

PROJECT ABSTRACT

Name/Eligibility Classification of Applicant:

Constitutional Rights Foundation – Non-profit Organization; Consortium Partnership

Names of Participating LEAs, State Agencies, Nonprofits, For-profit Organizations:

University of Southern California Rossier School of Education, Civic Engagement Research Group

Project Reach:

The Democracy Project (TDP) will reach 240 teachers through in-person professional development who will implement TDP in their classrooms, reaching an estimated 6,000 students and 100 teachers through online training. In addition, a Leadership Cadre of 30 curriculum specialists, non-profit leaders and teachers will be formed and the project will build awareness and local buy-in through a network of 25 administrators drawn from the schools and districts with which TDP partners.

Summary of Objectives and Activities:

TDP is a multi-pronged initiative to help reduce the civic learning gap with three core components: curriculum development, professional development and support, and evaluation. The project centers around three learning pathways – US History/Constitution and Bill of Rights, issue-based academic discussions, and media literacy – all of which culminate in a student-driven civic action project. TDP's two overarching goals and related outcomes:

1. ***Increase civic knowledge, skills, dispositions of low-income, underserved middle and high school students***
 - a. At least 65% of the students will demonstrate an increase in knowledge, skills, or civic dispositions

2. ***Increase teacher capacity and confidence to implement research-based approaches to civic learning in Title 1 and underserved schools.***
 - a. At least 76% of teachers participating in the comprehensive evaluation will report shifts in instructional practices aligned with research-based practices in civic learning

Competitive Preference Priorities:

CPP1: Innovative Activities for Civic Engagement

CPP2: Promoting Equity in Student Access to Educational Resources