



## Winter Advocacy Retreat

January 11-13, 2018

Hyatt Regency, Sarasota Florida

SESSION #	SESSION DESCRIPTOR
<p><b>101-401</b></p> <p><b>ALL DAY – 2-DAY SESSION</b></p>	<p><b><i>Organizing for Power(O4P) Essentials</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Mike Horner, Co-presenter TBD</b></p> <p>O4P is foundational and is essential for all NSO affiliate Leaders and activists. O4P is if used effectively, will have an affect/effect on our members ability to impact our members lives; address bad management, and support successful bargaining. Organizing: A guide for staff unions” will be provided. NSO affiliates teams are encouraged to participate.</p>
<p><b>102-402</b></p> <p><b>ALL DAY – 2-DAY SESSION</b></p>	<p><b><i>O4P Practical Tools 1-- Listen and Plan</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Janet Beck, Co-presenter TBD</b></p> <p>Building on the Foundation of Org4pwr Essentials, this advanced session explores proven practical skills, tools, and actions for sustainable organizing. Based on the “Listen and Plan” Steps of the Constant Organizing Goals mentioned, it focuses on; (1) Power Analysis; (2) Building Relationships with members and allies and (3) strategic campaign planning.</p>
<p><b>103-403</b></p> <p><b>ALL DAY – 2-DAY SESSION</b></p>	<p><b><i>O4P Practical Tools 2-- Act and Evaluate</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Bob Lindquist, Kim Mina</b></p> <p>Building on the Foundation of both Org4pwr’s Essentials module and its Practical Tools-Listen, &amp; Plan module, this advanced session explores proven, practical skills, tools, and actions for sustainable organizing. Based on the Act and Evaluate steps of the Constant Organizing Goals method, it focuses on: (1) Strategy development; (2) Preparation for organizing tactics; (3) Tactics selection; and (4) After Action Review.</p>
<p><b>104</b></p>	<p><b><i>Associate Staff Forum</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): LaTasha Ball, Co-Presenter TBD</b></p> <p>This is an important venue for Associate Staff to come together to discuss issues facing them across the country, particularly as it relates to the reduction in positions and changing roles. There will be an opportunity to share stories, ideas and strategies that we can all use. We will also discuss the benefits of being a part of NSO, using the resources and training opportunities that we have available.</p>

Comment [CA1]:

105	<p><b>Affordable Care Act-Past, Future, and Fate</b>  <b>PRESENTER: Dan Gottheimer</b></p> <p>In reviewing the Affordable Care Act, which of its regulations are still prevalent, what has it accomplished and where has it failed. This session will review sample contract language for staff contracts and examine what a replacement might look like. Topics will include excise tax, patient protections, and rights afforded employees in the work place.</p>
205	
<b>NEW SESSION</b>	

SESSION #	SESSION DESCRIPTOR
106-206 313-413 <b>THIS IS AN ALL DAY SESSION</b>	<p><b>Introduction to Grievance Processing</b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Joe DiVincenzo, Gina Domenici</b></p> <p>Introduction to Grievance is designed for beginners or those in need of a “basics” refresher. Behind every grievance lurk hundreds of questions! This session will provide a thorough review of the grievance procedure, along with basics in identification, investigation, interviewing and presentation skills. Small group interaction, lecturette and role play will be used in the learning process.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPANTS MUST BRING A COPY OF THEIR UNION CONTRACT</b></p>

SESSION #	SESSION DESCRIPTOR
107-207  <i>All Day Session</i>	<p><b>Treasurer’s Workshop</b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Ron. Goldenstein, Michelle Strzynski, Eric Urban</b></p> <p>This session is designed for treasurer’s and presidents who need to understand the financial side of unions. All legal requirements that treasurers must meet will be discussed in detail. We will cover DOL reporting requirements, IRS and DOL legal documentation requirements relating to vouchers, the accounting cycle, treasurer’s reports, the preparation of budgets and “do’s and don’ts of a union treasurer.</p>
108 208 <b>NEW SESSION</b>	<p><b>Know Your Contract-Furlough and Layoffs</b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Kelly Compeau, James Henninger-Voss</b></p> <p>While it’s important to hope for the best, you also must be prepared for the worst. Several NSO affiliates are facing situations which could cause a reduction in staff. In this session, we will explore your contract language and language from other participants so that you can better be prepared for bad times ahead, or learn strategies and language to limit or even prevent people from losing their jobs. <b><i>It is highly recommended that you bring your contract to this session.</i></b></p>

