

NORTHAMPTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Office of Student Life & Leadership Development
Center for Community, Equity, and Inclusion



Democratic Engagement Action Plan

**NORTHAMPTON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**



Message from the Office of Student Life & Leadership Development

The Office of Student Life & Leadership Development (SLLD) & the Center for Community Equity & Inclusion (CCEI) are the core components of Northampton Community College's (NCC) commitment to student engagement. Through the myriad of programs and activities coordinated through the CCCE, NCC continues to prepare the next generation of leaders.

At the beginning of the 2023-2024 academic year, the Center for Community and Civic Engagement was rebranded as the Center for Community, Equity, and Inclusion. This office implemented a Democracy Fellow position held by a faculty member to handle implementing civic related programming. The Office of Student Life & Leadership Development has taken on the task of voter engagement through registration, education, and programming as well.

Regardless, NCC's commitment to democratic engagement remains strong as the two offices work together on programmatic initiatives. We will continue to ensure that our students develop the skills, knowledge and dispositions associated with civic engagement; thereby empowering them to have their voice heard and feel empowered through voting and democratic engaging with their local and state governments.

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Executive Summary

Since 1967, NCC has educated over 400,000 students and grown to become the region's largest, most diverse open-access postsecondary institution. NCC offers more than 100 college degree, certificate, specialized diploma, and enrichment programs to more than 28,000 credit, non-credit, and community education students each year at its three Pennsylvania campuses: Main in Bethlehem Township, Monroe in Tannersville, and Fowler Family Southside Center in the city of Bethlehem. NCC is often the only viable college option for underserved students.

NCC has the highest number and percent of minority students in the three-county region representing roughly 56% of the combined student body of our three campus located in Northampton and Monroe counties. 67% of NCC's students receive Pell Grants.

NCC is committed to our students' success as evidenced by its mission: *Recognizing that students are the primary reason that Northampton Community College exists, we seek to provide excellent, accessible, and comprehensive learning experiences in partnership with the dynamic, diverse communities we serve.*

The following list highlights various accomplishments and efforts to enhance civic learning and democratic engagement in recent years:

- NCC earned a Silver Seal for nonpartisan student voter participation in the 2020 election.
- NCC was listed in the 2021 Washington Monthly Honor Roll, as one of America's Best Colleges for Student Voting.
- NCC was given the designation of Highly Established Action Plan for 2022 by All In.
- Student Life & Leadership Development facilitated approximately 15 civic education/engagement programs and activities to increase student voting during the spring 2022 and fall 2023 calendar year as of developing this report.
- The Office of Student Life & Leadership Development re-established a relationship with national partner The Andrew Goodman Foundation through their Vote Everywhere initiative and selected two students to serve as NCC Votes Ambassadors.
- NCC Votes Ambassadors have become an integral part of the Student Life Office staff and work to plan programming and host weekly voter education tables.

The development and implementation of the Democratic Engagement Plan is rooted in the original work of the former Center for Community and Civic Engagement with edits, updates, and execution the Office of Student Life & Leadership Development. This plan was developed to serve as a working document that will guide our efforts in highlighting our goals and the strategies needed to achieve those goals.

Leadership

Civic & Democratic Engagement

The Offices of Student Life and Leadership Development and the Center for Community, Equity, and Inclusion primarily serve as the resources on campus which provide programming and education around voter and civic engagement. These departments work collaboratively to review and discuss programs and activities highlighted in the plan. The Office of Student Life and Leadership Development serves as the primary department that implements the mission and vision outlined in this plan.

Leadership Structure for Civic & Democratic Engagement Programs & Initiatives

Office of Student Life & Leadership Development

- Doug Smith, Director of Student Life & Leadership Development
- Nykolai Blichar, Assistant Director & Andrew Goodman Foundation NCC Campus Champion
- 2 Federal Work Study NCC Votes Ambassadors

Center for Community, Equity, & Inclusion

- Gina Turner, Executive Director of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
- Sam Chen, Democracy Fellow & Political Science Faculty Member

In addition to the names listed above, the Office of Student Life & Leadership Development has established an official partnership with the New Pennsylvania Project, a non-partisan voter registration organization that helps students get registered to vote.

