

CIVIC AFFAIRS

FUNDING INITIATIVES

The Foundation invests in programs that increase the number of citizens exercising their right to vote, participating in volunteer programs, and taking on civic leadership roles. We see that when civic participation declines, our democracy declines. It is not just others who are responsible for the civic health of our democracy, we are all responsible. Focus area:

1) Educate and engage active citizens of all ages

GOAL

EDUCATE AND ENGAGE ACTIVE CITIZENS OF ALL AGES.

OBJECTIVE

• Improve the civic knowledge and participation of Clark County citizens

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SUPPORTING RESEARCH

According to the 2010 National Assessment of Educational Progress in Civics, more than a third of all U.S. high school seniors today lack even basic civics knowledge and skills. Those that score below the basic level cannot, for example, describe the structure and functions of American government or identify an activity that is a part of civic life. We see less than half of 18 – 24 year olds voting and the educational attainment of the nation's adults is strongly associated with their voting behavior in each age, racial/ethnic, and income group. Civic engagement is an essential element in democracy and key to making smart and creative decisions that allow communities to flourish today and meet the challenges of tomorrow.