# **ROCK THE VOTE**

Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report

**December 31, 2015** 

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# Rock the Vote

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# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors Rock the Vote

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Rock the Vote (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2015, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

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website: www.denburg.com

# **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Rock the Vote as of December 31, 2015 and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Washington, DC

August 5, 2016

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Rock the Vote December 31, 2015

### **ASSETS**

Cash Contributions and grants receivable Prepaid expenses Property and equipment (Note C) Deposits Intangible property (Note D)	\$ 722,282 2,257,705 48,826 2,824 4,000 174,442
Total assets	\$ 3,210,079
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses  Due to related organization (Note G)	\$ 103,430 119,981
Total liabilities	 223,411
COMMITMENTS (Note H)	
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted (Note E) Temporarily restricted (Note E)	 251,510 2,735,158
Total net assets	 2,986,668
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 3,210,079

# STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Rock the Vote For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

	U	nrestricted	emporarily Restricted	Total
Support and revenue				
Contributions and grants	\$	4,492,140	\$ 2,749,918	\$ 7,242,058
Other revenue		584	-	584
Net assets released from				
program restrictions		846,553	 (846,553)	 
Total support and revenue		5,339,277	1,903,365	7,242,642
Expenses				
Program services		5,328,484	-	5,328,484
General and administrative		110,464	-	110,464
Fund raising		211,416	 _	 211,416
Total expenses		5,650,364	 	 5,650,364
Changes in net assets		(311,087)	1,903,365	1,592,278
Net assets - Beginning of year		562,597	 831,793	 1,394,390
Net assets - End of year	\$	251,510	\$ 2,735,158	\$ 2,986,668

# STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES Rock the Vote For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

		Program	Program Services		Supportin	Supporting Services	Total
	Civic Education	Registration Technology	Voting Rights	Total Programs	General and Administrative	Fund Raising	Supporting Services
				)			
Staff and benefits							
Salaries and staff compensation	\$ 40,367	\$ 143,399	\$ 125,394	\$ 309,160	\$ 45,644	\$ 54,869	\$ 409,673
Fayroll taxes	3,336	11,626	10,161	25,123	3,661	4,437	33,221
Employee oenems	3,383	12,834	10,913	27,332	4,073	5,190	36,595
Professional Fees	41,200	107,039	140,408	301,013	53,5,8	04,490	4/9,489
Accounting	,	٠	,		88 634		88 634
Legal	374	5 663	3 421	9 458	4 975	8 791	23,234
Consultants and other	39,409	100,600	171.935	311.944	42.344	57,109	411.397
	39,783	106,263	175,356	321,402	135,953	65,900	523,255
Travel and meetings							
Travel, lodging, artists and fees	905'9	37,920	25,159	69,585	5,689	26,482	101,756
	905'9	37,920	25,159	69,585	5,689	26,482	101,756
Equipment and maintenance							
Dues and subscriptions	9	1,238	2,691	3,935	3,094	•	7,029
Computer and equipment		842	338	1,180	1,296		2,476
Depreciation and amortization		•	44,667	44,667	13,854	,	58,521
Equipment rental and other	13,680	3,260	303	17,243	14,509	2,600	34,352
	13,686	5,340	47,999	67,025	32,753	2,600	102,378
Occupancy							
Rent and occupancy costs	1	604	,	604	79,813		80,417
		604	•	604	79,813		80,417
Communications and marketing							
Printing and reproduction	2,556	1,168	1,339	5,063	8,123	736	13,922
Advertising and video production	330	4,154		4,484	,	•	4,484
Other	29,622	13,293	454	43,369	243	6,829	50,441
	32,508	18,615	1,793	52,916	8,366	7,565	68,847
Technology fees							
Online voter registration	•	823	31,847	32,670	,	•	32,670
Catalist/Voter files			97,270	97,270	,	•	97,270
Email/web/mobile	1,763	46,862	73,447	122,072	8,518	•	130,590
	1,763	47,685	202,564	252,012	8,518		260,530
Other operating expenses							
Allocated program expenses	25,560	92,040	74,116	191,716	(233,719)	42,003	,
Insurance	•	490	,	490	9,831	•	10,321
Interest expense	•	•	•			•	
Subgrant expenses	1	•	,				,
Other operating expenses			•		5,730	2,370	8,100
	25,560	92,530	74,116	192,206	(218,158)	44,373	18,421
In-kind expenses							
Data and professional services		4,006,000	5,119	4,011,119	4,152		4,015,271
Total avnancac	167 007	210 60 1 3					
i otal capetiscs		4,402,010	0/6/3/4	5,526,464	110,404	211,410	3,030,304

