



Virtual Meeting Agenda

Better Health, Stronger Democracy 2020 Fall Forum

Support provided by Missouri Foundation for Health

Monday, November 16

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Post-Census Redistricting: Ensuring Fair Representation

Welcome: Cara V. James, *Grantmakers In Health*

Facilitator: Eileen Salinsky, *Grantmakers In Health*

Regina Bell, *Council of Michigan Foundations*

Amy Dominguez-Arms, *Fair Representation in Redistricting Initiative*

Kathay Feng, *Common Cause*

The redistricting process that takes place after each decennial census has profound implications for the fairness of representational democracy, determining electoral districts for most federal legislators, all state legislators, and many local legislators. With the quality and accuracy of the 2020 census in question and procedures for apportionment under debate, this redistricting cycle promises to be particularly controversial. This session will describe redistricting activities and timelines, examine existing and emerging threats to fair representation, and explore how philanthropic organizations can best inform and influence redistricting decisions to support historically underrepresented communities.

Thursday, November 19

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Promoting Voter Engagement and Protecting Voter Rights

Facilitator: Eileen Salinsky, *Grantmakers In Health*

Alexis Anderson-Reed, *State Voices*

Tanya Clay House, *State Infrastructure Fund*

Although the COVID-19 pandemic has recently focused public attention on access to the ballot, people of color have faced systemic barriers to voting since our nation's founding. Political disenfranchisement results in a loss of power—the power to elect representatives with shared values and the power to advance policy priorities, such as investments in education, criminal justice reform, safe and affordable housing, and access to health care. This session will review effective strategies for increasing voter participation through integrated voter engagement, policy advocacy, and litigation; consider philanthropic trends in support for these activities; and explore the role of health funders in the civic engagement ecosystem.

Friday, November 20

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Advancing Health through Civic Engagement: Health Funders Weigh In

Facilitator: Osula Evadne Rushing, *Grantmakers In Health*

Edward P. Ehlinger, *Jacob & Valeria Langeloth Foundation*

Elizabeth Love, *Houston Endowment*

Frances Padilla, *Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut*

Civic engagement activities, such as voting, volunteering, and community organizing, are essential to the health of our democracy and a growing evidence base suggests these activities may also influence the health of individuals and communities. Health funders are increasingly recognizing that investments in civic engagement are necessary to advance population health goals related to health equity, access to care, and the social determinants of health. This facilitated discussion with health funders who have committed resources to civic engagement efforts will explore why and how they have pursued these strategies, review the processes used to make and monitor these funding decisions, and consider the key lessons learned along the way.