109 209	<p><b><i>Show Them the Money-- Budget Analysis for the Modern Union</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Andrea Hardy</b></p> <p>Does your Association cry poor every time the Staff Union comes to the table to bargain? Are you after better compensation or staffing levels, but they insist they have no \$\$\$, only to turn around a month after the contract has been ratified to spend \$\$\$ on consultants in areas where your members could be doing the work? Are they attacking the sustainability of your pension, even though it's well funded and two years ago they decided not to contribute? Want to fight back? In this session, we'll talk about what you can do to combat the arguments about poverty and support the needs of your fellow staff members by demystifying the data.</p>
110 210 <b>NEW SESSION</b>	<p><b><i>Taking Charge of our Future, NOW!</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Todd Jaeck, Katie Boerger</b></p> <p>Today's threats to labor affect the whole state affiliate: staff, governance, and management. Worrying, speculating, and waiting for a higher authority to save us creates a good deal of anxiety, which makes these times more challenging. In this session, we will share how our staff union has been able to keep focus on bargaining language guaranteeing us collaborative decision-making power. Learn how we've been internally organized and implemented initiatives from our staff to prepare for and inoculate our local member unions against attacks. We will also discuss some of the changes made to our staff contract that address the decrease in memberships/revenue. Participants are invited to share initiatives their state affiliates have been implementing, learn from other state affiliates, and create relationships to help your state affiliate in these stressful times.</p>
111 211 <b>NEW SESSION</b>	<p><b><i>Whose Up Next, Welcoming the Next Generation to Union Leadership</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Tom. Kennedy, Faith Risolo</b></p> <p>Your union leadership has been together so long you forgot to look at the changing demographics of your membership. Who are the next leaders in your union? Who is willing to embrace the responsibility? This highly interactive session examines the changing demographics of your Association and strategies to get all generations involved.</p>
112 212	<p><b><i>Eat Your Wheaties, Get Ready to Bargain Retirement Benefits</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Mary Ann Jandoli, Dennis Eisenberg</b></p> <p>You'll need lots of energy in your next round of bargaining to protect retirement security for your members. The keys to your success will be preparation, preparation, preparation! This session will help you prepare and arm you with strategies to do your best work. You'll learn the questions to ask, the important documents to review, the research available to help you evaluate your contract and make comparisons, and the lessons learned from NSO Affiliates who've been fighting the fight. There will be up to date information about the Affordable Care Act, the</p>

	Federal Pension Protection Act (a.k.a The Let's See What We can Do to Threaten Defined Benefits Pension Protection Act) and practical considerations for bargaining an array of pension and post-retirement medical benefits.
113-213  304-404  THIS IS AN ALL DAY SESSION	<b><i>Understanding Workplace Bullying</i></b> <b>PRESENTER(S): George Luse, Rosemary Tapp</b>  Bullying is something we should not have to deal with much beyond either grade. Unfortunately, workplace bullies are a problem faced by too many of our members in all job categories. In this workshop participants will identify characteristic of bullying behavior in the workplace, including the role of bystanders in either supporting or challenging bullying. Participants will explore ways for unions and individuals-bystanders and targets to recognize workplace bullying and respond to it when it occurs
114  214  NEW SESSION	<b><i>Winning with Words</i></b> <b>PRESENTER(S): Larry Spotts, Katherine Clarke</b>  Winning life-altering improvements in our union contracts requires controlling the narrative. How? Through message frame development, delivery and discipline in everything we do. Framing is how everyone thinks! Winning campaigns use this brain communications science to ensure that our public understands why our union's win benefits us all. Learn to use these communication strategies in all your union-related roles and campaigns to win for our members. We must define ourselves and our campaigns before our opponents do in order to WIN!
115  215	<b><i>You Can Manage Conflict in your Life</i></b> <b>PRESENTER(S): Jane Travis-Address, Caroline Tantum</b>  Life presents us with all kinds of conflict both in our professional and personal lives. Learn to manage it in this highly participatory session. Discover your conflict profile and explore the different styles of managing conflict. Empower yourself with choices and enhance your ability to manage conflict in your life.
204  410	<b><i>Understanding NSO Research</i></b> <b>PRESENTER(S): Robert Blackwell, Naomi Chisolm</b>  Participants will learn how to use the NSO Research website and how to obtain the information gathered from other affiliates. Participants will also gain an understanding as to why this information is so valuable in preparation and during negotiations.
305-405  THIS IS AN ALL DAY SESSION	<b><i>The ABC's of Arbitration</i></b> <b>PRESENTER(S): Don Tarr, Lois Tarr</b> Learn and practice the basic skills of the art of arbitration in this hands-on seminar. Participants will receive practical experience in: Opening/Closing Statements, Framing the Issue, Witness Preparation, Direct/Cross Examination, Evidence Presentation, and Writing Effective Arbitration Briefs.