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Rock the Vote

For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

Cash flows from operating activities	
Change in net assets	\$ 1,592,278
Adjustments to reconcile change in net cash	
used in operating activities:	
Depreciation and amortization	58,523
Increase in contributions and grants receivable	(1,908,422)
Decrease in deposits	5,057
Increase in prepaid expenses	(18,909)
Increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses	53,444
Decrease in deferred expenses	 (7,011)
Net cash used in operating activities	 (225,040)
Cash flows from investing activities	
Fixed and intangible asset acquisitions	(2,525)
Net cash used in investing activities	 (2,525)
Cash flows from financing activities	
Loan repayment to related organization	 (25,499)
Net cash used in financing activities	 (25,499)
Net decrease in cash	(253,064)
Cash balance - Beginning of the year	 975,346
Cash balance - End of the year	\$ 722,282

Rock the Vote December 31, 2015

### **NOTE A - ORGANIZATION**

Rock the Vote, a non-profit corporation, was organized in Washington, DC on December 27, 2005. They were formerly known as the Music for America Education Fund. The corporate offices are located in Washington, DC. The first activity began on or about April 1, 2007. Rock the Vote engages youth in the political process by incorporating the entertainment community, popular culture and new technologies with the goal of encouraging youth and others to vote and take action on issues that affect their lives. Additionally, Rock the Vote conducts voter registration, civic education and GOTV efforts focusing on 18 to 29 year olds who are the most under-represented in our democracy and empowers young people to be active citizens through political participation.

### NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of the Organization's significant accounting policies consistently applied in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements.

### 1. Basis of accounting

The Organization presents its financial statements on the accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when they are due or pledged rather than when they are received. Expenses are recognized when they are incurred rather than when they are paid.

### 2. Audit Procedures

This audit was performed in accordance with guidelines included in "Not-for-Profit Entities Audit and Accounting Guide" issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

### 3. Property and equipment

Property and equipment is recorded at cost and depreciated, using the straight-line method, over the estimated useful life of the asset. Presently all property and equipment is depreciated over 3 years. It is the policy of the Organization to capitalize and depreciate property with a cost of greater than \$1,000 and a useful life of more than a year.

### 4. Non-cash contributions

Non-cash contributions are recorded at fair market value on the date of the donation to the extent they are susceptible to valuation. There were non-cash contributions of data and professional services totaling \$4,015,271 during the year for the benefit of the Election Program, Registration Technology Program and Administration. These income and expense items are included in the financial statements.

Rock the Vote December 31, 2015

### NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

### 5. Promises to give

Contributions and grants are recognized when the donor makes an unconditional promise to give to the Organization. All donor-restricted funding is reported as increases in temporarily restricted net assets. When a restriction expires, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets. Contributions and grants receivable are due in both 2016 and 2017. See Note F.

### 6. Financial statement presentation and revenue recognition

The Organization is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets depending on the existence and/or nature of any donor restrictions. All donor-restricted contributions are reported as increases in temporarily restricted net assets. When a restriction expires, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets. Donated goods and services are reflected as contributions at their estimated fair market value at the time of receipt. See Note B-4.

### 7. Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. For example, depreciation, amortization and the functional allocation of certain expenses are estimates. Accordingly, actual results could differ from these estimates.

### 8. Income taxes

The Organization is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and they are also exempt from state income taxes. The Internal Revenue Service has determined that they are a publicly supported organization.