Commitment

Educating for civic learning and democratic engagement is a hallmark of NCC's institutional culture. NCC is committed to inspiring our students to be informed and active citizens through a myriad of engagement opportunities coordinated by SLLD & CCEI. The following highlights NCC's efforts and strategies to foster civic/democratic engagement among students, faculty, and staff:

Strategic Planning

In the fall of 2023, The Office of Student Life & Leadership Development as well as the Center for Community, Equity, and Inclusion assumed the role of enforcing the previous mission created for the former Center for Community & Civic Engagement which includes:

- ✓ **Mission** - *To provide enhanced programs, valuable services and sustained partnerships that encourage students, faculty and staff to be agents of change.*
- ✓ **Vision** - *Inspire the campus community to be civically minded and make a difference around the globe.*
- ✓ **Values** – *Both Student Life & Leadership Development & the Center for Community, Equity, & Inclusion are committed to the following foundations:*
 - Supporting the appreciation, understanding, & advocacy for equity, diversity, and inclusion in conjunction with the College's position statement.
 - Developing meaningful life skills, encouraging personal achievement, and developing involved and responsible citizens.
 - Understanding that social outlets and fun can develop valuable skills.

NCC's mission, vision and values serve as the foundation of the college's commitments to meet the needs of our students through numerous programs and projects that align with the college's six Strategic Focus Areas:

- i. **Enhancing Student Access:** Create multiple pathways and reduce barriers to college entry through collaborative work with our school district and workforce partners, while offering quality, affordable, and responsive educational opportunities for all of our student populations.
- ii. **Inspiring Academic Excellence:** Engaging students with high-quality instruction delivered by experienced, professional, and dedicated faculty following best practices in an engaging, dynamic, and collaborative environment to support learning.
- iii. **Fostering Diversity and Global Engagement:** Encourage and expand the vast diversity we celebrate at NCC and learn from our unique perspectives while preparing our students to navigate the complexities and nuances of our world.
- iv. **Engaging with our Communities:** Engage and develop the internal and external communities we serve in unique and collaborative ways, helping students to become better citizens and to further address the needs of our communities.

- v. **Advancing Excellence in Technology:** Supporting our students, by providing faculty and staff with technology that will empower and inspire them to deliver the most effective teaching and instructional support for all learners
- vi. **Increasing Student Retention, Completion, and Transfer:** Align the College's practices, strategies, policies, and procedures to provide a comprehensive student experience that will promote students' success in attaining the degree, credential, or endeavor sought.

While the strategic plan has 6 areas of focus, the overarching goal of SLLD & CCEI closely aligns with Strategic Area Focus #4 (Engaging With Our Communities). As programs offered by SLLD & CCEI have increased, democratic engagement activities have become a core aspect of our student offerings and spurred campus-wide involvement in similar initiatives. Programs and events are based on current issues that affect local, state, national and global communities.

Recognition and Achievement

Over the years, NCC has been recognized for its commitment to civic and democratic engagement. The U.S. Department of Education and the Corporation for the National Community Service has awarded NCC designation on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the past ten years. This award is granted to colleges like NCC for their extraordinary and exemplary community service contributions of its students, faculty, and staff in meeting critical community and national needs. In 2022, NCC was part of the All IN Campus Challenge, received recognition for the Highly Established Action Plan and Most Engaged Campus for College Student Voting.

NCC is one of the 240 colleges and universities in the country to have earned the prestigious Carnegie Community Engagement Classification in 2008 and again in 2015 through 2025. The Carnegie Community Engagement Classification recognizes a college's commitment to community engagement. Drawing its criteria heavily from Campus Compact's Indicators of Engagement Project, the classification reaffirms institutional commitment to deepen the practice of service and to further strengthen bonds between campus and community. This classification was conferred to NCC after a rigorous submission and evaluation process including accreditation review of documented materials describing the nature and extent of our engagement with the community locally or beyond. Achieving the Carnegie Classification signifies that NCC is a campus where community engagement is not just a priority, but also a practice that is demonstrated in outstanding and meaningful ways.

Integration of Democratic Engagement in Curriculum and Campus Activities

Evidence of NCC's commitment to embedding the ideals of civic learning and democratic engagement in students' academic programs and co-curricular activities include, but are not limited to the following:

Curriculum

- ***Criminal Justice:*** Teaches students how to decipher patterns of human behavior, legal and ethical responsibilities, and how data on crime and prevention is collected and reported. Courses also cover psychological and sociological theories of crime causation,

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as well as fundamentals of criminal law, criminal procedure, civil law and the courts and our faculty bring valuable, real-world experience into every classroom.

- **Women’s and Gender Studies:** Integrates gender theory and the impact of gender on the human condition through gender-focused courses in psychology, sociology, literature, and political science.
- **Political Science:** Focuses on basic issues including political theory, comparative political institutions, dominant ideologies and ideas, the importance of law, the domestic and Third World struggles for civil and political equality and international relations.
- **Sociology:** Examines current social problems in the United States from the major theoretical perspectives in sociology; substance abuse, crime and violence, family problems, ageism, sexism, racism, problems relating to work, education, urbanization, technology, health care, population, and the environment.