<p><b>306-406</b></p> <p><b>THIS IS AN ALL DAY SESSION</b></p>	<p><b><i>Writing Contract Language</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Mary Henson, Jackie Rhodes</b></p> <p>This is a <b>BEGINNER'S SESSION</b> on writing contract language. Discussion will be held on bargaining--when, how, why; what to include in proposals. Also, NSO resources, assistance and the issues that unions are dealing with across the country will be discussed. Everyone will spend time creating (writing), reviewing and discussing contract language. This is a hands-on session to with lots of interaction.</p>
<p><b>307</b></p> <p><b>512</b></p> <p><b>NEW SESSION</b></p>	<p><b>Duty of Fair Representation in Peace and WAR.</b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Mike Boyer, Rob Day</b></p> <p>In conventional wisdom, the DFR has 3 components; Negotiations, Advocacy, and Contract Administration. It is also relevant for affiliate internal proceedings, striker misconduct, union security; and information requests from management. Come learn the "what you need to know" about DFR's.</p>
<p><b>308</b></p> <p><b>408</b></p> <p><b>NEW SESSION</b></p>	<p><b><i>Speak Softly, you have a big Stick</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Tal Hutchins, Beth Chandler Marks</b></p> <p>This workshop is designed for participants with little or limited knowledge of parliamentary procedures. The workshop will give participants basic knowledge and training on parliamentary procedures via scenarios and fun filled role plays. Participants will learn the 3 most powerful motions and 2 motions you never want to use. Participants will learn how to be effective in understanding and impacting any formal meeting.</p>
<p><b>309</b></p>	<p><b><i>Quickbooks</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Ron Goldenstein, Michelle Strzynski, Eric Urban</b></p> <p>This session will provide the basic usage of QuickBooks for maintaining accurate and up to date financial reporting. It will include using the program for budgeting, maintaining accurate accounting records through the use of chart of accounts, classification of funds and expenses as required by law. <b>PLEASE BRING YOUR LAPTOP AND HAVE THE PROGRAM INSTALLED TO ACHIEVE THE HIGHEST LEARNING EXPERIENCE FROM THIS CLASS.</b> The online version of QuickBooks is NOT recommended. It is not a requirement to have a laptop for this class as we will be using an LCD projector for training.</p>
<p><b>310</b></p>	<p><b><i>Presidents Roundtable</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): NSO Executive Committee</b></p> <p>Join NSO leadership and affiliate presidents for an in-depth discussion on what's happening around the country, the current landscape and climate, as well as develop strategies for dealing with it all.</p>