Effective January 1, 2009 the Organization adopted the authoritative guidance related to accounting for uncertainty in income taxes. The Organization performed an evaluation of uncertain tax positions for the year ended December 31, 2015, and determined that there were no matters that would require recognition in the financial statements or which may have any effect on its tax-exempt status. The tax returns for the years 2012 through 2014 are open to examination by federal and state authorities.

### 9. Cash and cash equivalents

For financial statement purposes, the Organization considers cash and cash equivalents to include cash in banks.

Rock the Vote December 31, 2015

### NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

### 10. Allocation of expenses

The costs of providing the various programs and other activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the statement of activities. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the programs and supporting services benefited. Effective in 2012 the Organization changed the way that they account for certain programmatic expenses. Expenses that benefit multiple programs are accumulated monthly and allocated among the various programs based on the relative salaries allocated to each program.

### NOTE C – PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment consists of furniture, computers and leasehold improvements. Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis over 3 years. Depreciation expense for 2015 is \$2,352 and accumulated depreciation as of December 31, 2015 is \$8,419.

### NOTE D - INTANGIBLE PROPERTY

Intangible assets consist of trademark and logo acquisition costs and website and portal development costs which totaled \$689,062 as of December 31, 2015. The trademark and logo costs comprise \$230,044 of the total and are being amortized over 20 years. The website development costs totaled \$459,018 with amortization calculated on a straight line basis over 30 to 36 months. Amortization expense for 2015 is \$56,170 and accumulated amortization as of December 31, 2015 is \$514,620.

### NOTE E-RESTRICTIONS ON NET ASSETS

There was \$2,735,158 in net assets that were subject to temporary donor restrictions as of December 31, 2015. Of these, \$315,496 was subject to use-restrictions meaning that their use was designated for a certain purpose or program. The remaining \$2,419,662 was subject to time restrictions meaning that their use is restricted to a future period. On a programmatic basis the use-restrictions are for use in the Registration Technology program.

As of December 31, 2015 there are no permanently restricted net assets.

### NOTE F - CONTRIBUTIONS AND GRANTS

As of December 31, 2015 there were \$2,253,773 in contributions and grants receivable which includes \$2,153,773 that is due in 2016 and \$100,000 that is due in 2017. The receivables are presented net of a future-value discount of \$1,364.

Rock the Vote December 31, 2015

### NOTE G – RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Rock the Vote Action Fund is an affiliated non-profit organization which is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. During the year there were expenses paid by Rock the Vote on behalf of the Action Fund in the amount of \$25,499. As of December 31, 2015, Rock the Vote owed the Action Fund \$119,981.

### NOTE H – COMMITMENTS

### Office Lease

Effective January 15, 2011 the Organization entered into a lease for office space which extends through January 31, 2016. The initial monthly rental amount was \$5,057 with escalation provisions and expense pass-through adjustments through the term of the lease. The monthly rental for 2015 ranged from \$5,701 to \$7,480 due to changes in common area maintenance pass-throughs. The minimum future obligation under this lease is \$5,637. Effective January 4, 2016, the Organization entered into an agreement for Month-to-Month office space.

### Data Services

The Organization renewed their data license and service agreement beginning January 1, 2013 which is effective until December 31, 2017. Under the agreement the Organization is obligated to pay \$120,000 for 2016 and \$105,000 for 2017 with allowable discounts of \$6,000 and \$5,250, respectively. The net cost is \$114,000 for 2016 and \$99,750 for 2017.

### NOTE I – RETIREMENT PLAN

The Organization provides a Simple IRA retirement plan for all eligible employees. This allows employees to elect to have a portion of their payroll contributed to the retirement account on a pre-tax basis. The Organization then provides a matching contribution of up to 3% of participating employee payroll. During 2015 the Organization contributed \$9,211 in matching retirement contributions.

### **NOTE J – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

The Organization has evaluated subsequent events through August 5, 2016 which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Rock the Vote December 31, 2015

### NOTE K – CONCENTRATION OF RISK

The Organization maintains cash accounts in a commercial bank that exceeds the federally insured limit for such deposits. As of December 31, 2015 they had an uninsured cash balance of \$472,282.