



What to Do

Part One:

Tap Into Expert Help and Resources

Many nonprofits and government agencies are facing unprecedented challenges to their ability to conduct their normal operations, raise funds, lead or participate in protests, share important (and truthful) messages, and serve marginalized communities. Fortunately, there are many organizations with long track records of providing accurate information and/or protecting the rights that are the cornerstones of our democracy. The list below is not all-inclusive, but it does provide direct links to several organizations that can help you navigate in turbulent times.

We get it. Right now it seems like many things are spinning out of control. These are challenging times—especially for those of you who are working constantly to support women and children, ensure equitable access to education and healthcare, close gaps and increase opportunity for everyone. **The work you are doing is critical and you are not alone.**

When everything is up in the air, it's hard to know where to focus, when to push harder, and how to protect your organization and your work. ACS is offering this three-part series, "What To Do," that includes tips and tools to help you keep calm, concentrate on what matters, and take positive actions to keep your work moving forward.

**Bolder Advocacy—
Alliance for Justice**

Offers guides, webinars, and tools on lobbying rules, election year activity, and protecting your tax-exempt status.

**Nonprofit Legal
Defense Network**

Provides information and resources on advocacy compliance and nonprofit tax law, as well as one-on-one legal consultation.

**IRS: Compliance
Guide for 501(c)(3)
Public Charities**

Covers what is and isn't allowed under federal law, including lobbying, political activity, and reporting.

**National Council of
Nonprofits**

Provides state-by-state resources and explains key topics like advocacy vs. lobbying, employee rights, and nonprofit speech.

Exponentum

Connects nonprofits to a national network of pro bono lawyers and has several links to compliance resources.

TrustLaw

Operated by Thompson Reuters Foundation, connects nonprofits with team members who can help prepare a request and connect with pro bono attorneys.

Protest, Media, and Free Speech Rights

[ACLU Protesters' Rights Guide](#)

Clear information about your rights when attending protests, including what to do if approached by police.

[CAIR](#)

A list of rights when protesting, how to prepare for a protest, and how to behave if approached by police or arrested.

Immigration-Focused Organizations

[ACLU: Know Your Rights \(Immigrants\)](#)

Covers rights during ICE encounters, raids, and protests.

[ILRC—Immigrant Legal Resource Center](#)

Materials for communities and nonprofits working with immigrants. Includes printable cards and “red cards” for rights during enforcement actions.

[AFT Toolkit for Immigrant Students & Families](#)

Especially helpful for education nonprofits. Includes checklists and model policies.

[National Immigrant Justice Center](#)

Contains information on immigrant rights in a variety of situations, from interactions with ICE to detentions to immigration courts.

Recognizing Misinformation and Disinformation

and discussing misinformation responsibly.

American Psychological Association: Misinformation and Disinformation

Includes a brief interactive course for learning more about misinformation and disinformation and a number of resources for debunking misinformation and disinformation.

Cornell University: How to Spot Fake News (infographic)

An easy-to-use reminder to help ensure accuracy and avoid bias, published by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions.

The resources above are a start, and we'd love to hear from you with others that you find valuable. Drop us a line at info@advocacyandcommunication.org

Want more?

Contact any of our team members, call toll free at 1-877-372-0166 or visit our website at advocacyandcommunication.org



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