



April Civic Action Newsletter

1) All-America City Awards 2014 Finalists Announced

"We look forward to hosting these community innovators when they come to Denver to participate in the All-America City Awards in June," said National Civic League Board Chair Mayor Michael B. Hancock of Denver. "All-America city finalists are at the forefront of a nationwide movement to find inventive, community-based solutions to the issues that face our cities. From preparing our kids to compete and succeed in the 21st century to promoting livable neighborhood revitalization, new ideas often start in one community and later become best practices for others."

This year's awards have a special focus on successful efforts to address the underlying conditions that affect the health of communities. As part of NCL's celebration of the 25th anniversary of the U.S. Healthy Communities movement, the All-America City Award will spotlight programs that address issues such as obesity, walkable cities, biking, fitness, healthy eating and disease prevention.

See full press release and list of finalists [here](#). Also, if you are interested in volunteering at AAC, June 13-15, 2014, send an email to aac@ncl.org.

2) All-America City winning project becomes model for other communities

2013 All-America City, Montrose, Colorado, was featured in a Denver Post [article](#) for their veteran program, [Welcome Home Montrose](#). Their goal is to remove all barriers for veterans living in Montrose. Their Warrior Resource Center serves as a clearinghouse of information and as the location for weekly gatherings of veterans and spouses. The impacts of this program are undeniable "and, in the sincerest form of flattery, the program is being copied. About 60 other towns around the country have sought information about the program. Welcome Home Montrose has compiled a four-phase how-to for towns serious about moving forward."

3) Civic Engagement through Photography

"Photovoice is a form of participatory action research developed by Caroline Wang and Mary Anne Burris. The three main goals of photovoice are to enable people to record and reflect their community's strengths and concerns, to promote discussion about important issues through group discussions of photographs, and finally to reach and influence policy makers ([Wang & Burris, 1997](#))."

[Hunger Free Colorado](#) recently published a photovoice project, [Hunger Through My Lens](#), allowing local residents who participate in the SNAP program to document the impact food

insecurity has had on themselves, their families, and their community. See the [PBS newshour video](#) on the project.

4) Membership

[Click here to learn how to become a member](#)

5) Donate

[Click here to support National Civic League](#)

Happy Holidays from the NCL Team!




*Thank you Thomasville, NC for the innovative AAC egg!

National Civic League
1889 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206
(303) 571-4343



Follow us on [twitter](#)

 Like us on Facebook