



What is POWER?

POWER employs a model of organizing often referred to as “Faith-Based Community Organizing. The essential building block of organizing is relationship building, and relationships are best built through intentional one-on-one, face-to-face conversations. All **POWER** members are challenged to continually and purposefully listen to the concerns and ideas of their congregants and neighbors through individual one-on-one meetings, house meetings and listening campaigns, to ensure that action and issue campaigns are rooted in the pain and stories of real people, especially those who have traditionally been on the margins of power.

This model of organizing emphasizes the need to do “public business” in public through large action meetings. Too many policy decisions that affect families and neighborhoods are not made “in the light of day” and are often too heavily influenced by narrowly self-interested groups and/or monied interests. **POWER** seeks to bring a broad-based and prophetic “people’s voice” to public decision-making and achieves this by gathering together large numbers of people to hold public officials, and themselves, accountable to make concrete policy changes.

POWER believes that government can play a vital role in improving society, but that civic leaders and organizations need to have the power to shape policy and hold public officials accountable.

POWER values, and intentionally capitalizes on, the racial, ethnic and religious diversity that has shaped Philadelphia and American society at large.

POWER is an organization made up of 41 congregations that cross race, faith, neighborhood and class lines.

POWER’s mission is to bring together people of faith to collectively advocate for public policies that are just and fair, especially for middle/low income families.

POWER believes that social change comes through the leadership of everyday people in communities across our city and state; **POWER** seeks to be a vehicle for people to expand their leadership capacity & skills

POWER is non-partisan and does not endorse any party or candidate

POWER is a member of the PICO Network; PICO is national faith-based network that includes 60 organizations like **POWER** (www.PICOnetwork.org)