Florida Civic Advance
"Collaborating for Strong Communities"

FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATION
April 11, 2014
FLORIDA’S CIVIC CHALLENGE

- Florida ranks near last among states when it comes to civic health
- Many observable signs of civic disunion in Florida
- Why is civic life so poor in Florida? The major culprit is hyper-growth
FLORIDA’S CIVIC CHALLENGE

• The state is the most **uniquely diverse** in the union.
• It is one of the most **racially and ethnically diverse**
• It is **oldest** with 17.3% of the population over 65.
• It is the **most transitory** with over 94 million visitors and part time residents a year.
• Only 35.5% of the population are **native born**, and over 19% are **foreign born**.
A COMMITMENT TO CIVIC IMPROVEMENT

- Improving community civic capacity is an urgent matter for Florida as its population and economy grows.
- Civic matters do matter in planning Florida’s future.
- Many organizations are separately engaged and interested in civic improvement.
- Collaboration is the key to Civic Advance.
ABOUT THE FCA

- **Florida Civic Advance Purpose:** help Florida communities improve their civic health and capacity to work together.

- **Florida Civic Advance Core Idea:** identify, study, reward, publicize, and share important collaborative civic practices and cases and encourage replication and further innovation.
• **Key Audiences:** The primary audience for this project are community leaders who are in a position to improve civic life. A secondary audience are educators who can encourage research, student civic engagement and technical assistance to communities.

• **Key Partners:** Statewide organizations (e.g. FLC, FAC, FRCA, Chamber Foundation, Leadership Florida, AARP Florida, FSU Askew School, UCF Lou, Frey Institute for Politics and others)
ABOUT THE FCA-5 PROJECT GOALS

1. **Recognize** outstanding civic practices and collaborative leaders in Florida through an annual awards recognition program.

2. **Demonstrate** innovative and successful practices and strategies to improve community life.

3. **Learn** why and how different kinds of communities improve their civic capacity, collaborative capability and performance while others do not.

4. **Share** information and knowledge about how to strengthen civic capacity, collaborative leadership and performance.

5. **Encourage** Florida communities to undertake collaborative efforts to strengthen their civic and collaborative capacity.
ABOUT THE FCA- PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

1. Annual Florida Civic Advance Collaborative Leadership Awards Program and Conference
2. Civic incubator and research and development projects
3. The Florida Civic Development Observatory
4. The Florida Civic Advance Dissemination Network
Facilitating Consensus, Supporting Collaborative Action

Potential Partners
ABOUT THE FCA- STRUCTURE

• Flat, team-oriented and task-distributed model.

• The FCRC Florida Consensus Center will serve as the executive coordinator, facilitator, fiscal agent, and network convener with decisions regarding strategies and directions made by a Steering Group of representatives from partner organizations on a consensual basis.

• Partner organizations will develop a project management agreement to guide their work.

• Overall FCA initiative oversight will be provided by the FCRC Consensus Center Leadership Council.
In 2014, the Florida Consensus Center with help from its partners will:

1. Continue planning in the five project activity areas,
2. Recruit additional partners,
3. Seek funding, and
4. Develop demonstration projects.
FCRC Consensus Center, “Facilitating Consensus, Supporting Collaborative Action”

FCA & FRCA

• Possible FRCA partnership on Florida Civic Advance?

• Possible Partners among FRCA Members on FCA activities?

• Questions on the Initiative?