311 411 <b>NEW SESSION</b>	<b><i>Associate Staff in the New Economy/How to Stay Relevant</i></b> <b><i>PRESENTER(S): Kathleen Edwards, Patty Ray</i></b>  This session will focus on ways for Associate Staff to remain relevant and respected in our State Organizations. We will look at the many technology advances and the opportunities to bring training and education to our fellow members to help prevent outsourcing or elimination of positions. This session is geared toward Associate Staff Members.
312 412	<b><i>Igniting the SPARK at Home</i></b> <b><i>PRESENTER(S): Tara Quackenbush, Matt Kruse</i></b>  This session will provide an overview of how to create a meaningful SPARKS experience for members new to staff work back home. SPARKS is designed to orient newer members to your staff union, build solidarity, and provide an opportunity to build and strengthen personal and professional relationships.
314 414	<b><i>Getting To Maximum</i></b> <b><i>PRESENTER(S): Bob Willoughby, Sarah Favinger</i></b>  Compensation is quiet often a top, if not the top priority in bargaining, with the primary mode of compensation being the salary guide. Salary guides are one of the most discussed and most misunderstood-aspects of the negotiations process. In this workshop, we'll discuss the basics of salary guide construction including issues of average salary, minimums and maximums, guide length, increment costs and settlements. We will also delve into bargaining other forms of compensation. <b>BRING A COPY OF YOUR SALARY GUIDE AS WE WILL BE DOING A "HANDS ON" ANALYSIS.</b>
315	<b><i>Trump your 401(k)</i></b> <b><i>PRESENTER: Dennis Eisenberg</i></b>  Can I ever afford to retire? As an investor would Donald Trump say to you "You're Fired". Are you generally within 10 years of retirement, who must make the 401(K)-contribution amount last forever? Retirement basics including IRA's, Social Security, Long Term Care, retiree health, etc. will also be covered. What are the best practices for spending down balances? <b>BRING A COPY OF YOUR LAST INVESTMENT STATEMENT.</b>
407 612 <b>NEW SESSION</b>	<b><i>What does NSO DO for You; Union Advocacy-Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.</i></b> <b><i>PRESENTER(S): Chuck Agerstrand, Marius Ambrose</i></b>  The National Staff Organization was created in 1969 to defend, protect, secure and defend employees who are employed by the NEA and/or one of its affiliated organizations. This workshop provides an overview on the history of NSO and why it has created the programs and resources to assist NSO affiliates in meeting their challenges. This workshop is designed to help <b>YOU</b> , the <b>LEADER</b> , better <b>ORGANIZE, ADVOCATE, EDUCATE, AND PARTICIPATE IN MAKING YOUR UNION MEMBERSHIP</b>

	<p><b>STRONGER BY REMEMBERING WHERE WE HAVE BEEN, SHARING THAT INFORMATION WITH OTHERS, AND INVOLVING YOURSELF IN YOUR UNION, IN A WAY THAT WILL BETTER HELP YOU MEET THE CHALLENGES YOU FACE.</b> It's all about organizing and working to establish an organizing culture within our union. How do we do that? This workshop will begin the dialogue.....plan on attending.</p>
<p>409</p>	<p><b>Quickbooks Open Workshop</b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Ron Goldenstein, Michelle Strzynski, Eric Urban</b></p> <p>In this session, we will work one-on-one with treasurers. We will help you set up QuickBooks, assist with specific issues and address additional training that is needed. <u><i>This session would be ideal for new treasurers or those who are going to start using QuickBooks in their organization.</i></u> We cannot answer specific questions or do individual training during the normal QuickBooks training; this is to subsidize that session. Due to the nature of this training, there is limited space available.</p>
<p>501</p> <p>601</p> <p><b>NEW SESSION</b></p>	<p><b>Tackling Workplace Conflict before the "ish" hits the fan</b>  <b>(PRESENTER(S): LaTasha Ball, Shawnta Bailey</b></p> <p>What thoughts come to mind when you hear Workplace Conflict. Are you dealing with workplace conflicts? Frustrated with the lack of resolution? Disputes between members are common and inevitable. The difficult decision is when to step in before things get out of hand and the problems are affecting their work or disrupting other's work. Handle your internal conflict and avoid management involvement. This interactive session will use real scenarios to help you respond with difficult behavior in the most effective way. Conflict is inevitable, plan for the future and equip yourself with the skills to reach resolution.</p>
<p>502</p> <p>602</p> <p><b>NEW SESSION</b></p>	<p><b>Neuroscience at Bargaining</b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Charmaine Champagne, Bill Lopez</b></p> <p>When we bargain – or do advocacy-there is a tendency to believe that “the facts” are what really matters. It is all about presenting “the facts” in a way that the other side will agree. Maybe we even believe this when we seek to elect a President. Neuroscience is the emerging science about how our brains work and it can help us understand how to improve how and when we bargain to encourage agreement rather than to increase conflict. The workshop will include an exploration of how our brains evolved to handle conflict how the scarcity mindset the brains bandwidth-impacts the ability to plan, solve problems and make rational choices; how to use the SCARF model (Status, Certainty, Autonomy, Relatedness, and Fairness) to design interactions that minimize threats and maximize rewards responses in the brain; and, how to prime for agreement.</p>
<p>503</p> <p>603</p> <p><b>NEW SESSION</b></p>	<p><b>Fun With Spreadsheets</b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Phil Katz, Jason Mathes</b></p> <p>In this workshop, we will explore the use of spreadsheets like Excel and Google Sheets in our union work. From getting to know the basics to some nerdy complications we will differentiate to meet your individual needs. <b>Laptop or tablet needed.</b></p>

