



2020 Collaborative Membership Snapshot

99

Collaborative
Member Orgs

107

Members Engaged in
Skill Development

97

Attendees on Avg at
Membership Mtgs

Jefferson Counts Civic Engagement Campaign

The Collaborative has created a structure and best practices for long-term, continued civic and policy engagement through the Jefferson Counts Census Initiative.

75

Champion Organizations/
Partners

90%

Staying Involved in
Future Efforts

Other 2020 Highlights:

- **Jefferson Spring Virtual Forum** engaged 155 participants in virtual workshops and celebrated the nonprofit's sector's strength during crisis
- **Launch of New Action Teams** on *Diversity, Equity & Racial Justice* and *Civic & Policy Engagement* – work to be continued in 2021
- **Collaborative Meeting Topics Included:** *Speed-Networking and Health Equity, COVID-19 in the Jefferson Area, Pursuing Equity & Change Through Collective Action, Workforce Trends & Equity in the Nonprofit Sector*

Highlighted Collaborative Stories

Supporting Strong Executive Leadership in the Jefferson Area

Supporting the leaders of local nonprofits is always crucial but has been especially important since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, as leaders are navigating rapid change and adjusting to new and emerging community needs. Funded through a grant from Jefferson Regional Foundation, the Jefferson Community Collaborative partnered with the **Bayer Center for Nonprofit Management** to offer three key opportunities to support local executives: connection and idea-sharing through **6 Executive Huddle Sessions**, ongoing opportunities for executives to engage in **One-on-One Consult Sessions** with experts from the Bayer Center's Executive Service Corps, and the opportunity to participate in **Executive Skill Development Sessions** on relevant topics such as Managing a Remote Board and Making Real Impact Through Collaboration.



Connecting Jefferson Youth Providers

The COVID-19 pandemic has drastically impacted the lives and patterns of youth and their families, particularly those facing low-income status. **Local Out-of-School Time Providers** who provide childcare, learning support, and other essential services have been tasked with adjusting quickly to shifting community needs, ensuring youth safety, and providing quality programming through both virtual and in-person efforts during this time. The Foundation has hosted four conversations with Jefferson youth providers since the start of the pandemic to provide opportunities for connection, collaboration, and resource-sharing. Providers have explored joint strategies for addressing widespread community challenges including **internet and technology access**, supporting **new childcare needs and the emergence of community learning hubs**, and navigating **staffing and staff care challenges** experienced by the organizations themselves. **Gwen's Girls** is an example of one such organization who has participated in these conversations and adjusted their programming to meeting community needs. With support from a \$35,000 grant through the Foundation's COVID-19 Emergency Fund Gwen's Girls is offering a web-based tutoring program for 42 Jefferson girls.



Civic Engagement in the Time of Coronavirus

The **Jefferson Counts 2020 Census Campaign** was first launched in February of 2019 with early support from the Foundation Grants Committee and the Collaborative Vision Council and with the understanding that an accurate Census Count would ensure essential resources, fair representation, and accurate data for the next decade. With guidance from our **Jefferson Counts Leadership Team**, support from **75 community champion organizations**, coordination by Civic Engagement PULSE Fellow Amy Wisseman, and \$66,200 in mini-grants from the Foundation, the Jefferson Counts Campaign involved a mass effort to provide community organizations with education, training and resources to ensure that everyone – especially residents in historically underrepresented communities – was counted. Despite many challenges posed to outreach by the COVID-19 pandemic and changing deadlines, **Allegheny County's self-response rate exceeded the 2010 self-response rate and 99.9% of Pennsylvania households were enumerated**. Jefferson communities lagged behind 2010 self-response rates by an average of 3%, very likely due to the pandemic, but with so many hard to serve communities in the Jefferson area there is no doubt outreach through the campaign was effective. Enthusiasm for civic engagement remains strong with 90% of groups expressing interest in staying involved with future civic and policy engagement efforts,

