



# INDIVISIBLE PALO ALTO PLUS

*Combining Grassroots Activism With Joy*

## ABOUT IPA+

Indivisible Palo Alto Plus (IPA+) is a diverse, action-oriented community that works to defend democracy across the San Francisco Peninsula and beyond. We combine grassroots activism with joy, bringing together people of varied backgrounds and perspectives to stand against authoritarianism and to protect democratic values. We are committed to making positive change—one action, and one connection, at a time.

Because tyrants hate it when we're having fun, IPA+ meetings *always* incorporate playful activities that help us laugh and connect with each other. We believe that fun, joy, and laughter are essential to nourishing our spirits so that we can do the hard work of activism.

IPA+ is a recognized part of the Indivisible movement. We work with the national Indivisible organization and with other local Indivisible groups.

## ABOUT INDIVISIBLE

Indivisible began in 2017 as the Indivisible Guide, a Google Doc guide to organizing locally to pressure elected officials to resist Trump's agenda at the start of his first term. It caught fire as millions of people picked up the guide and organized local Indivisible groups. These Indivisible activists formed a nationwide movement of people who build power through collective action. During Trump 2.0, Indivisible was instrumental in leading grassroots resistance to the MAGA agenda.

In 2025, at the start of the second Trump term, Indivisible founders Leah Greenberg and Ezra Levin created a new Indivisible Guide and supported the rapid expansion of new Indivisible groups—including IPA+.

Today, the Indivisible movement is a progressive grassroots movement that encompasses millions of activists across every state. It is fueled by a partnership between thousands of autonomous local groups and a national staff. Indivisible's national team offers strategic leadership, movement coordination, and support to Indivisible activists and groups. It also lobbies Congress, builds partnerships, runs media campaigns, and develops advocacy strategies. Together, we fight to defeat the rightwing takeover of American government and to build an inclusive democracy.

[indivisiblepaloaltoplus.org](https://indivisiblepaloaltoplus.org)

## OUR HISTORY

IPA+ came about when our founder, Melissa Dinwiddie, realized that the only way she could survive a second Trump regime was by joining an in-person community dedicated to providing mutual support and to taking action to defend democracy. Melissa and her mom had been co-hosting a weekly letter- and postcard-writing party on Zoom since 2020, but she decided that now was the time to form a new Indivisible group based on the Peninsula.

Our first meeting took place on December 14, 2024, and had 12 attendees. Four months later, IPA+ membership had grown more than thirty-fold. And we're just getting started!

## OUR VALUES

### 1. Focused Impact

We come together in order to achieve specific, substantive impact in the fight for American democracy. Our hopes are high, but our time and our resources are finite. Thus, we are vigilant about applying focus and discipline to our efforts. We make tough choices so that we can make a big difference.

### 2. Showing Respect

We show and model respect in our relationships both with each other and with our fellow citizens. Through active listening and by treating others as they wish to be treated, we demonstrate our commitment to civil discourse and shared governance. With open minds and full hearts, we create space for diverse kinds of people and diverse points of view.

### 3. Having Fun

We embrace the power of fun—of joy, laughter, silliness, and spontaneity. By taking time for fun, we ward off darkness and raise a light for the future. Fun is a superpower that keeps us from thinking too much and doing too little. Fun helps us care for ourselves and for one another. It builds energy, empowering us to make noise and to make a difference.

### 4. Responsibility for Community

We acknowledge our responsibility to protect our community and to preserve our democracy. Our community is at once local, national, and global, and we work to ensure that everyone's value is honored and that everyone's voice is heard. When we step up and work together, we leverage a powerful multiplier effect in support of positive change.

### 5. Connection in Community

We celebrate the magic of human connection, and we derive strength from acting together for the common good. We welcome people of all backgrounds and from all walks of life into our group. Connection is the life force of democracy. By showing up and by sharing space, we generate the collective energy needed to serve our community.