Co-Curriculum & Campus Activities

- **Community College Initiative:** One of the CCI program goals is “*to provide opportunities to engage students in civil society through professional internships, service learning and community engagement activities.*” The implementation of the CCI program at NCC is essential because it not only creates an opportunity for international students to attend NCC for one year of study, but also supports the United States’ efforts in the strengthening of diversity, equity, and inclusion within the educational system.
- **Black Student Union:** The Black Student Union serves as a social, intellectual and political community for students of the African Diaspora with the mission of increasing Black cultural awareness through unity, respect, and self-consciousness (awareness).
- **Political Science Club:** A non-partisan group open to all NCC students regardless of major. It promotes student awareness in the political process and world events through panel discussions, voter registration drives, and educational trips.
- **Hispanic American Culture Club:** The Hispanic American Culture Club promotes and educates about Hispanic Culture.
- **Women’s Club:** Promotes women’s culture and awareness and expands the educational experience of women at NCC.
- **NCC Pride:** Promotes social opportunities for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and questioning students and their straight allies. We participate in local and national campaigns to raise awareness and educate our school and local community on LGBTQIA issues.

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Collaboration and Partnership

NCC continues to maintain a non-partisan stance and affiliations with various nationally recognized civic professional entities which include, but are not limited to the following:

- **New Pennsylvania Project:** A nonpartisan voting rights organization with a year-round focus on voter registration.
- **Civic Holidays:** a non-partisan organization that works with college campuses to promote non-partisan civic days of action that strengthen and celebrate our nation's democracy.
- **ALL IN-Campus Democracy Challenge:** A national awards program that encourages higher education institutions to help students form the habits of active and informed citizenship
- **The Andrew Goodman Foundation:** A nonpartisan organization that supports youth leadership development, voting accessibility, and social justice initiatives on campuses across the country.
- **Campus Compact - Newman Civic Fellowship:** A fellowship that recognizes and supports community-committed students who are change-makers and public problem-solvers.

Assessment and Report

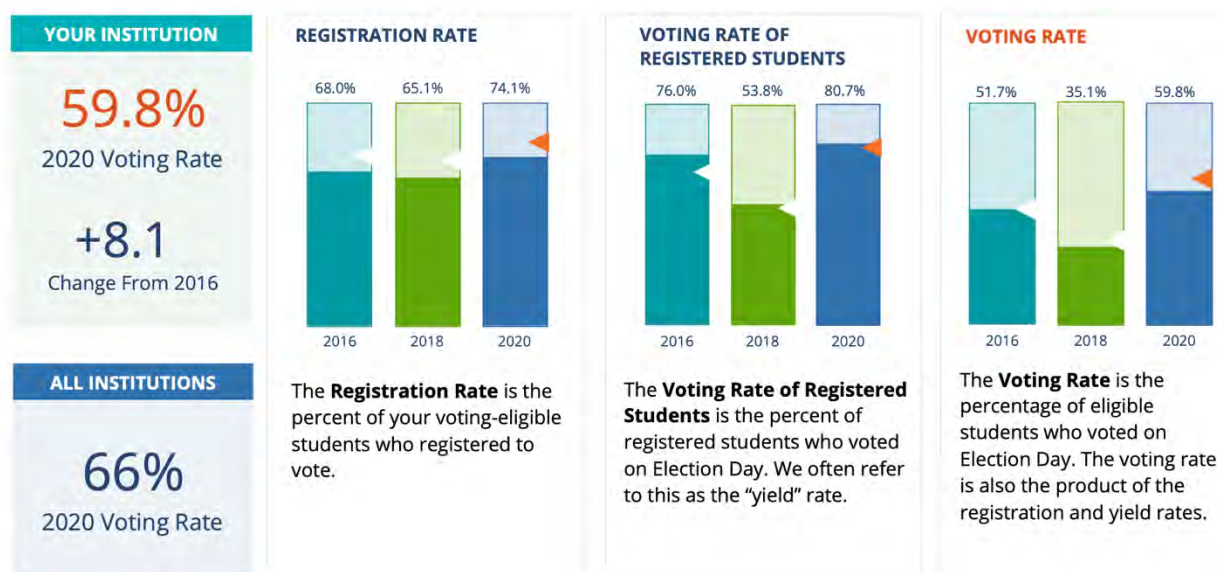
Assessment is of great importance in examining various efforts in increasing student participation in the areas of voter registration, education, and participation. NCC is continually improving in their assessment efforts in the area of civic and community engagement through the following:

