**Subject:** STORY TIP: Community Organizers Forming Online Forum: OrganizingUpgrade.com

**Email:** [tipsheet@googlegroups.com](mailto:tipsheet@googlegroups.com)

**Tipster, Organization:**

Organizing Upgrade, Joseph Phelan  
 **Phone, Email:**   
786-261-5788, [jphelan@riseup.net](mailto:jphelan@riseup.net" \t "_blank) **What subject area does this tip pertain to?**Civil Rights, Economy, Labor/Unions/Organizing  
  
**What's the tip?**  
Community organizers from Los Angeles to Washington D.C. are forming an online forum, Organizing Upgrade, to share insight, forecast trends and consider challenges for this newest era of community organizing. With close to a 100-year history in the United States, community organizing is a dynamic form for social change – transforming with each political and economic trend in U.S. urban and rural communities.  
  
Organizingupgrade.com launches on October 1.

**What other resources can we use to research the story?**[organizingupgrade.com](http://organizingupgrade.com" \t "_blank)

**Is this issue time-sensitive?**  
The web forum will launch on October 1.   
 **Why should this story be told now?**  
Right now community organizers are under attack from the red baiting of Obama and the slandering of ACORN to the right wing character assassination of Van Jones.   
  
Community organizers and labor organizers need to be sharing ideas about how to push back on these attacks, and consolidate their issue organizing and movement building.   
  
There aren't clear venues where the public can go to learn more about what drives organizing, this allows for lies and rumor tho flow freely.

**What's the tip?**New report shows Texas as deadliest construction industry in U.S. Austin, the second fastest-growing urban area in the country, is depending heavily on the construction workforce to meet the demands for new housing, commercial buildings and the city’s infrastructure system. New report provides an in-depth perspective on construction working conditions, revealing that it is standard practice in the industry to violate federal and state employment regulations.  
  
**FROM:**Germonique Ulmer, Center for Community Change  
202-339-9331, [gulmer@communitychange.org](mailto:gulmer@communitychange.org" \t "_blank)  
  
**What subject area does this tip pertain to?**   
Civil Rights, Economy, Labor/Unions/Organizing  
  
**What other resources can we use to research the story?**[buildaustin.org](http://buildaustin.org" \t "_blank)  
  
**Is this issue time-sensitive?**Report came out earlier this month  
  
**What would you/your organization do with this information if it went public?**There are plans underway for a campaign on both the state and local level to change the state's policies on worker protections.

**Tipster, Organization:**Adam Green, PCCC and DFA  
  
**Email:** [AdamGreen321@gmail.com](mailto:AdamGreen321@gmail.com" \t "_blank)  
 **What subject area does this tip pertain to?  
Healthcare**  
  
**What's the tip?**  
Today, after over 60,000 votes cast by progressives, PCCC & DFA are announcing a new public option accountability ad in Montana targeting Max Baucus. Voting results and ad are here:

[http://WeWantThePublicOption.com/ad](http://wewantthepublicoption.com/ad" \t "_blank)  
 **What other resources can we use to research the story?**Some early reports with details...  
  
HUFFINGTON POST: [Progressive Groups, Supporters, Go After Baucus In New Ad Buy](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2009/07/21/progressive-groups-suppor_n_241693.html" \t "_blank)  
  
POLITICO: [Left targets Baucus on public option](http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0709/25181.html" \t "_blank)  
  
NATIONAL JOURNAL HOTLINE: [Wake-Up Call](http://img.skitch.com/20090721-nq9kmq7duc4ea5rkdg72qyg7rm.jpg" \t "_blank)

**Is this issue time-sensitive?**  
**Campaign launches today.**