

More Perfect: Progress Report

Two years have passed since the 2023 More Perfect convening of founding partners, major philanthropic and field leaders, and other key stakeholders at the McChrystal Group headquarters for the *It's Our Democracy Summit* to co-create and pressure test More Perfect's Democracy Goals, targets, and plans to meet them. Following the Summit, the efforts of More Perfect and our partners have yielded transformational changes to further our [five Democracy Goals](#).

Yet, much remains to be done at a time that is particularly complex at the national level. In an ever-changing environment, our partners have remained agile and hopeful – finding opportunities to make progress and drive action for ongoing wins.

This report highlights key recent accomplishments and progress as we build momentum toward the 250th anniversary of independence in 2026 – and the decade beyond. The work of the More Perfect alliance continues to unfold in two key areas: 1) Advancing five foundational Democracy Goals and 2) leveraging the country's 250th birthday to launch civic learning and other initiatives.





Part I: An Overview of More Perfect

More Perfect is a bipartisan alliance of over [40 Presidential Centers and Sites](#) – from Washington’s Mount Vernon to the Obama Foundation – which are collaborating for the first time, and more than 130 organizations that have freely chosen to unite around a big idea – the advancement of five fundamental Democracy Goals. These goals are designed to drive greater strategic coherence and alignment across the democracy space and provide a framework for collective impact and investment as we strive to create a more perfect union.

Inspired by the [Our Common Purpose](#) report of the Commission on the Practice of Democratic Citizenship of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and wide-ranging consultations, including a review of other task force reports and nationally representative surveys of Americans, we identified five fundamental Democracy Goals to strengthen and renew our democracy. The **five Democracy Goals** are interrelated and have a compelling logic:



ONE

Universal Civic Learning so youth & adults understand democratic values, norms & institutions;



TWO

National Service & Volunteering as a rite of passage for civic engagement;



THREE

Bridging Divides & Building Trust to empower Americans with the shared experiences and skills to solve problems across differences;



FOUR

Trustworthy Elections & More Representative and Responsive Governance so government is fair, representative, and effective; and



FIVE

Access to Trusted News and Information for shared truth and accountability.

We believe these five goals reflect the key pillars of a resilient and vigorous democracy, and that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. We pressure tested these goals through outreach to more than 100 experts, organizations in the field, and philanthropies across America to develop clear, actionable, and measurable targets and plans to meet them for each goal and to inform investments that would generate greater returns. More Perfect assembled top leaders and institutions to serve as [Co-Chairs of each Democracy Goal](#) to drive progress and be accountable for results.

More Perfect and its partners are advancing the Democracy Goals across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to support our democracy and drive progress toward a more perfect union not only between now and the 250th anniversary of American independence in 2026 – but also through the 250th anniversary of the adoption of the U.S. Constitution in 2037. More Perfect and its partners are working to address urgent threats and opportunities, while recognizing that in some areas, transformational change takes more time.

“The only title in our democracy superior to the title of president is the title of citizen.”

JUSTICE LOUIS BRANDEIS

“Ours was the first revolution in history of mankind that truly reversed the course of government, and with three little words: ‘We the People.’ ‘We the People’ tell the government what to do; it doesn’t tell us.”

- PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN, FAREWELL ADDRESS



Part II: Highlights of Recent Accomplishments

Despite an ever-changing and turbulent political landscape, More Perfect and its partners have continued to make important strides toward achievement of the five Democracy Goals. The following are selected highlights of recent progress in (a) advancing the five Goals where More Perfect has played a central role; (b) initiatives More Perfect is spearheading to leverage the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 2026; (c) Presidential Center engagement.

TOPLINE PROGRESS ON THE FIVE DEMOCRACY GOALS

Democracy Goal 1: Universal Civic Learning

“If we want our democracy to thrive, we must commit to educating our youth about civics, and to helping young people understand their crucial role as informed, active citizens in their communities and in our nation.”

ASSOCIATE JUSTICE SANDRA DAY O’CONNOR,
FINAL REMARKS TO THE PUBLIC IN 2018

More Perfect and iCivics co-hosted a Summit and [announced](#) \$56.5 million in new philanthropic funding to expand civic learning and service opportunities nationwide. In celebration of Constitution Day, More Perfect and iCivics co-hosted on September 17, 2025, a Summit on [Civics, Citizenship, and the Constitution](#) at American University in Washington, D.C., and in partnership with the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, to rally key institutions and leaders around a civic education moonshot. More Perfect CEO John Bridgeland and Colleen Shogan, former Archivist of the United States and CEO of More Perfect’s In Pursuit initiative, called for such an effort in an op-ed in The Hill – [America Needs a Civic Education Moonshot Before It’s Too Late](#) – in June 2025.

The [Summit](#) advanced the mission of More Perfect and iCivics to catalyze a national upswing in civic energy as the nation approaches its 250th anniversary. Sponsors of the Summit included the Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands, Daniels Fund, Ibis Group, Jack Miller Center, Lumina Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, Seedlings Foundation, and Trust for the National Mall.