National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE)

NCC assesses students' voter engagement through the data from National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement's (NSLVE) study and signed up to participate to receive the most recent data. According to the NSLVE's 2020 Campus Report published in October 2021, NCC students' voting engagement improved by 8.1%. This data is currently out of date, but is the most relevant information considering it was taken from a presidential election which can be used comparatively to prepare and strategize our campus engagement for the 2024 election cycle. SLLD is utilizing this data to assess target areas for voter engagement and education with student

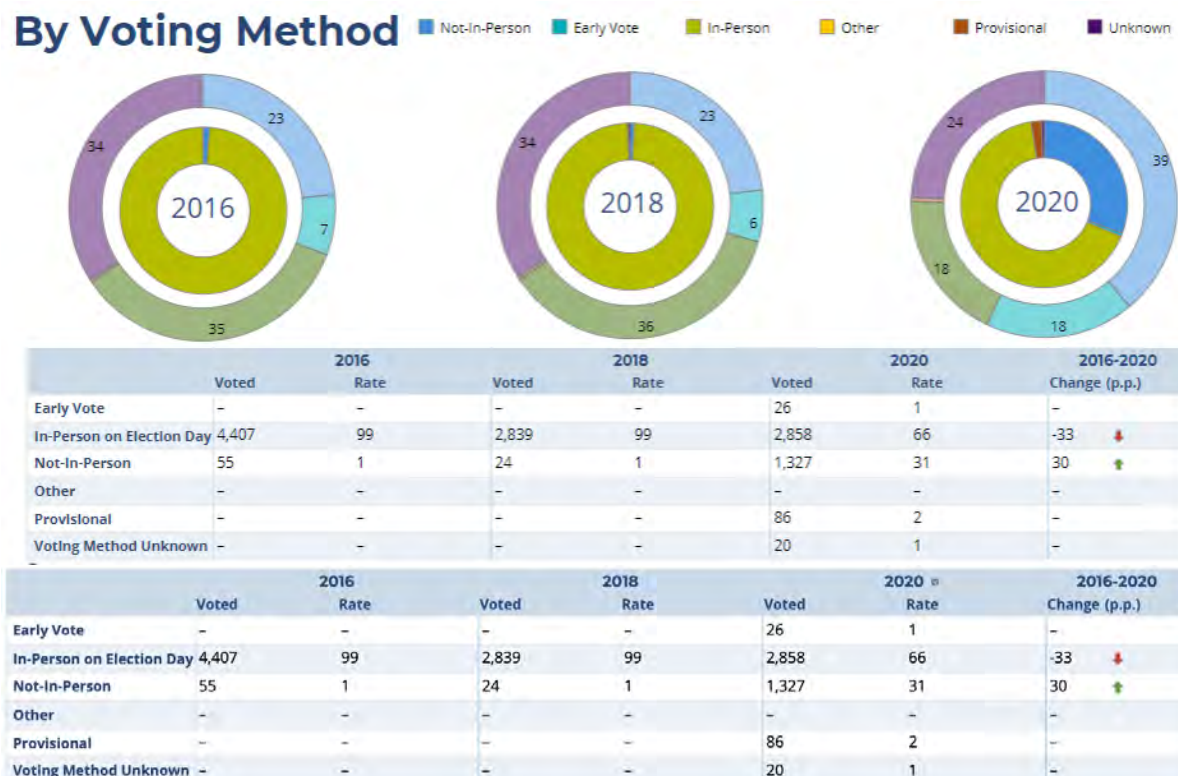
populations based on participation in the most recent presidential election. **It should be noted that as of writing this report, the most recent NSLVE report has not yet been released.**

Figure 1: Overall Student Voting Rate



Arrows to the right of each bar represent relevant national averages (medians), which you can find in IDHE’s national report Democracy Counts 2020.

