

# HOPE ACTION CHANGE

## NEWSLETTER

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### Schedule of Events:

- Iowa Independence Day Celebration Tour  
Oskaloosa, Pella, and Des Moines .....July 4
- National Education Association Representative Assembly  
Pennsylvania Convention Center.....July 5
- Essence Music Festival  
New Orleans, LA.....July 5
- Alabama Kickoff  
Birmingham, AL.....July 9

*"Together, we have built the largest grassroots campaign in history for this stage of a presidential race...and it's just the beginning." – Barack Obama*

### Week in Review:

Just days before Independence Day, the Obama for America campaign was excited to announce [a record-breaking fundraising quarter](#). Thanks to you, we raised over \$32.5 million, including more than \$31 million for the primary- both Democratic records for this stage of a campaign. With more than 258,000 individual donors, we've built the largest grassroots campaign at this point in a race - ever. As always, we did it without contributions from political action committees or Washington lobbyists. \$10.3 million was raised online, with 90 percent of all contributions coming in amounts of \$100 or less, and 50percent of all contributions in amounts of \$25 or less. As Senator Obama says, this is the kind of movement that can change the special-interests driven politics in Washington and transform this country.

As the second fundraising quarter came to a close last Friday, Senator Obama visited Minneapolis for the campaign's Minnesota Kickoff. An energized crowd of over 3,000 supporters of all ages and walks of life joined Obama to call for a new direction for health care, strong government reform, educational opportunity, and an end to the war.

Last week, Barack Obama participated in two forums: the [All-American Presidential Forum](#) at Washington, D.C.'s Howard University, hosted by PBS' Tavis Smiley; and the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Conference in Orlando, Florida. The PBS forum drew its themes largely from The Covenant with Black America, a book outlining plans of action to address many of the most pressing challenges facing the African-American community. Senator Obama urged a continued commitment to improving educational opportunity, fighting poverty, and strengthening health care in the black community. At the NALEO forum, Senator Obama reaffirmed his commitment to the most pressing issues affecting the Latino community, such as education, health care, immigration and supporting the next generation of Latino leaders.

This week, Senator Obama celebrates the week of July 4<sup>th</sup> [visiting New Hampshire on Monday afternoon](#) before heading to eastern Iowa for a two-day bus trip with Michelle and their two daughters. On Thursday, he will speak at the National Education Association (NEA) before taking the stage that night as the special guest speaker at the Essence Music Festival in New Orleans.

### Newsroom:

**[Obama's \\$32.5 Million Campaign Haul | ABC News:](#)** It is an eye-popping number: Barack Obama raised more than \$32.5 million between April and June - \$31 million of which can be used in the primary campaign. Even more eye-popping is the number of contributors. So far, more than 250,000 people have given to Obama's campaign. To put that in context, Howard Dean - whose grassroots campaign astonished the pundits - had 280,000 contributors in all of 2003. Obama is almost there after just six months. Liz Marlantes, Greg McCown and Jean Garner | July 02, 2007 [Full Story](#)

**[With grass-roots themes, Obama fires up a crowd | Pioneer Press:](#)** A young, racially diverse crowd of about 3,000 cheering partisans paid \$25 each to pack into the atrium at International Market Square to help the freshman Illinois senator kick off his Minnesota campaign .Obama told them they were typical of the big, enthusiastic crowds that have turned out for him across the country. But it's not enough to be against, he continued. People want affirmation that they can come together again as a nation and find common purpose. "I like the way he runs his campaign more at the grass-roots level than by taking big money," said Paul Smiskol, of Minneapolis, a college research coordinator. (Bill Salisbury | June 30, 2007) [Full Story](#)

## [Newsroom continued:](#)

### [Obama Campaign Raises \\$32.5 Million | New York Times:](#)

Senator Barack Obama raised at least \$32.5 million from April through June, he announced Sunday on his campaign Web site, attracting more than 258,000 contributors since entering the Democratic presidential race nearly six months ago. "Together, we have built the largest grass-roots campaign in history for this stage of a presidential race," Mr. Obama said, adding that 154,000 new donors had signed on in the last three months. "That's the kind of movement that can change the special-interest-driven politics in Washington and transform our country. And it's just the beginning." (Jeff Zeleny | July 02, 2007) [Full Story](#)

### [Wife of presidential candidate visits Upstate | Michelle Obama | Associated Press:](#)

The wife of Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama said Monday women need to band together to help improve conditions across the country. "Women and families are not getting the support that they need, not just to survive but to thrive. We've spent the last decade talking a good game about family values," said Michelle Obama, wife of the Illinois senator. (Staff Writer | July 2, 2007) [Full Story](#)

### [Obama goes where other Democrats won't | The State:](#)

Barack Obama showed a whole lot of savvy and political courage when he took his Democratic presidential campaign into the Republican heartland of South Carolina. It was a huge success. Democrats were ecstatic. Barack, a U.S. senator from Illinois, drew large crowds at stops in Greenwood, Greenville and Spartanburg - a region heavily populated by Republicans. (Lee Brady | JUNE 25, 2007) [FULL STORY](#)

## [NALEO Forum](#)

Last Saturday, Senator Obama delivered remarks at the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Presidential Candidates Forum where he reaffirmed the need to change our politics. Barack Obama has a record of standing up for the issues important to the Latino community - like comprehensive immigration reform, alleviating health care disparities within minority communities, and education.