Civics, Citizenship, and the Constitution Summit, September 2025

Due in part to the increasing alignment of effort to the objectives of More Perfect's Democracy Goal 1, and presentations by our Democracy Goal 1 partners to 28 philanthropic leaders at More Perfect's Summit at Mount Vernon in February 2025, the Summit spurred \$56.5 million in new philanthropic commitments led by the **Carnegie Corporation of New York, Stand Together**, and the **Bezos Family Foundation**. The Chronicle of Philanthropy featured [this story](#) on the announcement. The new funding will propel a broad network of partners organized by More Perfect in collaboration with iCivics and the National Constitution Center to advance comprehensive civic education and engagement. Projects include:

- Delivering history & civics education to millions of children, youth, & adults
- Developing new technology & media for educators and students
- Launching civic learning programs focused on the country's 250th anniversary
- Creating opportunities in local communities to deepen civic engagement

According to the [2022 National Assessment of Educational Progress \(NAEP\) Civics Report Card](#), only 22 percent of eighth-graders are proficient in civics. With [surveys](#) also showing low levels of civic literacy among college students, and a [2024 study](#) from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation finding that more than 70 percent of Americans failed a basic civic literacy quiz and one in three Americans are unable to name or explain the three branches of the U.S. government, this investment in civic learning comes at a pivotal moment.

Ibis Group commits \$11.3M to advance Civic Learning. In December 2024, More Perfect [announced](#) the [Ibis Group](#)'s commitment of \$11.3 million in new investments to advance Democracy Goal 1 - Universal Civic Learning, galvanized by More Perfect's efforts to increase alignment of effort across the space to Democracy Goal 1's objectives and targets. The Ibis investments, directed to frontline partners and More Perfect, provide robust support to expand teacher training for high quality civic education; make civic learning a priority in schools, districts, and states; activate higher education in support of civic learning and engagement; put bridging divides at the center of education; ensure the 250th anniversary of the birth of the nation is a civic education moment to explore the past and inform the future; and track progress on key goals, targets, and metrics over time.

Our partners working together include the [Adams Presidential Center](#) (which hosts the consortium advancing the Educating for American Democracy Roadmap), [iCivics](#), Higher Education Democracy Initiative ([More Perfect](#), [Karsh Institute of Democracy at UVA](#), [Campus Compact](#) & [AAC&U](#)), [Democratic Knowledge Project](#), [America's 100 Documents](#) ([National Archives](#), [National Archives Foundation](#), [More Perfect](#)), [In Pursuit](#) ([More Perfect](#), [LBJ Presidential Foundation](#), [First Ladies Initiative at American University](#)), and [Declaration Book Club](#) ([Thomas Jefferson's Monticello](#) and [More Perfect](#)).

Democracy Goal 2:

National Service & Volunteering

"It is citizens – ordinary men and women, determined to forge their own future – who throughout history have sparked all the great change and progress."

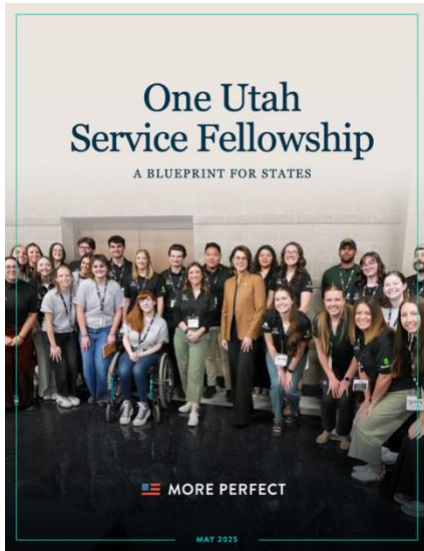
PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA, SPEAKING TO CLINTON GLOBAL INITIATIVE

State Innovations in National Service. In 2024, More Perfect, America's Service Commissions, and Service Year Alliance co-authored the [State Innovations in National Service](#) report as a plan of action for Governors and State Legislators to launch their own initiatives to advance Democracy Goal 2 and expand America's culture of national service and volunteering in States over the next decade. The report was supported by the Carnegie Corporation of New York and Schultz Family Foundation, and featured the creative ways in which Governors and States are expanding national service opportunities to address priorities, cultivate leadership skills, and prepare more people for the jobs of the future. Through the initiative, More Perfect is working with Governors across a dozen States to embed service year opportunities into their infrastructure. The entire effort has been supported by the Seedlings Foundation.

Also in 2024, More Perfect developed and launched – [with National Governors Association Chair Governor Spencer Cox](#) – Service Year Fellowships across the State of Utah, which marks the first adoption of a leading recommendation of the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service and a key provision in the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Law. The early results of [One Utah Service Fellowship](#) showcase the extraordinary progress that can be made across a State to expand national service opportunities and place talent into nonprofit and other community-based organizations in need of support.



State Innovations in National Service & Volunteering Report



One Utah Service Fellowship Report

In February 2025, More Perfect, at its gathering of leaders at George Washington’s Presidential Library at Mount Vernon, [announced Utah Governor Spencer Cox](#) as the first chair of State Innovations in National Service. This bipartisan effort, also supported by Maryland Governor Wes Moore, who worked with More Perfect leadership and Democracy Goal 2 partners on the creation of a Service Year Option, will work alongside Governors and other State leaders to develop comprehensive Service Year programs that seek to drive growth in national service participation. Since that time, More Perfect has tapped former Arkansas Governor and former National Governors Association Chair, Asa Hutchinson, to join its team and has already reached out to a dozen Governors to engage them in this work.

Democracy Goal 3: Bridging Divides & Building Trust

“Citizens, by birth or choice, of a common country, that country has a right to concentrate your affections. The name of American, which belongs to you in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of patriotism more than any appellation derived from local discriminations.”

