

Arizona Civic Life Partnership: Partner Engagement & Convening Consulting Project

August 2025

About Center for the Future of Arizona

Center for the Future of Arizona (CFA) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that brings Arizonans together to create a stronger and brighter future for our state. Rooted in a love for Arizona and a commitment to its success, CFA listens to Arizonans to learn what matters most, shares trusted data about how Arizona is doing, and works with communities and leaders to solve public problems. CFA's work spans key issues, including education, workforce development, and civic health, advancing a data-driven shared vision for the state known as The Arizona We Want.

About the Arizona Center for Civic Leadership at the Flinn Foundation

The nonpartisan Arizona Center for Civic Leadership at the Flinn Foundation enhances civic life in Arizona through civic education, engagement, and leadership-development programs.

About the Arizona Civic Life Partnership

CFA and the <u>Arizona Center for Civic Leadership at the Flinn Foundation (AZCCL</u>), partnered in 2021 to develop a statewide strategy for civic renewal with a sharp focus on lifelong civic learning, engagement and leadership by activating the Civic Health Progress Meters. This collaboration has evolved into the <u>Arizona Civic Life Partnership</u> which now encompasses an expansive set of strategies to strengthen civic health statewide.

Scope of Work

CFA and Flinn Foundation seek proposals from consultants with experience in assisting nonprofit organizations in developing and delivering a process for engaging and convening key stakeholders in developing shared goals.

CFA's <u>Civic Health Progress Meters</u> provide a framework and set of tools to assess challenges and opportunities at the local and statewide level, organize toward common goals, inform cohesive strategy, and measure progress over time. The selected consultant will collaborate with CFA and Flinn to revisit the Civic Health Progress Meters and develop recommended goals through a collaborative process. This will include a process to identify partners, build relationships, set objectives, prepare for meetings, and debrief key outcomes. This effort will be modeled after the extensive partnership engagement and goal-setting effort of the Arizona Education Progress Meter.

This effort will involve:



Co-Developing the Plan

- Work with CFA and Flinn to develop a project plan and timeline
- Develop a landscape scan of prospective partners, building from the existing organizations engaged in the Civic Health Steering Committee and crosswalked with the Civic Health Progress Meter indicators

Preparing for and Facilitating Convenings

- Plan and facilitate convenings for partners led by AZ Civic Life Partnership 4 times over the next year (September 2025 - June 2026) in order to activate the Civic Health Progress Meters, which may include:
 - Coordinate working groups with expertise and engagement on specific sets of indicators
 - o Incorporate new data and ways of measuring civic health.
 - Collectively establish goals for shared movement on the Progress Meter indicators.
 - Identify a subset of Progress Meter goals ripe for further policy, investment and action.

Delivering Insights and Recommendations

- Support with analysis and provide insights from convenings to inform Civic Health Progress Meter goals and final communications strategy
- Help collect stories of impact where progress is already being made on the Progress Meters for future distribution

Key Milestones and Deliverables

- Sept 2025:
 - Conduct interviews with prospective partners in the civic health field, and creating landscape review of lessons learned from the Arizona Education Progress Meter goal-setting effort.
 - Create project plan and timeline with lead partners.
- Oct 2025- May 2026:
 - Implement expanded partnership engagement plan through 4 convenings.
 - Working with lead partners to engage national partners to co-convene on shared topics including Our Common Purpose Civic Culture and Civic Language.
 - Synthesize key learnings and takeaways, including proposed new goals for Civic Health Progress Meters.
- May- June 2026:
 - Support lead partners with information to announce Civic Health Progress Meter goals through communications products and strategy to be developed (e.g. website, Spark Brief, press release)

Budget

The budget is \$40,000-\$60,000 over 10-12 months. The consultant will support plan development and facilitate the project, working closely with lead partners who will drive



strategy, partnership development, and communications. Budget flexibility may be considered for comprehensive, innovative, and impactful approaches.

Interested in Partnering with ACLP?

What we are looking for

- Demonstrated track record of developing engagement strategies and facilitating convenings with nonprofits organizations.
- Experience working collaboratively with nonprofits in support role, with high receptiveness to feedback and direction.
- Quality of the proposed project plan aligned to scope of work.

Share your interest

Please provide a written proposal (no more than 5 pages) that includes the following:

- 1) **Experience:** describe experience developing and delivering partner engagement strategies and data-informed convenings.
- 2) **Project plan**: share an outline of a project plan for delivering the scope of work.
- 3) **Budget:** provide a detailed budget that breaks out expenses.
- 4) **References:** provide contact information for two references and a brief description of the project/work completed for each reference.

Send completed proposals by 5:00 pm on Monday, September 8th, to Kristi Tate, Director of Civic Health, <u>Kristi.tate@arizonafuture.org</u>.