<p>504</p> <p>604</p> <p><b>NEW SESSION</b></p>	<p><b><i>Not Your Grandpa's Union</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Lisa Enwright Bruzek, Christeen Gotsch</b></p> <p>We tend to do things exactly how we have in the past, because up until now, it's worked. But now it's 2017; labor organizations are faced with new and continuous threats, our fearless leaders are looking at retirement, and a new generation with little to no union experience or knowledge is being hired into the workforce. It's time to update how we do what we do. In this session, we'll explore what still works in 2017, from new member engagement to the best and most effective ways to communicate with our union members. Together we'll strategize updated organizing techniques and discuss how we come up with relevant messaging, all while keeping our core union values at the center of all that we do. Time to network with other affiliates in attendance will be provided.</p>
<p>505</p> <p>605</p>	<p><b><i>Advocacy and Communication</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Tom Greene, Bob Thomas</b></p> <p>All of us have our own style of communication. Does it always work when advocating for our members? In this session, participants will learn different styles of communication and how to use them when advocating for members.</p>
<p>506-606</p> <p><b>THIS IS AN ALL DAY SESSION</b></p> <p><b>NEW SESSION</b></p>	<p><b><i>Strategic Planning for the Future</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Mary Henson, Jackie Rhodes</b></p> <p>Staff Unions are constantly changing because of the environment and fluctuations in membership. When was the last time your staff union engaged in strategic planning for its future? This interactive session will provide participants with the tools to analyze past success, leadership and challenges, while providing the opportunity to organize their staff unions future through strategic planning.</p>
<p>507</p> <p>607</p> <p><b>NEW SESSION</b></p>	<p><b><i>CommUNIONcation</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER: Thomas Hayden</b></p> <p>Communication within a union should focus on building capacity, increasing member engagement, and strengthening unity. This workshop will introduce participants to achieving these goals through the benefits of the GoogleApps suite and social media tools such as Facebook (Pages and Groups), Instagram, and Twitter. Participants will also learn how to build a simple and inexpensive website. Workshop time will also be dedicated to the use of these tools for public-focused, external communications. Participants are encouraged to "BYOD" and create social media accounts prior to the workshop as portions will be interactive, with a focus on building these resources in real time for your union.</p>

508  608	<p><b><i>Insurance Under Attack</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Doug Terwilliger, Shelli Jackson</b></p> <p>Our bargained insurance benefits are under attack. Employers are looking to employees to save on benefit plans through higher cost sharing and benefit reductions. This session will evaluate different aspects of employer-provided life and health insurance, plus evaluating the health insurance benefits provided by the Veteran’s Administration.</p>
509  609  <b>NEW SESSION</b>	<p><b><i>Winning Contract Campaigns</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Misty O’Leary, Elizabeth Peterson</b></p> <p>You advocate and plan strategic campaigns for educators and support staff before, during and after contract negotiations. Who is your advocate during your contract negotiations? This session is to discuss and strategize organizing and mobilizing your members around staff contract negotiations. This session takes in depth look into campaign strategy, ideas and state affiliates success around engaging and mobilizing membership before, during and after bargaining.</p>
510  610	<p><b><i>7 Steps for Just Cause, Can your Employer pass them</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER: Charlie Shaffer</b></p> <p>The Seven Steps arbitrators use to determine whether an employer had just cause for administering discipline will be explored through an interactive analysis of actual cases that highlight each of the Tests. The Principles of Progressive Discipline will also be examined. Learning this Foundation of employee rights is a <b>MUST</b> for all Union Advocates.</p>
511  611  <b>NEW SESSION</b>	<p><b><i>Gripes Not Grievances</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Gezelle Oliver, Tonya Karpinski</b></p> <p>How to support and advocate for members with Gripes to maintain member relationships when the contract is not the solution. Participants will explore other advocacy avenues to deal with issues in the work place such as Board Policies, Work Rules and Past Practices</p>
513  613  <b>NEW SESSION</b>	<p><b><i>Unionism: Where does the Associate Fit in?</i></b>  <b>PRESENTER(S): Debra. Brace, Valerie Shuman</b></p> <p>As an Associate, have you ever felt like your voice isn’t heard or you’re not sure what your role is in the union? This session is for you! This session is designed for Associates who want to learn more about unionism and the role they can play in building a stronger union.</p>



## Hyatt Regency, Sarasota, FL

### *United To Meet Our Challenges & Opportunities*

As NSO members continue to face attacks on their wages, hours, and terms and conditions of employment, including retirement, pension benefits and health insurance, they will need to continue to stand up for their rights and not give up the fight! The NSO Winter Advocacy Retreat has been expanded to three days to provide advocates with the information and skills to lead, promote, secure and defend the hard-earned rights of its affiliates and members.