PRESIDENT GEORGE WASHINGTON, FAREWELL ADDRESS ON HIS
DECLINING THE PRESIDENCY OF THE UNITED STATES

Helped Raise Support for the Trust for Civic Life. More Perfect has been supporting and raising funding for the Trust for Civic Life, a key target of Democracy Goal 3 – Bridging Divides & Building Trust. The Trust brings people together across differences to solve shared problems in rural communities and small towns where 20 percent of Americans live, but only 7 percent of philanthropy flows. The creation of the Trust was catalyzed by Stephen Heinz, Co-Chair of the National Commission on the Practice of Democratic Citizenship and Co-Chair of More Perfect, and is led by Executive Director Charlie Brown. Through a nomination process, the Trust funds [Civic Hubs](#) in rural and small-town America where civic infrastructure is often limited. The Trust has raised \$40.5 million so far, and aims to invest \$50 million into 500 communities by 2028. The funds support libraries, business associations, community foundations, real estate co-



Diverse community leaders find common ground regarding a controversial wind project in Tribal Lands. Photo courtesy Trust for Civic Life

ops, and other coalitions and entities that are spurring locally-led innovation, shared problem solving, and building civic trust.

This work comes at a time when participation in civic intermediary institutions and the trust they foster has seriously declined as catalogued by More Perfect National Advisory Council member Robert Putnam, John Bridgeland, and researchers in America's Civic Health Index with the [National Conference on Citizenship](#), which is authorized in the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Law to collect and report such data annually.

More Perfect & Mount Vernon Summit catalyzes \$3M in new investments in bridging. In February 2025, More Perfect, George Washington's Mount Vernon, Boeing Foundation, and the Annenberg Foundation at Sunnylands, co-hosted a convening at Mount Vernon bringing together the Co-Chairs of all of the Democracy Goals and civic, philanthropic, government, and business partners to discuss and pressure test updated strategies and targets to advance the Goals and identify what can be achieved with appropriate investment by the 250th.



Attendees of the Mount Vernon Summit, February 2025

Sessions led by the Democracy Goal Co-Chairs inspired many of the 28 philanthropic leaders who participated. For example, more than \$3M of support was generated for a key Democracy Goal 3 partner, the [American Exchange Project](#), which connects high school students to one another and their country through a free, domestic, and intercultural exchange program that is evaluated for its enduring effects. The summit prompted More Perfect to work with [More In Common](#) to identify a dozen efforts across America that are having outsized results in bridging divides, building trust, and putting Americans into shared work. The research will also share what we have learned about the enduring effects of such efforts. Finally, the summit resulted in George Washington's Mount Vernon, the Listen First Project, and More Perfect co-hosting the [Bridging Movement Summit 2025](#) on September 24-26, 2025.

Democracy Goal 4:

Trustworthy Elections & More Representative & Responsive Governance

“In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: you must first enable the government to control the governed, and in the next place oblige it to control itself.”

JAMES MADISON, FEDERALIST NO. 51

Supporting Veterans Groups to Close the Poll Worker Gap. In October 2024, More Perfect collaborated with [Blue Star Families](#) on a [Pulse Poll of veterans and military families](#) with the [Vet the Vote](#) coalition that led to an editorial, [Military Families Still Trust Our Elections, You Should Too](#) by Blue Star Families CEO Kathy Roth-Douquet and More Perfect CEO John Bridgeland. The survey and op-ed showcased that veterans and military families have much higher levels of trust in our elections, and serve as poll workers at nearly twice the rate of the general population. More Perfect provided financial support to [We the Veterans](#), which recruited and mobilized 141,000 poll workers, helping to close the one million national poll worker gap identified by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in the 2024 Presidential election. More Perfect also supported civic education efforts in battleground States to inform Americans about how elections work, the checks in place to prevent error or fraud, and how individuals can serve as poll workers or election officials.

Joint Statement on Trust in Elections.

More Perfect released in early November 2024 a [Joint Statement on Trust in Elections as a Cornerstone of American Democracy](#) that more than 100 former U.S. Senators, Members of Congress, Governors, White House officials from both parties, and top-ranking military veterans signed to affirm the critical importance of trust in America’s elections and the peaceful transfer of power.



Speakers at Principles for Trusted Elections, September 2024

Ford-Carter Event on Trusted Elections. More Perfect also joined The Carter Center and Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation to participate in and co-sponsor a major event in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in September 2024 that released [Principles for Trusted Elections](#).

Democracy Goal 5:

Access to Trusted News and Information

*“Our liberty depends on freedom of the press,
and that cannot be limited without being lost.”*

THOMAS JEFFERSON, LETTER TO JAMES CURRIE

Increased Support for Sustainable Local News Outlets. More Perfect continues to work in partnership with Presidential Centers, philanthropic leaders, and frontline partners to advance Democracy Goal 5 by strengthening local news infrastructure across the nation. In particular, More Perfect is partnering closely with [Press Forward](#), a national coalition catalyzed by the MacArthur Foundation and its CEO and Democracy Goal 5 Co-Chair John Palfrey, who has led the effort to generate and invest more than \$500 million to strengthen local newsrooms, close longstanding gaps in journalism coverage, advance public policy that expands access to local news, and scale the infrastructure the sector needs to thrive.

Action-Prompting Events: On [April 9](#) & [April 10](#), 2024, the LBJ Foundation, More Perfect,



Speakers at Trust, News, and Democracy, hosted by the LBJ Foundation and More Perfect, April 2024

and the MacArthur Foundation co-hosted [“Trust, News, and Democracy,”](#) an action-prompting event at the LBJ Presidential Library in Austin, Texas, that focused on the three pillars of Democracy Goal 5 – Trust in National News, Accountability for Social Media, and Addressing Gaps in Local News. The event featured Bob Woodward & Carl Bernstein, Judy Woodruff, former House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt, Karl Rove, Jen Palmieri, Mark Updegrove, and

other leaders who discussed challenges and opportunities to address deficits in trust and trustworthy news. More Perfect, the LBJ Foundation, and Press Forward also assembled 40 leaders from Texas philanthropies to discuss how to close gaps in local news across Texas.

