



## ROADMAP for CHANGE

The National Conference on Citizenship (NCoC) is dedicated to strengthening civic life in America. At the core of our efforts is the belief that every person has the ability to help their community and country thrive.

NCoC's Civic Renewal Initiative welcomes all who are interested in utilizing civic engagement principles and practices to enhance their work. Connecting people for this purpose - strengthening civic life - is the goal.

ASSUMPTIONS	STRATEGIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NCoC's Civic Health Index (CHI) is a tool for assessing civic life, an essential component of vibrant communities, a strong democracy, and individual well-being.</li> <li>An immediate and robust effort is needed to renew our sense of shared values and responsibilities as active citizens.</li> <li>Those who understand the value of civic engagement and civic life as necessary components of problem-solving in community must broaden their scope of influence.</li> <li>Enhancing civic life requires a focus on equity, diversity and inclusion and will require the involvement of a broad-based consortium of public and private agencies, organizations and individuals dedicated to the cause.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Capitalize on existing networks and civic health data:</b> Research demonstrates the links between civic health and economic resilience, workforce development, personal health and wellness, access to opportunity, functional democracy and community vitality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen and expand partnerships dedicated to understanding and utilizing civic health data to address issues of concern at the community level.</li> </ul> <p><b>Increase impact of civic health networks:</b> Civic health data is being utilized to inform initiatives in public health, economic development, public policy, and education. CHI partnerships have changed the way governments go about their work, reintroduced civics to our classrooms, redirected investments, influenced national and local conversations, and bolstered a network of civic leaders across the country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bolster, measure, and document increasing impact of these initiatives with a focus on enhancing civic life.</li> </ul> <p><b>Focus on equity, diversity and inclusion:</b> Those committed to strengthening the civic life of their communities require a deeper level of diagnosis, more effective strategies, and more coordination across sectors to do so.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorporate community-based experience to increase understanding of how best to support communities as they address their most pressing challenges.</li> <li>Advance culturally competent civic engagement to ensure that the needs of an increasingly diverse public are met.</li> </ul> <p><b>Share learning from collective implementation of strategies in ways that invite ongoing input and assessment of impact:</b> The Annual Conference on Citizenship is NCoC's signature event. For 70 years, NCoC has convened leaders in the field of civic engagement to exchange information and to discuss ways to advance our shared mission of encouraging members of the public to become fully involved in our shared civic life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand networks to include non-traditional partners.</li> <li>Focus the Annual National Conference on Citizenship on collective learning and doing.</li> <li>Create ongoing opportunities for sharing and learning through offerings on an ongoing basis.</li> </ul>
<b>LONG-TERM GOALS</b>	
<p>Measurable increase in partners who understand the value of civic engagement and civic life as necessary components of community problem-solving and work collaboratively to achieve greater impact in community.</p>	

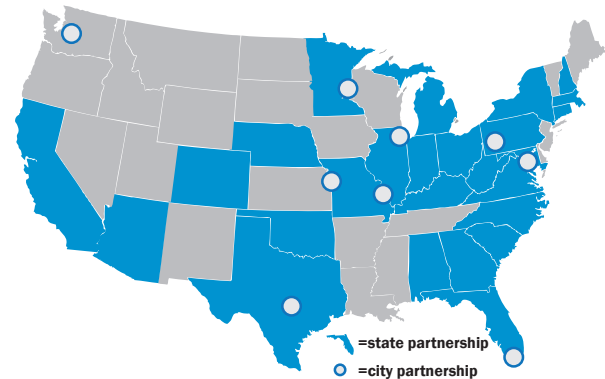
# CIVIC HEALTH INDEX

**NCoC's Civic Health Index (CHI)** is at the center of our work. We think of “civic health” as the way that communities are organized to define and address public problems. Communities with strong civic health have higher employment rates, stronger schools, better physical health, and more responsive governments. For the past 10 years, the National Conference on Citizenship (NCoC), together with the Corporation for National and Community Service and community level collaborative teams across the nation, has documented the state of civic life in America in 76 city, state and national Civic Health Index (CHI) reports.

CHI partnerships have changed the way governments go about their work, reintroduced civics to our classrooms, redirected investments, influenced national and local conversations, and bolstered a network of civic leaders across the country.

Building upon a treasure trove of data, resources, and partnerships, and upon the work of others committed to civic renewal, NCoC is launching a Civic Renewal Initiative. This is a time for civic renewal – a renewal that is not about politics, but about the heart and soul of our communities. Leaders who understand the value of civic engagement and civic life as necessary components of healthy communities must broaden their scope of influence. **Our goal is to bring issue-focused individuals and organizations not currently involved in civic life discussions into the conversation. If we are to meet this moment, we must learn from each other and commit to advancing civic renewal together.**

## OUR PARTNERS



**Because of the Civic Health Index, partners are engaged in the following activities:**

**Creating policy and infrastructure change:**

- **44%** are generating investments in civic engagement
- **25%** are influencing specific policy outcomes

**Engaging high-profile leaders and champions:**

- **81%** are facilitating dialogue in their community

**Creating community dialogue and increasing engagement:**

- **63%** are increasing engagement in their community

**Creating cross-sector partnerships:**

- **59%** are mobilizing community members and/or organizations to take an action as a result of CHI.

**Strengthening civic leaders and institutions:**

- **94%** are raising awareness about civic health
- **44%** are shifting or informing organizational strategy