

Local Campaign Volunteers Working for Obama

Henrietta J. Burroughs
East Palo Alto Today Online
Posted: January 28, 2008

EAST PALO ALTO, CA. - On Saturday, January 26, the day of the South Carolina Primary Election, hundreds of volunteers showed up, in spite of the rainy weather, to work for Sen. Barack Obama at his campaign headquarters at 3892 El Camino Real in Palo Alto. From the time the office opened at 10 a.m. until it closed at 9 p.m., there was a constant flow of people.



Volunteers in Sen. Barack Obama's campaign headquarters in Palo Alto, CA.

Glenda Savage-Johnson was joined in the Palo Alto campaign office by a delegation from East Palo Alto. The East Palo Alto group included former East Palo Alto Mayor Sharifa Wilson, Dr. Faye McNair Knox and Patrick Brock. Savage-Johnson and those who joined her are ardent volunteers for the Obama Campaign in East Palo Alto.

When asked why she was for Obama, Savage-Johnson said, "Like so many others, I am supporting Obama because of his vision for America. He believes that what we need is change for the better. He talks about the need to move away from the old political way of thinking. Obama believes that we are all one America with issues that affect us all." She also said that she felt Obama was interested in uniting people not dividing them.

Throughout the day, cheers resounded through the campaign headquarters. This time the cheers followed the announcement that volunteers had reached their goal that day of making 100,000 phone calls to area residents requesting that they vote for Obama in the February 5 California Primary Election.



Tamala Williams

Tamala Williams, who is the campaign office's precinct captain responsible for making calls to 350 East Palo Alto residents, was exuberant. "I think he has a good chance of winning, and just working here, I see a diverse group of people of all ages and races," she said. "Obama's reached them and changed their minds. I think it's very powerful when you can reach young and old. I think that's awesome," Williams said.

Susan Kahn, a public school teacher in Palo Alto, who volunteers at the campaign headquarters everyday, expressed similar thoughts. "I read Obama's books. I voted for Hillary Clinton for State Senator, when I lived in New York. After investigating both of them, I think Obama is a transforming leader to unite us all. I see so many people inspired now," Kahn said.



Susan Kahn and Janet Wells with Menlo Park residents Adrienne Ali and Diane Campbell.

The campaign has two offices at the El Camino location and in both offices, people of all ages came throughout the evening to volunteer. Those, wanting more information about Obama's campaign headquarters in Palo Alto, can call (650) 852-9401.