The 2018 NSO Winter Advocacy Retreat is the time to gain knowledge and enhance your skills necessary to endure the many attacks that are launched against your members. Please join us for this great experience where you'll have the opportunity to network, learn, participate and have fun doing it.

#### **Winter Advocacy Retreat-At-A-Glance**

*(Schedule is subject to change without advanced notice)*

#### **WEDNESDAY, January 10, 2018**

1:00-5:00 p.m.	Early Registration
3:30-4:00 p.m.	Trainers Meeting
4:45- 5:15 p.m.	New Attendee Orientation

#### **THURSDAY, January 11, 2018**

7:00-10:00 a.m.	Registration
7:00-8:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
9:00-11:30 a.m.	Session Series 100
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Lunch (on your own)
1:00-3:30 p.m.	Session Series 200
1:00-5:00 p.m.	Registration
3:30 – 4:00 p.m.	Trainers Meeting
4:00-5:30 p.m.	Emerging Issues

#### **FRIDAY, January 12, 2018**

7:00-8:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
7:30-10:00 a.m.	Registration
8:15-8:45 a.m.	General Session
9:00-11:30 a.m.	Session Series 300
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Lunch (on your own)
1:00-3:30 p.m.	Session Series 400
3:30-4:00 p.m.	Trainers Meeting
4:30-6:00 p.m.	Solidarity Reception



**SATURDAY, January 13, 2018**

7:00-9:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
8:30-11:00 a.m.	Session Series 500
11:00-11:30 a.m.	Break (refreshments provided)
11:30-2:00 p.m.	Session Series 600
2:00 p.m.	Adjournment

Below are event highlights and important information:

**Winter Advocacy Retreat Registration:** All participants and guests **must** register online at <http://www.cvent.com/d/ctq7vr/4W?RefID=Attendee>

Meeting room arrangements and materials are based upon attendee registration counts. The deadline for registration is **November 10, 2017**.

Review the [session descriptions](#) and the [Winter Advocacy Program Grid](#) to make your selections.

Contact Vice President for Program Catherine Alexander at [nsovp.program@gmail.com](mailto:nsovp.program@gmail.com) if you have any questions regarding registration.

NSO wishes to have all participants attend their sessions of choice, so please register early since many sessions have limited seating.

**Hotel Reservations:** Hyatt Regency Sarasota Florida. Participants will be required to make their own room reservations online at <https://aws.passkey.com/go/NSO2> by **December 6, 2017**. A credit card will be required to reserve a room.

The valid room rates for the Winter Advocacy Retreat are \$189 Single or Double Occupancy. If you experience any problems with your room reservation(s), please contact the hotel's Reservation Help Line at 1-800-233-1234.

**Solidarity Reception:** For the purpose of solidarity and networking, NSO and ORG will host a reception on Friday, January 12, 2018 from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Afterwards, attendees will be free to enjoy Sarasota on their own. Cash bar and hors d'oeuvres will be available for your enjoyment. **Prizes will be raffled, but you must be present to win!** Further details will be available at the NSO Registration Desk.

**Sarasota Activities:** [Events | Visit Sarasota County](#).

**Directions**

From Sarasota/Bradenton International Airport (4 miles):

Travel West 0.3 miles on Desoto Road/University Parkway. Turn Left onto 41South for 2.9 miles. Turn right onto Boulevard of the Arts. Our hotel is on the left 0.1 miles.

From Tampa:

I-75 South

Take exit 210 (Fruitville Road/State Road 780)

Proceed West on Fruitville Road towards Sarasota for approximately 7 miles

Turn right onto Tamiami Trail

Proceed to the 1st traffic light and turn left onto Boulevard of the Arts

Hyatt Sarasota is located immediately on the left

Travel time: approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes

**Ground Transportation:**

SUPER SHUTTLE:

<https://www.supershuttle.com/locations/sarasotabradentonsrg/>

Taxi Options:

Yellow Cab – 941 383 8885

West Coast Executive Sedans – 941 580 4111