With this momentum, the George W. Bush Institute, More Perfect, Press Forward, and the American Journalism Project are partnering on a summit with the Texas Tribune, Fort Worth Report, and philanthropic leaders across Texas on December 16, 2025, to identify gaps and prompt investments in sustainable local news outlets. More Perfect and the same Democracy Goal 5 partners are working with the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library Foundation to revitalize local news in Massachusetts with a gathering of philanthropic leaders in 2026. More Perfect also partnered with the Karsh Institute of Democracy at the University of Virginia to support a [Local News Ecosystem Study](#) of gaps and opportunities in local news in Virginia, as work continues to form a Press Forward chapter in the Commonwealth.



More Perfect presents progress and challenge on the five Democracy Goals and various 250th initiatives at the Plenary Closing Panel of the Press Forward Conference in Charlotte, NC, October 2025

250TH ANNIVERSARY INITIATIVES

More Perfect is spearheading several key initiatives to leverage the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence to make progress across the Democracy Goals and renew our union.

1. In Pursuit: America's Debrief, directed by More Perfect Senior Advisor and former Archivist of the United States Colleen Shogan, is an ambitious history-based civics initiative of More Perfect. To ensure the 250th is also about what we can learn from the past to inform a more perfect union in the future, the project is collecting 70 short essays written by prominent historians, thought leaders, former Presidents and First Ladies, journalists and others, including seven Pulitzer Prize winning historians, focusing on former Presidents and First Ladies. The essays discuss each leader's importance in American history and a relevant lesson that reflects the values, ideals, and character of our nation. The essays will be broadly disseminated using a variety of media, including print, online, podcast, and broadcast, and will engage with civics partners to ensure distribution appropriate for adults and high school students. The New York Times wrote a [feature story](#) on In Pursuit and Colleen Shogan appeared on the [PBS News Hour](#) to discuss it. [More Perfect's In Pursuit launched a partnership with Substack to publish and promote all of the essays.](#)



[Inpursuit.org](https://inpursuit.org)

2. America's 100 Documents for the 250th, an initiative of the National Archives, National Archives Foundation, and More Perfect, and Co-Chaired by former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and filmmaker Ken Burns, offers engaging resources, competitions, and exhibits highlighting key original documents, including those that represent times when the country transcended divisions to advance the public good. The Advisory Council, made up of leading historians, provided guidance on the selection of the 100 documents, from the Articles of Confederation through photographs after 9/11. More Perfect is working with the Presidential Centers on plans for exhibits, programming, and materials to bring local visibility and reach to the initiative, and supplemental materials have been aligned with State Educational Standards so materials are easily accessible for teachers to seamlessly integrate the original documents and tools associated with them into their curriculum. In addition, a [March Madness–Style Bracket Game](#) will allow people across the country to explore the materials and vote on those documents they think are most important.

3. Declaration Book Club, launched on July 4, 2025, by Thomas Jefferson's Monticello and More Perfect at a major event at Monticello with filmmaker Ken Burns, is a nationwide invitation for Americans to reflect on the founding document that declared our independence and continues to define our democratic promise. In three guided sessions, participants will explore the Declaration's revolutionary ideas, its complex legacy, and what it means to affirm those ideals today. Designed for book groups, classrooms, faith communities, and civic groups, the Book Club Reader is free and available [online](#). It includes short essays, historical timelines, discussion questions, and video content to support both in-person and virtual conversations. The sessions are organized around three themes:

- **1776:** The year the United States Declaration of Independence was adopted, declaring the 13 Colonies as independent from Great Britain;
- **1826:** The 50th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the year that John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died on July 4; and
- **Legacies:** How the Declaration has shaped movements across time, from Philadelphia to Selma.

An op-ed by Monticello CEO Jane Kamensky and More Perfect CEO John Bridgeland, entitled [A Declaration for All of Us](#), captured the event and announcements at Monticello and appeared in more than 2,650 local news outlets across America. Sign-ups for the Declaration Book Club have been strong, and research shows that while participation in civic intermediary institutions has been on the decline in recent decades, participation in book clubs has nearly tripled since the turn of the century.



Monticello CEO Jane Kamensky, filmmaker Ken Burns & More Perfect CEO John Bridgeland launched the Declaration Book Club on July 4, 2025 at Monticello

4. Conversations on Character, a series of public events across the country designed to foster reflection on personal and national character, was launched by More Perfect and General Stanley McChrystal in response to growing concerns among the American people about the erosion of core values. This series coincides with the recent release of General McChrystal's new book, *On Character*, which draws from his extensive military career to explore lessons learned from success and failure and the discipline required to live up to one's beliefs. Our ambition is to foster "Conversations on Character" across the nation – among Americans in homes, houses of worship, schools, nonprofits, businesses, government and other places where people gather. For this purpose, More Perfect has developed a [Discussion Guide](#) that invites conversation to explore dimensions of our personal character; character in our roles as citizens in communities, workplaces and other public settings; and the character of America as a nation.