Barack Obama is also a longtime supporter of the DREAM ACT, which would allow states to provide in-state college tuition to undocumented students who grew up in the United States.

## [Obama Mobile](#)

Thirteen thousand people texted "GO" to join [Obama Mobile](#) within one week of the service's launch. Users can download supporter-uploaded Obama ringtones and wallpaper for their mobile phones. The Obama campaign is the first Presidential campaign in history to use text as two-way communication and not just as a broadcast tool (we are answering questions). Join the Movement - sign up to the left to receive text messages on your phone or text GO to OBAMA (62262). Click [Obama Mobile](#) to learn more.

## [Policy Update:](#)

### [Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation Prevention Act](#)

Barack Obama commends the House of Representatives for passing the Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation Prevention Act, a bill he introduced with Congressman Rahm Emanuel (D-IL). The Act makes deceptive practices aimed at disenfranchising voters a felony that carries up to a \$250,000 fine or five-year prison sentence as punishment. It also requires the Attorney General to be vigilant and aggressive in rooting out, correcting, and punishing instances of voter deception.

### [Obama's Ideas Strengthen Bill to Enhance Health Care for Veterans](#)

A comprehensive bill that passed the Veterans Affairs Committee included a number of Barack Obama's ideas for improving Veterans' health care. Included in the bill are his proposals to have the VA issue hospital quality report cards and make them available online; to grant mental health coverage for 5 years after active duty as opposed to the current 2 year limit; to hasten mental health evaluations for veterans; to broaden communication from the VA to National Guard and Reservists; and to require reporting in greater detail on benefits and veterans' services.

## [New Hampshire Update: Top Ten Moments for Ten New Hampshire Counties](#)

With [last week's visit to New Hampshire's Lakes Region](#), Barack Obama completed his tour of all 10 New Hampshire counties. In honor of that achievement, we present the Top 10 New Hampshire Moments from this week:

10. The aroma of homemade, volunteer-baked cornbread filling our Manchester headquarters.
9. A volunteer's pledge to transform the book jacket from *Dreams of My Father* into a hat when he marches in Merrimack's 4th of July parade.
8. Nashua supporters, interns, and staff gathering to watch the Tavis Smiley debate at Family Pizza and Roast Beef.
7. Our New Hampshire steering committee meeting all 65 of our New Hampshire interns.
6. Volunteers and staff [braving a power outage](#) in Concord to phone bank by moonlight.
5. Senator Obama's visit to a packed house party in Concord - New Hampshire-style politics at its best.
4. Watching Barack Obama field questions from undecided voters on WMUR's Meet the Candidate.
3. iChange, the youth-driven canvass organized by our interns, which drew over 60 new college and high school volunteers and brought Obama's message to thousands of New Hampshire homes.
2. The Senator's visit to Belknap County, the 10th of 10 New Hampshire counties, where he talked with hundreds of voters and their families at an outdoor Meet the Candidate event in Laconia.
1. Watching Maria McNaught's [testimonial](#), taped from our Manchester headquarters, screened on the national homepage the day we surpassed our goal of 250,000 donors.

## South Carolina Update:

On Monday, the South Carolina campaign kicked off its Women for Obama effort with a visit from Michelle Obama. Visiting the Upstate, Michelle was the featured speaker at a ["Salute to Courageous Women" luncheon at the Bethlehem Life Center](#), and then [toured a community center in Greenville](#) with young people involved in the programs there. The Obama campaign in South Carolina is recruiting 1,000 women to serve as founders of the group.



Michelle's visit came just a few weeks after the Senator's stops in Greenville, Spartanburg and Greenwood – a trip that's still garnering raves.

In the *Greenville News* on Wednesday, Betty Herrin wrote about her experience seeing Barack Obama. "I came away feeling that Senator Obama was a candidate that I could vote 'for' rather than just voting 'against' the opponent."

The good news for voters like Ms. Herrin is that Senator Obama will soon be back in South Carolina – first for the CNN debate in Charleston on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, and then to speak to an expected 800 students at the College Democrats of America

## Iowa Update:

On July 3 and 4, Senator Obama will make his 13<sup>th</sup> trip to Iowa since announcing his candidacy for president. He will visit Keokuk, Mt. Pleasant, Fairfield, Oskaloosa, Pella and Beaverdale for a series of "Meet the Candidate" events and house parties.

The campaign announced the endorsement of State Senator Bob Dvorsky, who just completed his fourth term in the Iowa State Senate, previously serving as an Iowa State Representative for seven years. In February of 2003, Senator Dvorsky co-sponsored legislation in the Iowa General Assembly urging President Bush to forego preemptive, unilateral military action against Iraq. The legislation did not pass, but Senator Dvorsky has remained a consistent voice against the war in Iraq.

Last Friday, Michelle Obama made her first trip to Western Iowa. She attended a "Meet and Greet" event in Council Bluffs and a house party in Sioux City.

## Iowa Campaign Ads

Last week, the campaign announced a media campaign that includes two documentary-style television ads about the biography and career of Barack Obama.

The first ad, entitled "[Choices](#)," highlights Barack Obama's years in Chicago. It follows his time as a community organizer as well as his decision, after graduating from Harvard, to pass up big money offers to return to Chicago and run a voter registration drive.

The second ad, "[Carry](#)," chronicles Barack Obama's eight years in the Illinois state senate and his success in working with Democrats and Republicans to achieve our common goals.



-Senator Obama addressing 3000 campaign supporters at the Minnesota Community Kick-Off. June 27, 2007.



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