

**2015 All-America City Award Application**

***Spotlight on Engaging and Supporting***

***Vulnerable Boys and Young Men***

**Deadlines:**

**September 2014-February 2015: Monthly conference calls**

**November 25, 2014: Submit Letter of Intent to Apply** (Save $100 on your application fee when you submit a Letter of Intent to Apply by November 25, 2014!)

**March 10, 2015: Submit Application**

**April 2015: Finalists Announced.** Finalist community delegations will be invited to Denver to present.

**June 11-14, 2015: Peer-Learning Workshops & Awards Presentation/Competition** in Denver, Colorado.

**Application Guidelines**:

**The All-America City Award (spotlight on Engaging and**

**Supporting Vulnerable Boys and Young Men)**

The National Civic League invites you to apply for America’s oldest and most recognized community award, now in its 66th year.

The All-America City Award recognizes ten communities annually for outstanding civic impact and action planning. Winning applicants demonstrate innovation, inclusiveness, civic engagement, and cross sector collaboration by describing successful efforts to address pressing local challenges. For this year, 2015, NCL is pleased to announce a spotlight on vulnerable boys and young men. Applicants are asked to feature in their application a program in which they are engaging and supporting vulnerable boys and men with the goal of success in school and in life. Key issues you may consider are early childhood education, healthy communities, access to housing and jobs, racial healing, male achievement, empowerment, income inequality, among others. NCL takes a broad and inclusive view of vulnerable boys and young men as those that have been historically underserved and at-risk including African American, Latino, Native American, Asian Pacific Islander, economically challenged, disabled, LGBTQI, religious and other underserved identities. We hope to also hear about how you are engaging and support vulnerable girls and young women and projects that support all genders. NCL values gender equality and views this spotlight as an important way to highlight the targeted successful approaches for vulnerable boys and men. NCL recognizes these initiatives are an essential part of the work it takes to create healthy and prosperous communities for all residents. This spotlight builds on NCL’s more than 20 years of work on diversity, inclusiveness, racial equity, and youth leadership in communities across the country.

A youth member of one finalist community is also recognized with the AAC Youth Award. Nominations for this award will be requested after finalists are announced.

**Community Information**

**Community name and state: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Your community is applying as a:**

\_\_\_ Neighborhood \_\_\_\_ Village \_\_\_ Town \_\_\_ Tribe \_\_\_ City \_\_\_ County \_\_\_ Region

**If applying as a region, name participating communities: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**If applying as a neighborhood, name city: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Has your community applied before?** Yes No If Yes, which years:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Has your community been a Finalist before?** Yes No If Yes, which years:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Has your community been an All-America City before?** Yes No If Yes, which years:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Information**

**All-America City Award contact (primary contact person available throughout competition & follow-up):**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Title (if any):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Organization/Government/Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone (business/day): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**The applying community will receive a complimentary membership (or membership renewal if an AAC application was submitted last year) to the National Civic League for one year. To whom should this membership be directed?**

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**We agree to follow NCL’s rules regarding use of the All‑America City Award logo, a registered trademark of the National Civic League. We allow NCL and the All-America City Award to share this application and the information enclosed in it with the NCL and AAC networks to promote the work of our community. If we are named an All-America City, we agree to conduct a post-AAC conference call or regional forum for the AAC network that features our projects. In a pay-it-forward spirit, if named a finalist or All-America City, we agree to support AAC through an NCL membership for a minimum of the next three years. See membership details** [**here**](http://www.allamericacityaward.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/membershipform-7-9-14.doc)**.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Community Statistics and Map**

Note: Use the most up-to-date statistics possible for your neighborhood, town, city, county, or region (source suggestions: U.S. Census Bureau, State Department of Economic Security, State Department of Finance, Department of Public Health, and local school statistics).

POPULATION (in year 2010 or most recent):

Source/Date:

POPULATION PERCENTAGE CHANGE 2000-2010 (indicate + or -): %

Source/Date:

RACIAL/ETHNIC POPULATION BREAKDOWN:

White \_\_\_\_\_\_%

Hispanic or Latino (of any race) \_\_\_\_\_\_%

Black or African American \_\_\_\_\_\_%

Asian \_\_\_\_\_\_%

American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) \_\_\_\_\_\_%

Mixed Race \_\_\_\_\_\_%

Other \_\_\_\_\_\_%

Source/Date:

MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Source/Date:

PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES BELOW POVERTY LEVEL: %

Source/Date:

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_%

Source/Date:

POPULATION BREAKDOWN BY AGE GROUP (percentages, if available):

19 years old and under \_\_\_\_\_\_%

20-24 \_\_\_\_\_\_%

25-44 \_\_\_\_\_\_%

45-64 \_\_\_\_\_\_%

65 and over \_\_\_\_\_\_%

Source/Date:

