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OurSociety  
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## Local Non-Profit OurSociety combats money in politics with the launch of Free Election Campaign Platform in New Jersey

4/30/2018

The influence of money on elections in local, state, and national elections is a growing problem in the United States; one New Jersey non-profit is trying to change that. OurSociety has built a free and open election campaign platform that empowers any political hopeful to run a high reach campaign for no cost. Candidates can provide detailed information about their platform and mandates in both written and video formats on their profiles. Candidate profiles can be viewed in one convenient and easy to use place via the OurSociety website.

Citizen users can view any candidate on the platform but will automatically show candidates who will appear on their ballots based on location. OurSociety has put special effort into making the platform as user-friendly as possible, including a "Social Value Matching" aspect where users can answer questions about their perspective and have an algorithm match them to candidates in their district based on the information they provide.

The live beta platform launched on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in New Jersey's Congressional Districts Six and Seven with additional candidates from other districts in the process of joining. OurSociety consists of a group of New Jersey volunteers who are passionate about helping people become more involved in our local political process by empowering them to make better, data-driven choices based on the issues they care about most.

"At OurSociety we believe that *more democracy* is the solution to many of our social, economic, and politic problems. By creating a non-profit Free & Open Election Campaign Platform, we are providing a pathway for citizens to run for elected office free of the financial barriers associated with running traditional campaigns. Also, OurSociety empowers citizens to make better voting decisions based on their social values, making the process easier and more convenient than ever." – Ron Rivers, Founder of OurSociety.

For more information, please visit [www.oursociety.org](http://www.oursociety.org) or email OurSociety at [info@oursociety.org](mailto:info@oursociety.org).

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**OurSociety** was founded in 2017 by Ron Rivers and has been built and supported by a group of passionate volunteers interested in building a more transparent and open government through the use of public data.

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