

Project Vote

Following in the footsteps of her father, Reverend H. L. Dickerson, and continuing his legacy, Dickerson Center founder/president, Linda Lamar is devoted to voter participation. The late Reverend Dickerson was a pioneer in voting as the first African American to vote in Grand Cane, LA in 1952. He faced obstacles in voting, and after leaving the polling location, two angry white men followed and physically assaulted him leaving him for dead, as an act of intimidation. Reverend Dickerson spent a lifetime promoting justice and voter education/registration in his beloved North Louisiana community.

Inspired by the civic engagement of her father and her vision for youth empowerment, Mrs. Lamar launched a year-long voter registration campaign of youth in September 2019. "There is no more important work than deepening young people's engagement in our nation," she said. Voter registration is an exciting way for students to become involved in the political process. Less than half of all eligible young people voted in 2016.

Working collaboratively with Dallas County Elections and March to the Polls, a local nonprofit organization, we have registered over 1,000 new eligible youth voters in area high schools over the last month.

ENGAGE WITH US

- ✓ Build Awareness
- ✓ Find Opportunity
- ✓ Change Lives

One school has accepted our invitation to conduct its campaign as a senior class project. We will conduct voter registration of those students in February 2020. This will enable the class to use service learning critical components: preparation, action, reflection and celebration.

A new way to vote is coming to Dallas in October/November 2019; are you ready? There will be new equipment available and you can cast your ballot in any precinct in Dallas County.

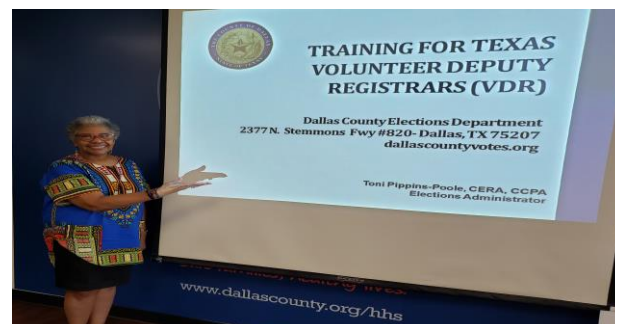
Website: www.dallascountyvotes.org
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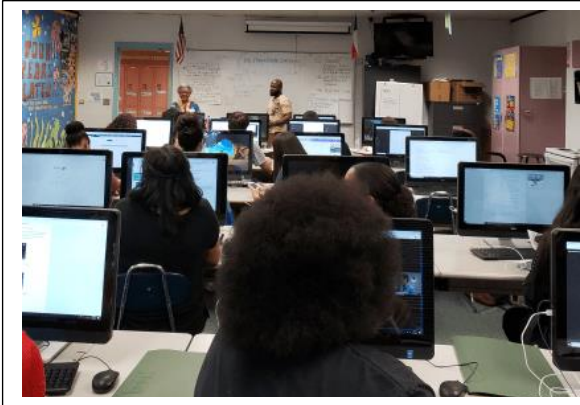
Voter registration deadlines are quickly approaching for 2020 primary elections. Don't delay, register today.

If you are turning 18 by election dates, you can register and vote. Do it now!

Become a good citizen and vote!

There are 10 proposed amendments on the November 5, 2019 ballot. Early Voting: October 21-November 1. Become knowledgeable on them.





Civic Engagement

A partnership between local schools and the community allows Dickerson Center to carry out its service learning mission that links service to classroom curriculum. Our classroom interactions with students allow Deputy Voter Registrars to brainstorm with them regarding voting as a right and responsibility. We emphasize to students that civic engagement is the key to making our democracy work and it depends on informed citizens of every age.

We also share a bit of voting history. Acquiring access to the ballot was a milestone in the path to full civil rights for minorities and women. Securing the right to vote represents political freedom and the right to self-government. The right to vote was extended to all men in 1870 and to women in 1920. The Civil Rights Acts of 1957 and 1964 respectively strengthened federal authority and expanded federal guarantees of civil rights in voting. Despite these guarantees, state and local governments used gerrymandering and literacy tests to defeat and discourage minority voting. Disenfranchisement was supposed to end after passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which authorized the federal government to monitor voter registration practices and elections where populations were historically underrepresented, and to enforce constitutional voting rights.

It is estimated that 14 million people in the U. S. will turn 18 by November 2020. We will help raise awareness for this demographic and seek to equip them with knowledge and skills to become next generation leaders.



Volunteers Are Needed

We ask others to join in our campaign to register eligible youth voters.

Go to Website:
www.dallascountyvotes.org

Attend Deputy Voter Registrar training which qualifies one to register voters.

Email us at
contact@dickersonciviccenter.org to volunteer.

Donations

We appreciate our donors who provide financial support for resources to carry out service learning activities in schools to empower tomorrow's leaders. Your financial donation to our 501 (c)(3) is tax deductible.

Direct your support to
<http://dickersonciviccenter.org/support-dccr/>

Or

Mail to:
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Website: www.dickersonciviccenter.org