General Stanley McChrystal and Doug Bradburn discuss *Conversations on Character* at Mount Vernon

PRESIDENTIAL CENTER ENGAGEMENT

Presidential Centers Collaboration: Leaders from many Presidential Centers within the More Perfect alliance have played an active role in envisioning and advancing the democracy goals and initiatives connected to the 250th anniversary of the country's birth. Given that momentum, at the More Perfect summit at George Washington's Presidential Center at Mount Vernon in September 2024, Presidential Center leaders and other civic and history-centered



Mount Vernon Summit, September 2024

partners encouraged More Perfect to spearhead even stronger collaboration among the Presidential Centers and Sites. On November 12, 2025, More Perfect will host a Presidential Centers and Sites convening where leaders will jointly explore various ways to expand the sharing of information, collaboration on advancing the goals and various initiatives, and engaging in common action for the public good. More Perfect has engaged George Washington Presidential Library CEO and historian Lindsay Chervinsky

and Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site CEO Charles Hyde to help More Perfect co-develop various options in partnership with [over 40 Presidential Centers](#) in the More Perfect alliance.

Part III:

Deeper Progress on the Five Democracy Goals

The following provides a more detailed look at the progress that More Perfect, in collaboration with partner organizations, has made across each of the five Democracy Goals.



More Perfect's frontline partners, such as [iCivics](#), are advancing policies to promote civic learning at the State and national levels, and working to sustain the educators and communities that make this work possible, not only from pre-K to Grade 12, but also to integrate civics and civil discourse into higher education and life-long learning contexts for adults.

IN THE STATES

This spring, there were nearly **200 bills** identified in **45 States** concerning K–12 civic education. This yielded key policy wins aligned with the [CivxNow State Policy Menu](#), including:

- **Alabama:** A new appropriation of \$1.5 million was enacted to develop an online course in U.S. History, Government, and/or Civics.
- **Louisiana:** Students will now receive a civic “Freedom Seal” on their diploma at graduation.
- **Missouri:** For the third consecutive year, the legislature renewed its \$500,000 appropriation for professional development in civics and patriotism.
- **Utah:** The Utah high school graduation requirements were amended to include a full-year course on American constitutional government and citizenship.

AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

The [CivxNow Coalition](#) with more than 390 organizational members held its first Capitol Hill Day on May 22, 2025, with 50 advocates – including educators, students, and coalition partners – meeting with nearly 40 Congressional offices to offer their own perspectives on the Coalition’s priority policy recommendations regarding expanded civics and history funding and information and media literacy. The partners involved in this effort reflected the growing diversity of the CivxNow network with military and veterans organizations, voting groups, and others joining core K–12 representatives.

ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES

[College Presidents for Civic Preparedness](#), a network sponsored by the [Institute for Citizens and Scholars](#), now has 126 members who are working together to learn how to strengthen civics in higher education. [Alliance for Civics in the Academy](#), founded by the Hoover Institution in 2024, has 200 members who are sharing syllabi and developing a strategic vision for improving civic learning on our higher education campuses. [AAC&U](#), [Campus Compact](#), [Karsh Institute of Democracy](#), and More Perfect are developing the Higher EdX Initiative to identify innovative approaches to expanding civic education and engagement across college campuses that are scalable, including in public, private, independent, community, historically Black, Hispanic-serving, and Tribal colleges.



Leaders and participants of Declaration Next, a civic learning initiative co-led by Monticello, Karsh Institute of Democracy, and More Perfect gather on the steps of the University of Virginia's Rotunda

NATIONAL CIVIC LEARNING WEEK - MARCH 2025

Thanks to the civic learning field’s collective effort, Civic Learning Week was another success, hitting an inflection point and setting the field up well for an even bigger impact for the 250th anniversary of the birth of the nation in 2026:

- Activities both in and outside the classroom were held in all 50 States & the District of Columbia.
- Civic Learning Week proclamations were made in nearly half of the States.
- Earned media and social reach exceeded 1 billion impressions.
- The CivxNow Coalition added 26 new partners during the 2025 Civic Learning Week

season, the largest single increase since the coalition was founded. These included both unusual organizations like the Arizona Cardinals NFL team, traditional civic learning organizations like Monticello and C-SPAN Classroom, and influential policy organizations like the National Association of State Boards of Education and the Education Commission of the States.

ADAMS PRESIDENTIAL CENTER & EDUCATING FOR AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

The Adams Presidential Center, led by Chairman and More Perfect National Advisory Council Member General Joe Dunford and CEO Dr. Kurt Graham, has stepped up to become the long-term home of the [Educating for American Democracy](#) (EAD) Implementation Consortium and hired an Executive Director to support this work. More Perfect enabled Dr. Graham to participate in the presentation to the Ibis Group, which generated \$2 million for the Adams Presidential Center's work on the EAD. The EAD Consortium at the Adams Presidential Center will nourish a community of practice for more than 300 civic learning providers around the country, as well as supporting professional development. The Consortium released its first catalog of professional development offerings for K-12 educators in late 2024.



More Perfect has continued to work to expand opportunities, particularly for young Americans, to engage in national service or regular volunteering to serve neighbors, communities, and the nation. This work has been supported by the Seedlings Foundation, Carnegie Corporation of New York, and other supporters.

NATIONAL WINS

As the future of federal service programs such as the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC), Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA), AmeriCorps, and FEMA Corps remains uncertain, More Perfect is continuing to make progress with Governors to expand national service

opportunities in their States. More Perfect and our partners are also working to amplify the stories of national service members in local communities across the country, including their bridging efforts.

