



April 13, 2021

Sent Via Email

County of Los Angeles Citizens Redistricting Commission
CommServ@bos.lacounty.gov

Dear Commissioners:

We appreciate your interest in learning more about the undersigned organizations as well as your willingness to incorporate the expertise of community partners to inform your public outreach plans. We make up a diverse network across Los Angeles County that includes grassroots, civil rights advocacy, good government, and voter education organizations.

Although we are united by a mission to empower low-income communities and communities of color through fair and transparent redistricting processes that result in equitable maps, we are not a formal coalition and may not always take the same positions before your Commission. One of our shared goals, however, is to help deepen your understanding of participation barriers and to support your ability to connect with diverse communities throughout Los Angeles County and the organizations that serve these communities. Our organizations can host workshops, participate in panel discussions, and/or present to the Commission on a variety of topics, such as best practices for community outreach and engagement, especially among Asian American, Black, Latinx, Pacific Islander, immigrant, and refugee communities, as well as with Muslim and other religious communities. Our partners also have expertise on a variety of topics, including, but not limited to, redistricting, language access, and 2020 Census community outreach.

Our organizations are currently planning our redistricting work, beginning to educate our communities, and creating tools and resources that will support community members to engage in this process. To ensure we have sufficient time to prepare, and to ensure that Los Angeles residents stay engaged with the Commission throughout the entire process, we request that the pre-map hearings and forums be broken up into separate events instead of being scheduled back-to-back, and that they be scheduled on various days and times, not only on late afternoons and evenings on Wednesdays, to accommodate varying work schedules and to allow communities to prepare their community of interest testimony before testifying before the Commission. We further request that the Commission begin hosting forums/workshops at any time to help communities prepare their communities of interest testimony but delay the start of the pre-map public hearings until June or July so that there are hearings scheduled throughout the summer and early fall. This is consistent with the California Citizens Redistricting Commission's outreach plan: they are hosting regional workshops now, but their public community of interest hearings will run from June through August. To facilitate this and other outreach discussions and to help create and carry out the

Commission’s outreach plan, we would like to meet with the Commission’s working group on outreach either biweekly or monthly.

Below is a snapshot of some of the partners in our network, highlighting the expertise they have on particular issues and the communities they work with and/or represent. We encourage the Commission to expand its engagement beyond the groups listed below to coalitions and organizations that have direct ties to various communities throughout Los Angeles County. Working with additional groups, such as the People’s Bloc, will be key to ensuring robust public participation and robust testimony on communities of interest at Commission hearings.

We look forward to partnering with you to ensure a successful redistricting process that fully engages all communities in California.

Sincerely,

Advancement Project California

Coalition for Humane Immigrants Right (CHIRLA)

California Common Cause

National Association of Latino & Appointed Elected Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund

Community Coalition

ACLU of Southern California

Council on American-Islamic Relations, California

Asian Americans Advancing Justice, Los Angeles

Organization	Activities	Membership Base/Constituency	Areas of Expertise
<p>Advancement Project California</p> <p><i>Alejandra Ramirez-Zarate</i> Senior Policy & Research Analyst azarate@advanceproj.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Advocacy ✓ Coalition Building & Coordination ✓ Data & Research ✓ Policy Analysis ✓ Technical Assistance & Training 	<p>Membership base/constituency: Low-income communities of color</p>	<p>Issues/topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barriers to public participation for low-income communities of color in democratic processes. • Data and analysis on racial county, and city levels and across a wide range of issues. • 2020 Census statewide policy advocacy efforts. • 2020 Census outreach in Los Angeles County. <p>Resources:</p> <p>Unequal Voices, Part I: California’s Racial Disparities in Political Participation</p> <p>Unequal Voices, Part II: Who Speaks for California?</p>

