

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

America's Healthy Democracy Ecosystem



BACKGROUND

A growing number of initiatives from across the ideological spectrum have emerged in recent years to fight threats of illiberalism, promote patriotism, and protect, reform, strengthen, and champion American democracy. For the most part, this ecosystem of healthy democracy networks, practitioners, and funders is quite diffuse. Those working in the space often lack a shared vision for the future, a collective understanding of resource availability and distribution, and a common definition of what efforts fall within the bounds of “healthy democracy” work.

MISSION



Identify, categorize, and quantify existing organizations, networks, and funding streams within the American democracy space.



Build the foundation for pioneering work to strengthen democratic practices and civic infrastructure in five to ten diverse communities across the country.

AUDIENCES



Practitioners



Funders



Community Leaders



General Public

DELIVERABLES

INTERACTIVE HEALTHY DEMOCRACY ECOSYSTEM “MAP”

Graphic, compelling website empowering users to explore the ecosystem of organizations, coalitions, networks, and funders promoting healthy democracy.

COMMUNITY STRATEGY MEMORANDUM

Developing a blueprint to identify five to ten pilot communities to receive intensive and sustained investment in civic infrastructure beginning in 2024.

PROJECT TEAM

CORE STAFF

Dr. Carolyn Lukensmeyer
Matt Leighninger » Rachel Fersh
Hala Harik Hayes » Dr. Nick Vlahos

FISCAL SPONSOR
National Civic League

TIMELINE

APRIL

Project Launch

STRATEGY SESSION

One-day convening of field leaders to inform and refine project scope

MAY-JULY

Data Collection

EXPERT INTERVIEWS

Gather info from 50-60 healthy democracy practitioners & funders

DESK RESEARCH

Collect quantitative data to fill out ecosystem

AUG-SEPT

Production

ECOSYSTEM MAP

Interactive, attractive, user-friendly website

COMMUNITY MEMO

Outlining strategy for undertaking intensive community work

OCT-NOV

Presentation

DISTRIBUTION

Discussions and feedback sessions on project findings

NCoC GATHERING

Dedicated conference track to present results