FEDERAL AGENCY CORPS

More Perfect, The Corps Network, Service Year Alliance, and other partners in Democracy Goal 2 worked with the prior administration to establish an Interagency Memoranda of Understanding with eight federal agencies that aimed at increasing service opportunities across the government. This effort helped fulfill some of the provisions of the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Law that draws on the leadership and resources of various large federal agencies to expand national service to help meet their missions, such as conservation of parks and public lands, promoting health, strengthening outcomes in education, and more. With the emergence of the current administration, More Perfect CEO John Bridgeland and Alan Khazei, former City Year Co-Founder and Senior Advisor to More Perfect, co-authored an op-ed for the Washington Post titled, [What America Needs is Some Big Citizenship](#), which also appeared in Maria Shriver's [The Sunday Paper](#).

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MILITARY, NATIONAL, AND PUBLIC SERVICE

In March 2025, the National Commission on Military, National and Public Service hosted a 5th anniversary event to highlight and advance its recommendations, building on the recommendations published five years ago in the commission's final report – [Inspired to Serve](#). Commissioner and More Perfect Senior Adviser Alan Khazei participated in these events to highlight how More Perfect was advancing some of the Commission's recommendations.

STATE WINS

State leaders are increasingly turning to service and volunteering as effective tools to address their States' pressing priorities and challenges. This growing momentum is reflected in the expansion of the America's Service Commissions' bipartisan State Service Caucus – which now includes 70 members – and in the rising number of service-oriented pieces of legislation being introduced in State legislatures across the country.

More Perfect continues to work closely with Governors and States across the country to develop innovative State service models. In 2024, More Perfect supported State Service Summits in Utah and Connecticut in partnership with Governors Spencer Cox and Ned Lamont.

STATE INNOVATIONS IN NATIONAL SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERING

As noted, in 2024, More Perfect, America's Service Commissions, and Service Year Alliance, in partnership with Carnegie Corporation of New York and Schultz Family Foundation, released the [State Innovations in National Service and Volunteering report](#) as a plan of action for Governors and State Legislators to launch their own initiatives to expand national service and volunteering in their States over the next decade. The report included a Foreword by Utah Governor Spencer

Cox and Colorado Governor Jared Polis, then Chair and Vice Chair of the National Governors Association, to encourage other Governors and State Leaders to advance national service and volunteering in their States.

SERVICE YEAR FELLOWSHIPS

In May 2025, More Perfect released a [Blueprint for Service Year Fellowships](#) based on the successful efforts with Governor Spencer Cox to engage 623 fellows since the launch of the One Utah Service Fellowship program in 2024. We are continuing to share this blueprint with Governors and States to use as a resource as they develop their own State Service models. Below are some highlights of progress in States:



Gov. Spencer Cox and John Bridgeland release the State Innovations in National Service and Volunteering Report at the Why We Serve Symposium

- **Utah**

- As one of two model Service States, More Perfect has continued to work with Governor Spencer Cox and his team on expanding and amplifying Service Year Fellowships. Governor Cox appeared at our Mount Vernon Summit in February 2025 and spoke about his national service work in collaboration with More Perfect.
- Since its launch in August 2024, the One Utah Service Fellowship has engaged 623 fellows in active national service across Utah (as of April 4, 2025), mobilized 7,859 additional volunteers recruited or managed by Fellows, and operated across 294 service sites statewide, targeting underserved communities and high-need areas.
- In February 2025, More Perfect announced Governor Spencer Cox as the first chair of State Innovations in National Service, an initiative aimed at expanding and enhancing national service opportunities across the United States. In support of this effort, the Seedlings Foundation committed \$3.25 million to expand national service and volunteering within States.

- **Maryland**

- In August 2023, Maryland Governor Wes Moore launched a new [Maryland Corps](#) with a commitment to create a service year option for every high school graduate in the State and to provide in-State college tuition for all those who serve.

- **Connecticut**

- On May 29, 2024, More Perfect co-hosted the first-ever Connecticut Service Symposium, in partnership with the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford, local philanthropist Gerry

Goldberg of GYL Financial Synergies, and Governor Ned Lamont. This convening featured Governor Lamont's vision for national service and volunteering in Connecticut.

- In his 2025 State of the State address, Governor Lamont announced his intention to create a Connecticut Youth Service Corps as part of Connecticut's celebration of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, as a living legacy that will continue to provide opportunity for young people and benefits to the State.



Speakers at the Connecticut Service Symposium, May 2024

- **Other States**

- More Perfect has engaged Governor Asa Hutchinson, former Republican Governor of Arkansas and former Chair of the National Governors Association, to help More Perfect leadership reach out to Governors to explore executive and other actions they can take to expand national service and volunteering in their States. In the first part of 2025, More Perfect has worked with the Governors of Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, South Carolina, Louisiana, Alabama, and Oklahoma. Governor Stitt of Oklahoma is the Chair of the National Governors Association for 2025-2026, and Governor Hutchinson met with Governors and their staff at the 2025 NGA Summer Meeting to discuss national service and volunteering.



More Perfect and its partners have continued to advance bridge building policies, initiatives, and opportunities:

BIPARTISAN BCBA LEGISLATION REINTRODUCED IN 119TH CONGRESS

The bipartisan [Building Civic Bridges Act](#) (BCBA) was reintroduced in the 119th Congress on July 8, 2025. The legislation is co-sponsored by U.S. Representatives Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA), Andy Barr (R-KY), GT Thompson (R-PA), and Lucy McBath (D-GA). The bill supports communities in addressing sources of division and includes four pillars:

- Administering a grant program to support civic bridge building programs across the nation by funding nonprofits, public institutions, schools, and religious groups, among others, that are striving to heal toxic polarization;
- Establishing an Office of Civic Bridge Building to activate a public conversation about civic bridge building;
- Researching civic bridge building, civic engagement, and social cohesion; and
- Supporting the training of AmeriCorps members in civic bridge building skills and techniques.