Figure 2: Student Voting Rate by Method



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Figure 3: Comparison of Student Voting by Race and Ethnicity

By Race / Ethnicity

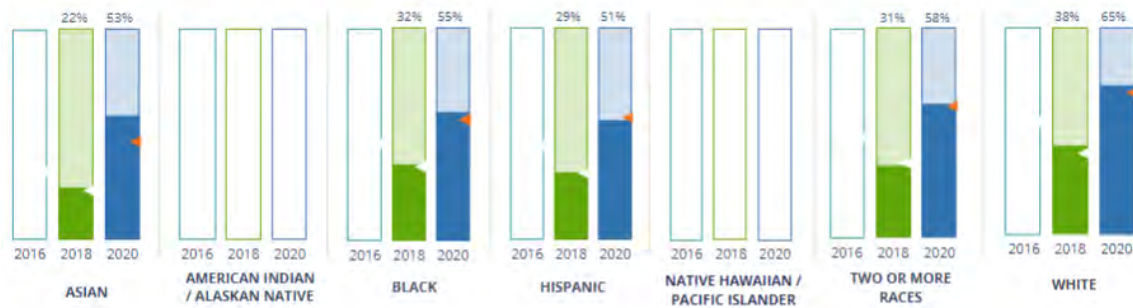


Figure 4: Comparison of Student Voting by Gender

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Female	-	-	-	5,015	1,741	35	4,714	2,760	59	-
Male	-	-	-	3,292	1,132	34	2,571	1,557	61	-

Figure 5: Comparison of Student Voting by Age

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
18-21	4,587	2,226	49	4,419	1,407	32	3,777	2,228	59	↑ 10
22-24	1,367	651	48	1,163	368	32	1,036	597	58	↑ 10
25-29	1,121	540	48	1,078	373	35	973	537	55	↑ 7
30-39	957	556	58	941	346	37	887	525	59	↑ 1
40-49	489	332	68	480	236	49	435	286	66	↓ -2
50+	233	162	70	226	143	63	177	144	81	↑ 12

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Figure 6: Comparison by Education Level/Undergraduate Class Year

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change (p.p)	
EDUCATION LEVEL											
Undergraduate	8,431	4,279	51	8,090	2,763	34	7,052	4,150	59	+ 8	
Graduate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Class Unknown	323	188	58	217	110	51	233	167	72	+ 13	
CLASS YEAR											
First Year	3,041	46	1,414	1,747	27	475	1,553	51	795	+ 5	
Second Year	5,713	53	3,053	6,556	37	2,397	5,732	61	3,522	+ 8	
Upper Level	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ENROLLMENT STATUS											
Full-time	-	-	-	3,978	1,289	32	3,378	1,962	58	-	
Part-time	-	-	-	4,329	1,584	37	3,907	2,355	60	-	

Figure 7: Comparison by Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	359	180	50	295	112	38	278	159	57	↑ 7	
Business, Management, and Marketing	1,154	611	53	1,061	341	32	943	555	59	↑ 6	
Communication and Journalism	176	101	57	141	63	45	106	70	66	↑ 9	
Communications Technologies/Technicians	107	59	55	115	47	41	108	74	69	↑ 13	
Computer and Information Sciences	420	211	50	424	165	39	352	212	60	↑ 10	
Construction Trades	34	17	50	51	17	33	37	21	57	↑ 7	
Education	368	190	52	426	147	35	418	249	60	↑ 8	

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FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p-p)	
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	355	184	52	311	112	36	252	143	57	↑	5
Health Professions	564	295	52	662	225	34	844	497	59	↑	7
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protec..	491	215	44	470	136	29	368	202	55	↑	11
Legal Professions and Studies	76	41	54	65	28	43	71	50	70	↑	16
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	3,274	1,640	50	2,991	985	33	2,113	1,226	58	↑	8
Mathematics and Statistics	17	-	-	19	-	-	16	-	-	-	-
Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Techni..	183	93	51	160	44	28	87	50	57	↑	7
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	22	11	50	16	-	-	18	13	72	↑	22
Natural Resources and Conservation	45	27	60	60	33	55	45	33	73	↑	13
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu..	98	38	39	76	14	18	68	31	46	↑	7
Personal and Culinary Services	75	38	51	75	26	35	40	33	83	↑	32
Physical Sciences	58	32	55	61	18	30	36	26	72	↑	17
Precision Production	13	-	-	45	17	38	25	17	68	-	-
Psychology	64	25	39	77	27	35	368	199	54	↑	15

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p-p)	
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	173	90	52	166	60	36	178	96	54	↑	2
Visual and Performing Arts	354	192	54	314	129	41	277	182	66	↑	11
Unknown	271	166	61	224	113	50	237	169	71	↑	10

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Landscape

Our 2023-2024 programming is deeply influenced by our student demographics and lessons learned from our past efforts, as well as the changing climate after the height of the COVID pandemic. Educational programming is extremely important in improving voter engagement because it helps students see beyond partisan politics and make connections between the issues that are critical to them and their vote. Student Engagement is at its highest with community-informed programming. Modifying our student worker program, providing sub-grants and increasing co-sponsored events will improve cross department collaborations and encourage student-led programming. Engagement programming will address these challenges by providing a living wage, offering meals and other support, allowing students to participate in civic engagement opportunities on campus.

