Florida Civic Advance Announces its 2019 Civic Excellence Awards

Tallahassee, Fla.--The Florida Civic Advance (FCA), a collaborative initiative involving an emerging network of local, regional and statewide organizations committed to strengthening civic life, is proud to recognize innovative 16 Florida cities, counties and non-profit organizations that have successfully enhanced the civic life in their communities. In its inaugural year, the Civic Excellence award program recognizes outstanding civic programs, projects or initiatives that successfully promote innovation, excellence and civic awareness in Florida’s local communities through three award categories: Citizen Engagement with Local Government, Intergenerational Civic Engagement; and Voter Education and Civic Service.

“There are so many local initiatives taking place throughout the state that are successfully improving civic life and actively increasing citizen involvement but aren’t being acknowledged or talked about,” said FCA Coordinating Council Chair and AARP Florida State Director Jeff Johnson. “We want to provide a platform to those projects, share their successes and, ultimately, work to replicate them in local communities throughout the state.”

The winners of the Citizen Engagement with Local Government were announced as co-winners for the following local projects:

- City of New Smyrna Beach – Civic Engagement and Coastal Community Resiliency.
- City of Ormond Beach – Civic Engagement and the OB Life.

In addition to the winning projects, the FCA also announced a list of projects receiving honorable mention in this category:

- Civic-Con Center – Empowering Pensacola through Civic Conversation.
- Broward County League of Women Voters – “Lock it Up” Gun Safety and Awareness.
- Martin County Supervisor of Elections – Count Me In Too! Outreach for Voters with Disabilities and Special Needs.
- University of Florida/IFAS Pasco Cooperative Extension – Luggage of Love Program.

The winner of the “Intergenerational Civic Engagement” award is Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay, Inc. an advocate for independent aging and intergenerational engagement for their project, “Seniors in Service - Geared Up to Serve.”

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• **New Life Village**, an intentional Intergenerational living community for Seniors and Foster-Adoptive-Kinship families “It takes a Village to raise a child.”

• **League of Women Voters, Palm Beach Co.**, Intergenerational Civics Education and Voter Registration project.

• **Town of Golden Beach**, Golden Beach Youth Leadership Group project.

The winner of the “Voter Education and Civic Service” award is an innovative partnership with **Eckard College and the Florida Public Interest Research Group**, for their “The New Voters Turnout Project.”

In addition to the winning projects, the FCA also announced a list of projects receiving honorable mention in this category:

- **Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections**, Craig Latimer and Gerri Kramer, Hillsborough High School Voter Registration and Art Contest project.

- **Pasco County Supervisor of Elections**, Brian Corley and Tami Bentley, “Bring it to the Table,” a student-based voter education and media project.

- **Collier County Supervisor of Elections**, Jennifer Edwards and Trish Robertson, High School Voter Registration Challenge project as part of the Comprehensive Future Voters Campaign.

- **Martin County Supervisor of Elections**, Vicki Davis and Ike Crumpler, Improving Voter Turnout through Student Poll Workers in Hispanic Communities Project.


The winning projects and those receiving honorable mention will be showcased at the FCA Summit, December 12-13, 2019 at St. Petersburg College, Seminole. For more information and registration, visit [https://consensus.fsu.edu/Civic-Advance/index.html](https://consensus.fsu.edu/Civic-Advance/index.html)

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