BUSINESS FOR AMERICA LAUNCHES NEW BLUEPRINT FOR BRINGING AMERICANS TOGETHER

In June 2025, [Business for America](#) (BFA) launched its new [Business Blueprint to Bring Americans Together](#). This Blueprint outlines key strategies companies can use to bridge divides, support healthy political culture, and lead with integrity. BFA, a nonpartisan nonprofit working to



From the Business Blueprint to Bring Americans Together

strengthen democracy through civic-minded business leadership, supports five key pillars through the Blueprint: (1) engage your employees, (2) connect your community, (3) activate your brand, (4) lead with influence, and (5) shape public policy.

BIPARTISAN STATE LEGISLATORS BUILD SKILLS AT 2025 FUTURE SUMMIT

About 90 legislators from 32 States, with nearly a 50/50 partisan split, attended the June 25-28, 2025 Future Summit in Washington, D.C. Today, more than 27 State legislatures sustain active "Future Caucuses" of younger bipartisan legislators. During a time of rising political violence, and as members of Congress are retiring because they say bipartisan leaders are an endangered species, [Future Caucus](#) equips the next generation of lawmakers to challenge that idea.

CITIZENS' ASSEMBLIES

Citizens' Assemblies are gaining traction as a vehicle for citizen self-governance. For example, faced with [a years-long, polarized debate](#) over what to do with 164 acres of land, the Fort Collins City Council commissioned a [Civic Assembly](#), an increasingly popular self-governance model that trusts everyday residents to help guide policymakers. Twenty residents were selected by lottery to reflect the diversity of Fort Collins. Across two weekends in April and May, these delegates

gathered to decide how this land could best serve the long-term vitality of the city. The City Council agreed that any recommendation with 75 percent support would be formally presented. The delegates delivered [22 recommendations meeting that threshold](#). Delegations from Denver, Houston, New York City, and Utah traveled to Fort Collins to witness the assembly firsthand.

MORE IN COMMON'S GROUNDBREAKING STUDY ON SOCIAL CONNECTION

In April 2025, [More in Common](#) published a new report, [*The Connection Opportunity: Insights for Bringing Americans Together Across Difference*](#), that explores drivers of connection across lines of difference and uncovers strategies to foster deeper, more meaningful relationships. As AI and technology continue to reshape how people work, communicate, and socialize, there's a growing risk that our already-isolated lives will become even more siloed. This new report offers a glimmer of hope that even in a polarized moment, most Americans are keen to meet people who are different from themselves and see value in doing so. More Perfect is commissioning a study with More In Common for 2026.

EXPANDING THE IMPACT OF THE TRUST FOR CIVIC LIFE

As noted above, More Perfect continues to support and work with the Trust for Civic Life, whose funding community has grown to include 23 philanthropists that have pooled their funds to make investments into locally-led civic efforts. To date, the Trust has supported over 160 local groups and civic efforts with a total of \$17.2 million, reaching over 35 percent of rural counties across the country. These efforts are rebuilding trust, fostering relationships across differences, and solving problems that matter locally. You can learn more in the Trust's [2024 Annual Report](#) and its [2025 Community Survey Report titled *Action Over Dialogue*](#), which was conducted as a research partnership with SNF Agora Institute and highlights the power of civic engagement – especially taking action across differences to solve shared problems – in building trust, agency, and belonging.

EXPANDING THE AMERICAN EXCHANGE PROJECT

The American Exchange Project (AEP) is a first-of-its-kind domestic exchange program that sends high school seniors on a free, two-week exchange experience to an American town that is radically different from their own, and helps them host peers from across the country in their



American Exchange Project participants

own hometown. This summer, the AEP will send well over 500 students on 67 exchanges across 34 States, leaving them with a second hometown, a second American family, deep friendships, and optimism for the future of our democracy. AEP has developed the infrastructure needed to launch a massive growth campaign that will secure at least 400 high school partners in all 50 States over the next 14 months.

BRIDGING MOVEMENT SUMMIT 2025

Thanks to the team at Mount Vernon and leadership of President and CEO Doug Bradburn, Listen First Project partnered with George Washington's Mount Vernon and More Perfect to host the Bridging Movement Summit 2025 on September 24-26. The event served as the second Bridge Building Innovation Showcase (the first occurred in 2023), and Mount Vernon's annual Founding Debates program. Among other things, Listen First Project and Mount Vernon invited six teams of community members from six different places across the country to be highlighted on stage and celebrated for the work they are doing. These are individuals who are following in the footsteps of George Washington – walking a patriot's path – through the work they are doing in their communities to solve problems across differences, building unity and a more productive and resilient local society.



In addition to More Perfect's work, noted above, with veterans organizations to recruit veterans to help close the one million poll worker gap in the 2024 midterm elections, More Perfect and its partners continue to make progress in advancing Democracy Goal 4. Indeed, public trust in elections [increased](#) post-2024 election, with substantial improvements in trust among Republicans and Independents and only a small decline among Democrats. In addition, key More Perfect partners were instrumental in securing over \$774 million in election infrastructure funding nationwide in 2024-2025.

