Phone Bank Organizing Tip Sheet & Sample Script

Mobilize your network to defeat #TrumpsTaxScam and protect essential programs and policies that support people living with and vulnerable to HIV by organizing a phone bank with your friends, family, and coworkers!

1. **Prepare a script.**
   Having a script helps ensure delivery of a consistent message and makes callers feel more comfortable. The script should be short and simple. It should include an introduction of the caller, a brief overview of the issue, the action that being urged, and a request for confirmation that the action will be taken. You can also use the sample script provided below.

   HIV Community Tax Bill Sample Phone Bank Script

   Trump and Republican congressional members are working to pass a tax bill that favors corporations and the wealthy and would repeal the individual mandate of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), making health care more expensive and kicking 13 million people off coverage. Worse, giving these tax cuts to the rich will increase the federal deficit and tighten the federal budget, paving the way for Republicans to initiate massive cuts to critical social safety net programs like Ryan White and Medicaid in the future.

   We can stop this from happening! We saved health care for millions and defeated several failed attempts by Republicans to repeal and replace the ACA. With calls from you and others, we can do it again! Every call counts! If you have trouble getting through, please keep trying until you are able to make your voice heard. Feel free to **share a personal story** about what would happen if you or your loved ones lost coverage. **Here's what you can say:**

   "Hello, my name is _____]. I'm a person [living with/concerned about] healthcare. The tax bill would repeal the individual mandate and increase pressure to gut essential safety net programs like Ryan White, Medicare, and Medicaid in future budgets. I demand that you VOTE NO on the tax bill!"

2. **Recruit and train your callers.**
   Ask your friends, family members and coworkers to join your phone bank. Can you get your team to commit to make at least 10 calls? Make sure they feel comfortable placing calls. Provide them with an overview of the issue. Take time for questions. Walk them through the script. Model a sample call so they can see how easy it is.

3. **Report back and express gratitude.**
   Be sure to share the outcomes of your efforts. Let them know how many calls were made thanks to their collective effort. Thank callers for their time and effort. Remember we are in a marathon fight that requires the time, attention, and support of our entire community. Acknowledging the callers' contributions will help increase the likelihood of them volunteering to help again.