



## NONPARTISAN HEALTHCARE-BASED VOTER REGISTRATION

[Dr. Alister Martin](#) is an emergency medicine physician at Massachusetts General Hospital and like so many nurses, social workers, medical students, and doctors across America, he goes to work every day knowing he'll meet people he can't help through medical care alone. There aren't prescriptions or procedures to fix homelessness, hunger, illiteracy, joblessness, or violence—the larger forces responsible for many people's poor health and reliance on ERs and community health centers.

### Voting and HealthCare

Is there a way medicine can change the big picture? Dr. Martin founded [Vot-ER \(@vot\\_er\\_org\)](#) because he believes there's one simple but powerful step we can take immediately: help patients vote. Healthcare providers have a special opportunity to make a difference. Patients who utilize ERs and community health centers as their primary settings to receive healthcare are often young, uninsured, or people of color: the **same groups who vote in low numbers**.



### Healthcare is the Next Frontier in Voter Access

Founded in 2019, Vot-ER works in healthcare settings to advance voter registration and GOTV in three ways:

- Site-Based Voter Registration: Vot-ER works with over 300 hospitals providing posters, discharge paperwork, and patient handouts.
- Digital Outreach: Vot-ER leverages hospitals and community health centers as trusted messengers about voting via SMS, telehealth, and hospital webpages.
- Healthy Democracy Kit: Healthcare providers wear a "Ready to Vote?" lanyard and a voter registration badgebacker (pictured) with a QR-code and SMS shortcode that they can use to help patients register to vote or request an absentee ballot.

### Growth and Impact

- In the last year, Vot-ER has partnered with over **300 health institutions and 100 national organizations** and associations across the country to bring voting into the healthcare setting.
- Between July and October 2020, Vot-ER shipped **24,000 individual Healthy Democracy Kits** to healthcare providers across the country.
- By Election Day 2020, over **48,000 patients** across the country had been engaged in registering or receiving their absentee ballots. In December and January, Vot-ER mobilized over 2,200 providers in Georgia to help patients prepare to vote for the Senate Runoff.

### Be Part of the Story

Get involved with Vot-ER's work or with Civic Health Month by helping patients and colleagues register to vote. Vot-ER is a nonpartisan 501(c)3 organization. Learn more [here](#) and reach out for more information at [alister@vot-er.org](mailto:alister@vot-er.org).

### Examples of a Few of Our Partners:

American Academy of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN



Hennepin Health



The Latino Medical Student Association



Pennsylvania State Nurses Association