

A portrait of a vetted civic group or initiative that could make a difference

## ISSUE | CIVIC PARTICIPATION

### ORGANIZATION



### MISSION

To increase voter participation, reduce big money influence and restore public confidence in North Carolina politics through research, organizing and advocacy

### AGENDA

Challenge voting barriers, reform redistricting laws, promote public election funding and organize Get Out The Vote (GOTV) efforts

### ORGANIZATION

- **Form** – nonpartisan 501(c)(3) organization
- **History** – created over 25 years ago as project of Institute for Southern Studies
- **Board** – 12 members
- **Personnel** – 12 employees with executive director, associate director, organizing director and development director
- **Location** – Main office in Durham with staff in Charlotte, Fayetteville and Winston-Salem

### KEY PROGRAMS

- **Research** – analyze election issues, explore solutions and distribute findings
- **Organizing** – build statewide and local coalitions to plan, coordinate and carry out election reform and civic engagement efforts
- **Training** – build local and statewide citizen networks to promote democracy policies and political involvement
- **Democracy Summer** – training program that pays college students to learn grassroots organizing and citizen engagement

### KEY INITIATIVES

- **Nonprofit Voter Engagement Project** – help nonprofits engage voters (e.g., register voters, issue nonpartisan materials and mobilize nonprofit supporters)
- **Souls to the Polls** – help congregations with voter registration, voter education, GOTV and ballot issue efforts
- **Operation Jumpstart the Vote** – counter voting restrictions with local nonpartisan projects that help citizens register
- **Early Voting** – helped 12 counties open Early Voting polling sites on Sundays

### VOLUNTEERING

- **Voter education** – distribute educational materials, including “get ID” guidelines
- **Voter registration** – support local, nonpartisan voter registration drives
- **Monitoring** – attend election board meetings or serve as observer or official
- **Transportation** – drive people to polls or DMV for IDs or coordinate rides
- **Training** – attend workshops and sessions
- **Office** – do data entry, phone calls and other office-based tasks

### DONATIONS

Make tax-deductible gift, e.g.:

- **Online** – donate using on-line tool and receive automatic online receipt
- **Mail** – make check payable to Democracy North Carolina and send to address below
- **Phone** – call Development Director at 919-286-6000 x12 to discuss other options
- **Vehicle Donation** – call 877-227-7487 to donate car, boat, truck, or other vehicle and receive tax deduction
- **Other** – double your first donation or net increase via Z Smith Reynolds Foundation’s gift matching challenge

### CONTACT DATA

**Key Staff** – [Executive Director Name, Deputy Director Name]

**Location/Mailing Address** –  
1821 Green St., Durham, NC 27705

**Telephone** – General: 919-286-6000  
or 1-888-OUR-VOTE

**Email** – info@democracy-nc.org

### PARTNERS (Click to learn more about one of the following organizations)

[Alliance of Black Elected Officials](#)

[AMEXCAN](#)

[Common Cause NC](#)

[Institute for Southern Studies](#)

[Latin American Coalition](#)

[League of Women Voters](#)

[NC Center for Voter Education](#)

[NC Justice Center](#)

[NC Latino Coalition](#)

[NC NAACP](#)

[NC Voters for Clean Elections](#)

[NC Women United](#)