			<p>RACE COUNTS : measures the overall performance, amount of racial disparity, and impact by population size of counties and cities in California.</p> <p>Census Policy and Advocacy Network (CPAN): California Hard-to-Count Demographic Briefs</p> <p>Centering Equity for LA County's Redistricting Cycle</p> <p>Mapping the Hardest to Count Census Tracts in LA County: We Count LA Dashboard</p> <p>We Count LA Countywide Final Response Rate Data & Project Summary Report</p>
<p>ACLU of Southern California</p> <p><i>Cynthia Valencia</i> Policy Advocate & Organizer cvalencia@aclusocal.org</p> <p><i>Julia A. Gomez</i> Staff Attorney jgomez@aclusocal.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Advocacy ✓ Community Outreach & Education (voter engagement and redistricting) ✓ Coalition building & Coordination ✓ Litigation ✓ Policy Analysis 	<p>Membership base/constituency: Over 100,000 SoCal members, youth, BIPOC communities, and low propensity voters.</p>	<p>Issues/topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voting • Immigrants' Rights • First Amendment • Open Government • Criminal and Economic Justice • Education Equity • Gender Equity and Reproductive Justice
<p>Asian Americans Advancing Justice, Los Angeles</p> <p><i>Daniel Jeon</i> Staff Attorney djeon@advancingjustice-la.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Advocacy ✓ Community Outreach & Education (census/redistricting/voting) ✓ Coalition building & Coordination 	<p>Membership base/constituency: Asian American & Pacific Islander</p>	<p>Issues/topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language access • Community outreach • Engagement to AAPI, low-income, and immigrant populations
<p>Coalition for Humane Immigrants Right (CHIRLA)</p> <p><i>Karen Diaz</i> kdiaz@chirila.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Organizing and Leadership Development ✓ Policy and Advocacy ✓ Civic Engagement and Political Empowerment ✓ Community Education and Outreach ✓ Coalition Building ✓ Strategic Communication and Media 	<p>Membership base/constituency: CHIRLA constituency is made up of members, partners, and community who help us achieve our mission to have a society fully inclusive of immigrants.</p> <p>Geographic focus: Statewide organization with national impact. With organizing bases in: Antelope Valley, San Fernando Valley, South LA, Southeast LA, and Downtown</p>	<p>Issues/topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civic engagement • Redistricting • Voting • Other issue areas (immigrant rights, economic justice) <p>Resources:</p> <p>CHIRLA's Redistricting Basics PPT</p>

<p>California Common Cause</p> <p><i>Kiyana Asemanfar</i> Program Manager kiyana@commoncause.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Advocacy ✓ Community Outreach & Education (<i>Census/Redistricting / Voting</i>) ✓ Coalition Building & Coordination ✓ Litigation ✓ Policy Analysis ✓ Technical Assistance & Training 	<p>Over 40,000 Los Angeles County residents</p>	<p>Issues/topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Census & Redistricting • Voting & Elections • Ethics & Accountability • Media & Democracy • Money & Influence <p>Resources:</p> <p>Local Redistricting 2021 resources for community groups, local governments, and commissions</p> <p>Whitewashing Representation: How Using Citizenship Data to Gerrymander Will Undermine Our Democracy:</p> <p>Reaching Low Propensity Voters in the November 2020 Election</p>
<p>Community Coalition</p> <p><i>Kirk Samuels</i> Director of Civic Engagement kirk@cocosouthla.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Advocacy ✓ Grassroots Organizing ✓ Civic Engagement ✓ Coalition/Alliance Building ✓ Data & Research 	<p>Membership/Constituency: Black and Brown residents of South Los Angeles, primarily CD 8, 9, and 10; low income</p> <p>Geographic Focus: Countywide- hard focus on Supervisorial District 2; Neighborhoods- Westmont, Hyde Park, King Estates, Vermont Vista, Vermont Knolls, Green Meadows, Baldwin Hills, Crenshaw Corridor</p>	<p>Issues/Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race Equity and Social Justice • Policy Advocacy • Criminal Justice Reform • Civic Engagement and Participation
<p>Council on American-Islamic Relations, California</p> <p><i>Fayaz Nawabi</i> Policy & Advocacy Manager fnawabi@cair.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Advocacy ✓ Community Outreach & Education (<i>Census/Redistricting , Voting</i>) ✓ Coalition Building & Coordination 	<p>Membership base/constituency: Organization members, AMEMSA communities, immigrant communities, youth, refugee communities.</p>	<p>Issues/topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civic engagement • Political education • Redistricting • Voting • Immigrant rights
<p>National Association of Latino & Appointed Elected Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund</p> <p><i>Jaqueline Coto</i> State Director of Civic Engagement and Policy jcoto@naleo.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Advocacy ✓ Community Outreach & Education (<i>Census/Redistricting/ Voting</i>) ✓ Coalition Building & Coordination ✓ Data & Research ✓ Grassroots Organizing ✓ Policy Analysis ✓ Technical Assistance & Training 	<p>Membership base/constituency: Latino</p>	<p>Issues/topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barriers to participation for Latinos in U.S. democracy, including language access • Best messages and messengers to mobilize Latinos to participate in Census, naturalization, voting (non-partisan), and redistricting • Policy development on the foregoing issues at the state and federal level • Challenges created by Census 2020 questions on Hispanic origin and race

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latino demographic and electoral trends nationwide and in California • Assistance in conveying Latino communities' perspectives on COI's to unity mapping (actively engaged in 2011 in CCRC and LAUSD redistricting) • Transitioning community engagement and advocacy programs during COVID-19 pandemic <p>Resources: Hagase Contar! - Be Counted - Census 2020 resources</p> <p>Latino Voters At Risk: Barriers to Latino Voting During COVID-19</p> <p>2020 Latino Election Handbook</p> <p>Guides to Language Access in Elections (together with AAJC and Fair Elections Center)</p>
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