PERCENTAGE OF HOME OWNERSHIP: %

Source/Date:

WORKFORCE DISTRIBUTION -- Name the three largest employment sectors (include military services and/or installations, if any) in your community and provide the percentage of total employed in each:

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_%

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_%

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_%

Source/Date:

**MAP** -- Please attach a state map (8.5” x 11”) with your community clearly marked.

**ALL-AMERICA CITY AWARDS CRITERIA**

1. **Civic Engagement and Collaboration**: comprehensive citizen/resident engagement in decision-making and action planning, cross-sector collaboration (business, local government, nonprofits, military, etc.) and regional collaboration.
2. **Inclusiveness and Diversity**: recognition and involvement of diverse segments and perspectives (ethnic, racial, socio-economic, age, sexual orientation, gender expression, people with disabilities, and others) in community decision-making.
3. **Innovation**: creative use and leveraging of community resources.
4. **Impact:** ***demonstrable*** significant and measurable achievements in the past 5 years (for example: dollars raised, jobs created or lives impacted), particularly in projects that address the community’s greatest challenges.

**Resources Available to You**

As you fill out this application, it may be helpful to consult the following material:

1. For questions to help evaluate your civic infrastructure--***NCL’s* *Civic Index***. Ask for a free copy! AAC@ncl.org
2. National Civic League’s [Community Visioning and Strategic Planning Handbook](http://www.ncl.org/pdfs/community%20visioning.pdf)
3. To help identify associations and their impact in your community--***New Community Tools for Improving Child Health: A Pediatrician’s Guide to Local Associations****.* (Provided by permission of co-author John McKnight) <http://www.abcdinstitute.org/docs/Pediatricians.pdf>
4. For an asset-based framework--***Discovering Community Power: A Guide to Mobilizing Local Assets and Your Organization’s Capacity.*** *(*Provided by permission of co-author John McKnight) <http://www.sesp.northwestern.edu/images/kelloggabcd.pdf>
5. Previous All-America City presentations and summaries of past projects presented in the application
	1. 2014 Presentation links: [Fort Lauderdale, Florida](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cU6IGg_3Rdk&feature=youtu.be); [Cedar Rapids, Iowa](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001CF0NT3T24-3xuJMIO10tfbVlmvkwiVT6uvn1-FoZtL9hJ-vz-KxOC00KcVTSzgveqkKVDCANFQOvZKb1PVEc_e7vXtMEEhHi41tvvlQe0bIU1odxMku8aw1SYpsk_YSxoH1patM5HU-GjaEQa4p1MpdBuly1GTtl4BcsskrIr5mU9twnsEfW4kWfqv8RDAlnBsOgdpALPAI2oJv5R2J_fE-N42yW9dqa1itgGu5Q6rGPEYSSLK65ItBuwNbGbP_L&c=WcyGUNAH4GJCKKY2Ciux5Tw2qXqDSm9f1gEro_gDVim66TBXsGEq3A==&ch=7BCiX0oxg_Oe2Tg4hT68Up-NZrA6tMy2lPj8YBbadeB7AnD0jToGPw==); [Eau Claire, Wisconsin](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001CF0NT3T24-3xuJMIO10tfbVlmvkwiVT6uvn1-FoZtL9hJ-vz-KxOC00KcVTSzgveInWHx7_IkBOdrft6gHy_WM5WTGkzQtjAF_iZiaFcX-YuXbVz4OODBdgO-AvZeeUEtIaCVFV3PjkOSptpTQdIYV_A-HjdRGbWMK0Feymv_A6gvn0Yp_bWqMys1HwnowTRF_LB2HFNsAqPeE2O33psPJhDkC3Kz5AP2Jdp3c0QqlmRtKj_Q60tCg==&c=WcyGUNAH4GJCKKY2Ciux5Tw2qXqDSm9f1gEro_gDVim66TBXsGEq3A==&ch=7BCiX0oxg_Oe2Tg4hT68Up-NZrA6tMy2lPj8YBbadeB7AnD0jToGPw==)
	2. [2014 Project Summaries](http://www.allamericacityaward.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/AAC-Project-Summaries.pdf)
6. To learn more about boys and men of color issues, programs, action plans, and resources—
	1. [A Time for Action, Executive Summary](http://boysandmenofcolor.org/mbk/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/A_Time_for_Action_Executive__Summary.pdf) - Executives’ Alliance to Expand Opportunity for Boys and Men of Color
	2. [Black Male Achievement Funders](http://bmafunders.org/)
	3. [My Brother’s Keeper](http://www.whitehouse.gov/my-brothers-keeper)
	4. [Racial Equity Impact Assessment Toolkit](https://www.raceforward.org/practice/tools/racial-equity-impact-assessment-toolkit) – The Center for Racial Justice Innovation
	5. [*Better Together in the South: Building Movements across Race, Gender, and Sexual Orientation*](https://www.raceforward.org/research/reports/better-together-bridging-lgbt-racial-justice) *–* The Center for Racial Justice Innovation