It should be noted that our Monroe campus has experienced several changes in staffing positions that have specifically focused on implementing civic engagement related programming. With those changes and re-structuring, plans to re-implement voter and civic engagement initiatives is on-going.

Within NCC, civic learning and democratic engagement initiatives have been fully supported by all levels of administration in terms of leadership, funding, faculty, staff, and students. NCC currently participates in several activities and events related to civic learning and democratic engagement, coordinated through Student Life & Leadership Development and the Center for Community, Equity, & Inclusion. Those activities include, but are not limited to the following:

2023 Lobby Day

NCC continues to encourage students to participate in Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges' Annual Lobby Day at the Capitol. Through participation in Lobby Day, students can get involved and make their voices heard. Ten NCC students, along with NCC staff participated in the events. Legislative Attendees include Rep. Zach Mako, Rep. Ann Flood, Rep. Steve Samuelson, Rep. Jeanne McNeil, Sen. Lisa Boscola, Rep. Jack Rader, Sen. Rosemary Brown, Rep. Tarah Probst, and Rep. Maureen Madden.

Interactive Forums and Information Sessions

Interactive Forums and Information Sessions focus on increasing understanding of contemporary social issues in local and global communities. Topics for the 2023-2024 academic year have included thus far: (a) Supreme Court Decisions from Summer 2023 and Their Impact, (b) Understanding the results and recap of the 2023 Municipal Elections, (c) The Civic Circle, (d) The state of democracy in the United States (planned for spring 2024), Generation Revolution film screening & discussion (planned for spring 2024)

2023 Constitution Day

NCC hosted its annual Constitution Day activities with a new twist. Along with informational slides being broadcasted on screens around campus, there was an opportunity to take part of the naturalization quiz for prizes in an interactive forum. Constitutions were available and a voter registration activity ran most of the day.

National Voter Education Week and Vote Early Day

NCC believes that all voters should have access to the tools and information they need to be confident voters. The office of Student Life and Leadership Development sponsored a social media campaign on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram during National Voter Education Week promoting a different voter engagement activity each day including (a) Registering to vote, (b) Requesting a mail-in ballot, (c) Making a plan to vote, (d) Learning what's on an individual's ballot and (e) Encouraging others to partake in the previous steps.

The campaign also promoted Vote Early Day, to further encourage voter participation and engagement. Tabling on October 28th and literature across campus helped spread the word. Every post encourages students to contact the Student Life Office if they have any questions about or need assistance with the voting process.

National Voter Registration Day at NCC

NCC is committed to strengthening our democracy by encouraging faculty, staff, and students to register to vote and get #VoteReady. On 2023 National Voter Registration Day, the Student Life and Leadership Development team coordinated a voter registration table at the Bethlehem which assisted students with registration, mail ballot applications, and updating voter information.

Spring 2024 Activities and Events

Thanks to the re-establishment of our partnership with the Andrew Goodman Foundation and the implementation of our NCC Votes Ambassadors, we have a number of civic and democratic related programming that we will be organizing for the spring. Twice a week leading up to the primary elections, the NCC Votes Ambassadors will be hosting voter education tables throughout the campus. We have also partnered with the New Pennsylvania Project to provide voter registration support at both the Bethlehem and Monroe campuses. There are also at least three civically focused programs that will be hosted including "The Democracy Wall" a speaker's panel on the state of democracy in the United States, and a film showing of Revolution Generation with a discussion afterwards.

2024 Lobby Day

NCC continues to encourage students to participate in Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges' Annual Lobby Day at the Capitol. Through participation in Lobby Day, students can get involved and make their voices heard. We will once again be meeting with several legislators that represent districts where Northampton Community College students are from. Students will be joined on Lobby Day by several administrators and college representatives.

Goals

The following tables highlight the two Democratic Engagement goals and timeline for the implementation of the goals and strategies.

