What Does Civic Engagement Look Like?

FOCUS LEVEL

Systems ⟷ **Individual**

IMPACT SCALE: *National* ↕ *Local*

Political Reform: Initiatives that improve the rules of the game, such as campaign finance, re-districting, modernizing election processes

Civic Infrastructure: Efforts that build tools for engagement, such as building nonprofit or philanthropic capacity for problem solving, open data/ transparency, information/journalism

Voting and Local Elections: Programs that help more people vote, such as nonpartisan voter registration and increasing engagement in electoral processes

Political Participation: Efforts that involve more people in political processes, such as public meeting engagement and participatory budgeting

Civic Learning: Programs that ensure youth gain knowledge and experience, such as school-based civic education, service learning, youth development

Advocacy & Public Policy: Actions that inform legistlation or policy, such as nonpartisan awareness building issue and/or 501c4 support

Service: Programs that create paths for people to serve their communities, such as service years, volunteering, and neighboring

Charitable Giving: Efforts that encourage more donations, including individual, small-dollar philanthrophy and/or greater institutional giving

Place-Making & Community Development: Initiatives that build stronger connection to place, including urban planning, economic development, asset-based funding

Social Capital/ Cohesion: Actions that nurture interpersonal engagement and trust, such as interactions between neighbors or informal community-building activities

Deliberative Democracy: Programs that convene effective deliberations, such as sustained dialogue, citizen decision-making, consensus building

Community Organizing: Efforts that empower individuals to take action and effectively mobilize the people around them, such as marches, rallies, and demonstrations

Leadership Development: Programs that create leaders who will contribute to the public good, such as fellowships, trainings, and leadership education