**PART I: TELL YOUR COMMUNITY’S STORY**

Section A: Tell us your community’s story. Focus on the last ten years of your community’s progress and development. Utilizing the awards criteria (above) describe how your community addresses its pressing challenges and plans for its future. How are citizens/residents involved in planning and implementation? Provide examples of cross sector collaboration among the neighborhoods, government, businesses, and nonprofit organizations engaged in these efforts. How is the community illustrating diversity and inclusiveness? What is your community’s vision? Include real examples of how your community has demonstrated its strengths, innovations, and faced its challenges. Don’t forget to tell us about the people in your community. (2,000 word maximum)

**PART II: DESCRIBE THREE COMMUNITY-DRIVEN PROJECTS**

Describe your three best projects that have resulted in significant local impact and action planning within the past five years. Past All-America City Award applicants have highlighted projects to increase third grade reading success for at-risk children, to increase health care for underserved populations, to create new businesses and jobs, to revitalize downtown, to engage youth in identifying and planning services and facilities, to promote cross sector collaborative centers, to increase fiscal sustainability, to develop emergency disaster plans, to recover from a natural disaster, and more. For 2015, NCL invites all applicants to include at least one project in their application that spotlights innovative approaches to engaging and supporting vulnerable boys and young men (examples include education readiness and success, health, jobs, housing, leadership, empowerment, income equality). Be sure to tell us how each of these projects promote civic engagement, collaboration, inclusiveness, innovation, and impact. See criteria above and consult NCL’s Civic Index – available at no cost to applicants. Request it at aac@ncl.org.

**PROJECT ONE**

Provide the project name and a description of its qualitative and quantitative impacts in the past five years. *(2,000 word maximum)* Tell us the challenge being addressed, actions taken, and the impact/outcomes of this project on your community’s resident.

Provide the name of the primary contact for the project. Name & title, organization, address, telephone, and e-mail address. *(This person may be contacted to verify information.)*

**PROJECT TWO**

Provide the project name and a description of its qualitative and quantitative impacts in the past five years. *(2,000 word maximum)* Tell us the challenge being addressed, actions taken, and the impact/outcomes of this project on your community’s residents.

Provide name of the primary contact for the project. Name & title, organization, address, telephone, and e-mail address. *(This person may be contacted to verify information.)*

**PROJECT THREE**

Provide the project name and a description of its qualitative and quantitative impacts in the past five years. *(2,000 word maximum)* Tell us the challenge being addressed, actions taken, and the impact/outcomes of this project on your community’s residents.

Provide the name of the primary contact for the project. Name & title, organization, address, telephone, and e-mail address. *(This person may be contacted to verify information.)*

*End of Application. Thank you for submitting your All-America City Award Application!*

***Submit the application:***

***1) by email (******aac@ncl.org******) or fax (888-314-6053)by Tuesday, March 10, 2015, 11:59 p.m. PST; and,***

***2) mail one hard copy with $200(\*You only pay $100 application fee if you submit a Letter of Intent to Apply by November 25) application fee to:***

***National Civic League, 6000 East Evans Ave., Suite 3-012, Denver, Colorado 80222. NEW NCL ADDRESS!***

Need additional guidance? Email aac@ncl.org or go to [**www.allamericacityaward.com**](http://www.allamericacityaward.com)

 for announcements of upcoming conference calls for prospective applicants, links to the 2014 event program featuring the projects of 2014 participating communities, videos of the previous jury presentations, and more or call NCL at 303-571-4343.

**Timeline:**

September 2014-February 2015 – Monthly conference calls with NCL staff and AAC community leaders to learn more about the benefits of AAC, application tips for success, and to share best practices.

November 25, 2014 -- Letter of Intent to Apply Due. \*Save $100 of the application fee if you submit a Letter of Intent to Apply by November 21, 2014.

March 10, 2015, Tuesday -- Application Due

Early April 2015 -- Finalists Announced

Finalist community-wide delegations will be invited to Denver to present.

April-June 2015 – Finalist communities assemble your cross-sector community delegation to present your story at the June 2015 awards event and peer-learning conference. Raise the funds to send your delegation to the June event in Denver. *Finalist community delegations will be asked to present their story to a national jury of civic, local government, business, philanthropy, and community experts. All applicants are invited to participate in the June workshops and networking opportunities!*

June 11-14, 2015, Peer-Learning Workshops & Awards Competition/Presentation in Denver, Colorado

July 2015-Feb 2016, All-America Cities tell their community’s story through a series of AAC/NCL coordinated conference calls and regional forums to the AAC network.