Table 1: Democratic Engagement Goals

Democratic Engagement Goal #1: Voter/Political Engagement			
<i>Increase the voting rates of students</i>			
Strategies	CDEC Lead Persons (Bethlehem Campus)	CDEC Lead Persons (Monroe Campus)	Status
Collaborate with Financial Aid Office to hire positions through Federal Work Study (FWS) to support voter/political engagement efforts and financially support work study/financial aid eligible NCC students participating in community services including voter engagement activities.	Nykolai Blichar	Erin Lindermuth	Achieved on the Bethlehem campus as of Fall 2023 Paused at the Monroe Campus
Sustain partnerships with Andrew Goodman Vote Everywhere Program, Campus Vote Project, and Students Learn Students Vote Coalition	Nykolai Blichar, Doug Smith and Dr. Sedgwick Harris	Doug Smith and Dr. Sedgwick Harris	Ongoing at the Bethlehem campus. Partnerships have been re-established with the Andrew Goodman Foundation. Paused at the Monroe Campus
Institutionalize voter registration by embedding voter registration information (Residence Halls, first year seminars, student programming and activities, and the voter registration portal created for us by All IN Democracy Challenge, etc.)	Nykolai Blichar, Doug Smith, Gina Turner, & Sam Chen	Dr. Precie Shroyer	Completed and Ongoing
Encourage participation in democratic/political engagement related events (Summits, National Voter Education Day, National Voter Registration Day, Constitution Day, Vote Early Day, Get-Out-The-Vote Campaign, etc.)	Nykolai Blichar, Doug Smith, Gina Turner, Sam Chen	Dr. Precie Shroyer	Completed and Ongoing
Implement voter reminders into the student app “NCCGo”	Nykolai Blichar & Doug Smith	Dr. Precie Shroyer	Not yet started

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Democratic Engagement Goal #2: Civic Education/Learning

Promote learning on 'Engaged Citizenship' among NCC students, faculty and staff to increase their understanding and awareness of the Democratic Process, Voter Rights, Census, Our Electoral Process, Impeachment, Civic Duties, etc.

Strategies	CDEC Lead Persons (Bethlehem Campus)	CDEC Lead Persons (Monroe Campus)	Status
Regular Participation in Campus Compact's Newman Civic Fellowship	Doug Smith and Dr. Sedgwick Harris	Doug Smith and Dr. Sedgwick Harris	Completed and Ongoing
Increase social media and online engagement - frequent distribution of democracy fact sheets & election, video clips, certificates, and other resources via college's news outlets and social media platforms	Nykolai Blichar, Doug Smith and various NCC students and clubs	Dr. Precie Shroyer	Completed and Ongoing
Facilitate Info Sessions, Interactive Forums, etc. and encourage participation	Nykolai Blichar, Doug Smith and Dr. Gina Turner	Dr. Precie Shroyer	Completed and Ongoing
Review assessment data to update and improve programs and activities (NSLVE Report)	Dr. Gina Turner, Nykolai Blichar, Doug Smith, and Kristie Miers	Doug Smith, and Dr. Precie Schroyer	Upcoming for the 2023 NSLVE Report
Collaborate with Academic Affairs division to implement a structure for faculty to incorporate democratic engagement components in their curriculum	Dr. Marc Singer	Dr. Precie Shroyer	Ongoing
Facilitate specific programming on social justice through the lens of civic engagement	Doug Smith, Nykolai Blichar, Dr. Gina Turner, Sam Chen, & Mel Sivells	Doug Smith	Completed and Ongoing

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Table 2: Spring 2024 Timeline for Implementation of Goals/Strategies - Subject to Change

	Activity Type	Target Audience	Status/Date
January/ February	Nominate the 2024-2025 Newman Civic Fellows	Students	Due date of March 1, 2024
	Voter Registration support provided by New Pennsylvania Project (starting Jan)	Students, Staff, Faculty	Every week leading up to the voter registration deadline
	Voter Education Tables provided by the NCC Votes Ambassadors (starting Jan)	Students, Faculty and Staff	Twice a week leading up to the April Primary
	The Democracy Wall: What Does Democracy Mean to You? Event	Students, Faculty and Staff	Scheduled for 02/13/2024
	Voter Registration at the Community Resource Fair	Students, Faculty and Staff	Scheduled for 02/21/2024
	NCCGo Student Voting Reminders	Students	Ongoing (targeted completion for February for all voter related deadlines)
	TEDxNorthampton Community College Live	Students, Staff, & Faculty	04/15/2023
March	Voter Education Tables	Students, Faculty and Staff	Twice a week leading up to the April Primary
	Voter registration support provided by the New Pennsylvania Project (ongoing)	Students, Faculty and Staff	Once a week leading up to voter registration deadline
	Lobby Day 2024	Students, Faculty and Staff	Date not yet released by the PA Commission for Community Colleges
April/May	Voter Education Tables	Students, Faculty and Staff	Twice a week leading up to the April Primary
	State of US Democracy Panel	Students, Faculty, and Staff	Scheduled for 04/18/2024

