CALL TO ACTION: CT Civic Health Advisory Group Recommendations

People of all backgrounds, ages, education levels, and communities can join in improving the civic life of Connecticut. Yes, there are challenges across our state, but there are also many strengths and assets.

We call on everyone who cares about the civic health of our state to join us in working to create a strong “civic infrastructure” — one that creates welcoming opportunities for participation and problem-solving for everyone, at community, regional and state levels.

As you think about possibilities for your own action, think about how you are contributing to — or would like to contribute to — the following:

- **Opportunities for children** of all backgrounds and income levels to observe and participate in community problem-solving.
- **Hands-on civics education** for all children, in every school district, taught in ways that show how civics connects to daily life.
- **Preparing young people and young adults** for lives of engaged citizenship through education of civic and social responsibilities and engagement in community-strengthening efforts, both at institutions of higher education and within places of employment.
- **Opportunities for middle-aged and older adults** to find pathways to service that will benefit people of all generations.
- **Welcoming and culturally relevant ways** for recent immigrants to take part in civic and political life.
- **Opportunities for residents** to work with each other across racial and ethnic lines.
- **Creative ways to encourage and sustain engagement** among people of all backgrounds who have not felt welcome in the life of the community.
- **Opportunities for residents to work with each other** and with public officials to make a difference on local and state-level public problems.
- **Creative uses of social media** to connect all people to civic engagement opportunities and to the call for greater civic health.
- **Opportunities for people to form relationships** across town lines to make a difference on regional public issues.
- **Helping people connect** with their neighbors.
- **A culture of belonging and participation** that strives to create “One Connecticut” that works for all parts of our diverse state.
- **Ways to tell the story** of how we are improving our civic health and inspire others to make a difference.

There are many other ways to strengthen the civic health of our communities and state. We ask you to think about the ways that are most meaningful to you and the most meaningful and doable ways you want to contribute.