MASSACHUSETTS CENSUS EQUITY FUND

The Massachusetts Census Equity Fund is a statewide collaborative of partners working to increase participation in the 2020 Census, specifically in communities that are at significant risk of being under-counted.

GOALS OF THE CENSUS EQUITY FUND

We have created a **Learning Community** to connect, convene and provide resources to partners on the importance of the Census and promote active involvement to ensure a fair and complete count.

We have launched a **Grant Program** targeting support for grassroots organizations coordinating education and outreach initiatives in "hard-to-count" communities across the Commonwealth.

WHAT'S AT STAKE IN THE 2020 CENSUS?

$16 billion
in federal funding to Massachusetts for programs like Medicaid, Medicare, and SNAP

$2,372 per person
in federal funding per year in Massachusetts

Critical decisions
around voting districts, civil rights laws, and investment in infrastructure

CONTACT THE MASSACHUSETTS CENSUS EQUITY FUND

www.masscensusequity.org

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access strategies fund — Amplifying Voices.
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MNN Massachusetts Nonprofit Network
Massachusetts Voter Table
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PHILANTHROPY MASSACHUSETTS

MASSACHUSETTS CENSUS EQUITY FUND

MCEF is working to address challenges that could prevent a fair and accurate 2020 Census count.

MCEF's mission is to support community organizations and grassroots leaders who are organizing within their community to ensure the most accurate count in the Commonwealth. We are focusing especially on those who are often undercounted and in areas facing historic barriers to this Census.

Historically, the following communities have been undercounted:

- Urban and rural areas with large low-income populations
- People of color
- Immigrants, including undocumented residents
- Non-English speakers
- Migrant workers
- Formerly incarcerated people
- Young children
- The elderly
- People with disabilities
- Renters
- Those experiencing homelessness
- Members of the LGBTQ community
- Persons living in mobile homes or multi-unit residences

The 2020 Census includes new barriers to reaching those in undercounted communities:

Government Underfunding of 2020 Census - This Census is likely to be one of the most underfunded census counts in history, making it even more difficult to provide key resources to reach residents across the Commonwealth.

Citizenship Question - The addition of a question on citizenship status will discourage participation and reduce accuracy in already undercounted communities.

Climate of Fear - The current political climate depresses response rates from populations in undercounted communities.

Technology - The 2020 Census is the first largely digital census count, making it more difficult for those who do not have access to the internet and also raises concerns around cyber security.

We need trusted community organizations leading the way to reach constituents and inform them of the value in filling out the 2020 Census and empower them to do so!

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