



## Saint Michael's College 2024 Nonpartisan Democratic Engagement Action Plan

Developed by: Lara Scott

### Executive Summary:

This nonpartisan democratic engagement action plan was developed by Saint Michael's College in Vermont for the 2024 election. The purpose of this action plan is to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter registration, education, and turnout in the 2024 election. The goals for Saint Michael's College for the 2024 election are:

- To open conversations about voting across campus
- To offer thoughts and perspective in response to the question "why vote?"
- To raise awareness about how to register to vote
- To create opportunities for students to register to vote
- To create spaces for questions to be asked and dialogue to happen about up coming elections, voting, and registering to vote

### Leadership:

Our leadership team includes the following, campus groups, and organizations:

Lara Scott, Director of Mobilization of Volunteer Efforts (MOVE)

Secondary Contact Names:

- Julianne Giordano, Student
- Ava Madden, Student
- Jeff Ayers, Political Science
- Kerri Leach, Student Activities/SGA Advisor
- Linda Murphy, President's Office

### Commitment:

This is the first action plan that our institution has developed for ALL IN and we have strong across the College. While our new president has not signed ALL IN's President's Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation, we have received full support from the President's office to create and implement an action plan. Similarly, we have strong support from our Director of Student Activities who also advises the SGA, members of our SGA, students with an investment in the importance of voter registration, faculty in our Political Science department, and the director of our Institute for Global Engagement.

The Saint Michael's College vision includes a commitment to actively engaging students with ideas and assist students in creating new understandings. Nonpartisan democratic engagement requires critical thinking and reflective practice, both of which are strongly embedded in all classroom based learning as well as co-curricular opportunities in departments such as MOVE. Through curricular Community Engaged Learning (CEL), co-curricular service opportunities, our Fire/Rescue team, and commitment to the community through our Athletics program, to name a few, civic engagement is threaded throughout our campus experiences.

We aim to communicate our commitment to nonpartisan democratic engagement expectations within our Student Government Association, in informal conversations, and through opportunities for our students to register to vote.

### Landscape:

Saint Michael's College is a private 4 year institution and joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge in 2024. Our institution serves about 1400 students. The students at Saint Michael's College hail from 21 states and 15 countries with a majority of students from New England. We are an institution that is 92% residential with a small population of graduate students also integrated into the campus experience. There is a high percentage of student athletes at SMC.

### Goals:

Our institution's nonpartisan democratic engagement goals are:

- To assist 25 students in registering to vote in 2024
- To engage in conversation with 25 students about opportunities to vote in 2024

### Strategy:

Saint Michael's College will implement these strategies to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter participation.

- Table for the campus community in April 2024
- Table for the campus community in September 2024
- Bring a speaker, in conjunction with Political Science Department, to campus
- Partner with SGA on efforts to raise awareness about up coming elections and create opportunities for students to register to vote

### Evaluation:

At this time, we will evaluate our initial efforts by actively tabling at the beginning of the academic year and keeping track of the number of students who register to vote at the table itself.

Saint Michael's College Our institution needs to reauthorize the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) in order to receive future campus voting data to help with the evaluation of our action plan and nonpartisan democratic engagement efforts.

### Reporting:

Our campus action plan will be posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website <https://allinchallenge.org/campuses/saint-michaels-college/>.

Saint Michael's College has given ALL IN permission to publish our past NSLVE reports, which can also be found on our campus page above.

We will share the action plan with the President's Office, Student Life Colleagues, and our SGA. We anticipate the action plan will also be posted on the MOVE webpage.