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 SLLD – Student Life & Leadership Development
 CCEI – Center for Community, Equity, & Inclusion
 NSLVE – National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement

Table 3: Fall 2024 Timeline for Implementation of Goals/Strategies – Subject to Change

	Activity Type	Target Audience	Status/Date
August	Weekly Voter Registration Drives leading up to Election Day provided by New Pennsylvania Project	Students, staff, & faculty	Planning
	Weekly Voter Education Tabling throughout campus starting in August up until the November election	Students, staff, & faculty	Planning
	Recruit polls workers for the general election as a form of civic and community service	Students	Planning
September	Implement NCCGo message reminders for fall election deadlines and dates	Students	Planning
	1 st Presidential Debate Watch Party	Students, staff, & faculty	Planning for 09/16/2024
	National Voter Registration Day & Constitution Day (Duel Programming)	Students, staff, and faculty	Planning for 09/17/2024
	Vice-Presidential Debate Watch Party	Students, staff, & faculty	Planning for 09/25/2024
	Establish partnership with Lyft to provide free rides to the polls on Election Day for students	Students, staff, & faculty	Planning
October	National Voter Education Week (multiple events to be planned throughout the week) Events to be included in this week: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Candidates Forum - Current Issues Roundtable 	Students, staff, & faculty	Planning for October (<i>Dates not released yet by national partner</i>)
	Vote Early Day	Students, staff, & faculty	Planning (<i>Dates not released yet by national partner</i>)
	2 nd Presidential Debate Watch Party	Students, staff, & faculty	Planning for 10/01/2024
	Final Presidential Debate Watch Party	Students, staff, & faculty	Planning for 10/09/2024
November	Election Hero Day	Students, staff, & faculty	Planning (<i>Dates not released yet by national partner</i>)

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Reporting

The Democratic Engagement Plan will first be shared among administrators and departments/offices that serve as stakeholders in promoting civic engagement. After review and approval of senior administration, efforts highlighted in this plan will be shared with NCC, posted on the Student Life & Leadership Development civic engagement webpage and shared with the All In campus Democracy Challenge and other external organizations. Furthermore, updates and information will be shared through social media channels and other college news outlets. The NSLVE report will be included on the Student Life & Leadership Development Civic Engagement webpage and disseminated through virtual campus channels.

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Evaluation

Evaluation plays an enormous role in our efforts to effectively enhance student participation in voter/political engagement and civic education. The evaluation process includes the following steps:

STEP 1 - Develop Problem Statement and Hypothesis

The Student Life Director in collaboration with the Assistant Director of Student Life will collaborate with CCEI to determine the areas that need to be evaluated (voting rate, civic-mindedness, program/activity impact, etc.). Based on the selected area(s), the relevance of the problem is highlighted. Further, the hypothesis provides a specific direction and a better understanding of the rationale for the evaluation.

STEP 2 – Engage Stakeholders

Civic Engagement partners with NCC’s Office of Institutional Effectiveness in the administration and analysis of National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement [NSLVE] and Civic Minded Survey. The Student Life Director & Assistant Director collaborates with CCEI staff to determine whether the evaluation should be conducted using all the datasets or specific dataset(s).

STEP 3 – Identify Models for Evaluation

SLLD & CCEI staff determine evaluation questions to ensure that all needs are met. For each evaluation process, two evaluation designs (Cross-Sectional and Longitudinal) are utilized and applied singly or simultaneously. The Cross-Sectional design examines the extent to which different types of students are civically engaged while the longitudinal design examines the changes in engagement over time (e.g. time of admission – time of graduation).

STEP 4 – Collect and Analyze Data

SLLD & CCEI collaborates with the Office of Institutional Effectiveness on data collection and analysis efforts. After data collection, strategies to analyze data include conducting and exploring statistical differences and similarities for quantitative data and identifying themes for qualitative data.

STEP 5 – Interpret and Disseminate Data Findings

SLLD & CCEI staff synthesize results to identify the findings that support and/or contradict the hypothesis/rationale of the evaluation. However, it is important to note that the process for the collection, interpretation and dissemination of NSLVE may vary based on delivery time of the report in relation to academic semesters.

STEP 6 – Integrate and Apply Evaluation Findings

The findings may or may not reveal gaps that need to be bridged and conditions that need improvement or elimination. Based on the findings, SLLD & CCEI staff make informed decisions and adjust programs and services to improve the overall satisfaction and engagement of students at NCC.