organization or your city’s Social Forum Planning Group.) .

I’m calling to make sure you know folks are getting together again to make sure (your city) is represented at the Social Forum in Detroit next June.

We’re having an information session and meeting on (date, time, and place) to pull people together to really use this as a chance to build up our local movement work across organizations and issues.

You know that room wouldn’t be complete without you being there. Can we count on you coming out?”

If yes

“Great. Can’t wait to see you there. We’ll have snacks at (time) . I’ll resend you the email announcement. It’d be great if you can spread the word.”

If no

“Oh, I’m sorry that timing won’t work out. But its definitely crucial that we all work together on this. Have you thought about how you might want to plug-in to the Forum?....

We’ve been thinking about holding a [action like People’s Movement Assembly or Work Brigade] in the Spring where we can get together and figure out solutions to all our problems so that we can bring that to the forum and build with other cities. Would you be down for that? Great. I’ll make sure to give you a report from this meeting and let you know what comes out of it.

Thanks.”

Date: **Time:** **Locations:**

Goals:

1. Provide Context and Background for US/World Social Forum Process
2. Open Space for local people explore collaborations and joint participation at Forum in Detroit
3. Identify Core people to follow-up after this meeting
4. Celebration and Solidarity
5. Promote People’s Movement Assembly

Agenda

Activity	Facilitator	Content	Time
Icebreaker “All my people who”		“I’m going to make a statement and if its true for you, please stand or raise your hand.” “all my people who... -live in [different parts of town] -work on [different issues or sectors] -went to US SF in Atlanta -had a victory this year	10 minutes
Welcome and Framing		Review agenda, purpose of gathering, local history, impact of SF on local organizing, answer: why should people be involved	10 minutes
USSF History and Vision		Powerpoint, Video, or Panel of experienced organizers: What is the SF? Why be involved? What is the PMA? What can we expect in Detroit?	20 minutes
Question and Answer		Open room for questions (not comments) about USSF 2010	15 minutes
Small Groups		People break up into small-groups by self-selecting people near them Have a half hour to discuss three questions. We won’t be doing a report back but want to use this as a basis for a bigger discussion when we come back as a big group <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. From your perspective, what movement building opportunities are there in the DC metro area in this moment? 2. How can we use the Social Forum and the People’s Movement Assembly to continue to build local and regional movements? 3. What would you specifically be interested in doing? 	30 minutes
Big Group Discussion		What are you excited to do? Call for ideas generated in small groups, attach names to ideas and ask who else is interested for each	10 minutes
Identifying a Core		From all the hands that went up, who has the energy to continue this conversation to build toward a movement assembly in the Spring and get us on the Road to Detroit?	5 minutes
Announcements		Announce next meeting: Those who have announcements, please stand or raise your hand. Each person will have 30 seconds	10 minutes