More Perfect's work with our Democracy Goal 4 Co-Chairs and the organizations they represent is resetting priorities after the 2024 Presidential Election and fostering collaboration among additional partners. The following are highlights of recent progress:

SNF AGORA INSTITUTE – JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Organized network of conservatives to build election trust: [SNF Agora Institute](#), under the leadership of Democracy Goal 4 Co-Chair Scott Warren, has built a network of hundreds of

conservatives dedicated to building election trust and maintaining basic democratic norms and principles, including election officials and administrators, elected officials, business leaders, former elected officials, and other prominent conservatives. Over the course of 2024, they convened over 300 conservatives in 12 States: Arizona, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Wyoming, and Virginia. These efforts:

- **Catalyzed State coalitions:** Convening attendees in several States, including Arizona and Utah, have now formed and are managing their own cohorts to engage in pro-democracy work in the community.
- **Facilitated exchange of ideas:** State officials and leaders have invited other attendees from other States to present to legislatures on their respective efforts to improve election administration and build trust.
- **Inspired conservatives to stand together publicly:** Providing convening attendees with off-the-record forums to build trust and confidence has inspired some of the most important members of the cohort to stand with each other publicly. Notably, five Republican chief election officials co-authored a National Review [op-ed](#), and two authored a Wall Street Journal [op-ed](#), underscoring the integrity of our election systems.

CIVIC RIGHT FUND

SNF Agora Institute and others have also launched the Civic Right Fund. In mid-September 2025, the Fund awarded its first 10 grants totaling \$460,000 to strengthen conservative leadership at the State and local level to build trust in elections. Specifically, these organizations will:

- Engage conservative constituencies that can move policymaking processes, legal processes, or public opinion.
- Promote policies, behaviors, and norms that are the backbone of free, fair, and trusted elections systems.
- Pursue innovative ideas aimed at improving civic culture.

STATES UNITED

[States United](#), led by DG 4 Co-Chair Joanna Lydgate, worked to ensure that the 2024 election was free, fair, and secure, focusing in particular on six States – Arizona, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin. Among other things, its efforts included:

- **Election Protection:** States United provided pro bono legal representation for State and local election officials to help them accomplish their essential mission of running free, fair, and safe elections.
- **Public Safety:** States United convened groups of law enforcement through its partnership with the National Policing Institute, ensuring that thousands of law enforcement leaders had the resources and expertise they needed to respond to election security threats.
- **Trust in Elections:** States United conducted over 195 briefings for State and local offices in its key States on emerging false narratives, providing best practices training and ongoing guidance on how to respond. It also launched Election Facts microsites in five of

the key States to fight false narratives and deliver accurate election information. Those sites received over 1.4 million page views.

CENTER FOR TECH AND CIVIC LIFE

The [Center for Tech and Civic Life](#) (CTCL), led by Democracy Goal 4 Co-Chair Tiana Epps-Johnson, secured significant successes in 2024 in support of safe and secure elections:

- **Providing ballot information:** CTCL's Civic Information team published public information about primary and general elections in 53 U.S. States and territories, and elections in over 100 cities, reaching hundreds of thousands of voters with accurate, nonpartisan ballot information.
- **Closing the funding gap in rural jurisdictions:** CTCL directly granted over \$3.7 million to more than 350 rural and non-metro election jurisdictions to help bridge the funding gap for administering safe and secure elections.
- **U.S. Alliance for Election Excellence:** 2024 marked the two-year anniversary of the [U.S. Alliance for Election Excellence](#), led by CTCL. The team has recruited an inaugural cohort of 10 Centers for Election Excellence, collaborating to draft and publish 36 voluntary, nonpartisan [Standards for Election Excellence](#). In 2024, they added several new offerings to the [Alliance resource library](#), including customizable voter outreach content, a post-election debrief toolkit, and a crisis communications toolkit.

INSTITUTE FOR RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT

The [Institute for Responsive Government](#) (IRG), headed by Democracy Goal 4 Co-Chair Sam Oliker-Friedland, and its partners delivered major wins in 2024 and 2025 to strengthen election infrastructure, advance pro-voter policies, and defend against efforts to restrict ballot access:

- **Election Infrastructure Funding:** IRG, the Center for Tech and Civic Life, and other partners helped secure over \$774 million in election infrastructure funding nationwide, including more than \$115 million in 2025 alone. This included federal grants and major State allocations in Oklahoma, Nevada, Florida, and more – with much of the funding going directly to local election offices.
- **Proactive Policy Reform:** The team supported key pro-voter legislative victories in Michigan, Minnesota, Colorado, Texas, and Washington, including upgrades to automatic voter registration, expanded early voting, voting rights protections, and youth pre-registration. They also helped advance Mobile ID legislation in five States.
- **Defensive Policy Wins:** In Arizona, Texas, Idaho, Kansas, Oklahoma, and more, IRG successfully helped block or neutralize efforts to limit voting access—such as addressing attempted proof of citizenship laws, bans on drop boxes, and strict voter purge rules.

RESILIENT ELECTIONS NETWORK (REN)

The Institute for Responsive Government and the Center for Tech and Civic Life co-stewarded the Resilient Elections Network, which brings together the efforts of thousands of local election officials across the country, dozens of Secretaries of State and State Election Directors, State clerk associations and national constituency groups, the national security community, local civic and veterans organizations, and others. Among other things, REN provided financial resources to

more than 580 election jurisdictions across 15 States in 2024, and supported Statewide technical assistance programs in Arizona, Michigan, Nevada, and other hotly-contested States.

PILLARS OF THE COMMUNITY

Pillars of the Community is an initiative that bolsters local and state election officials in the nation's most contentious election jurisdictions by recruiting community leaders from across the political spectrum to meet with their local and state election officials for an ongoing review of all the safeguards in the election systems. After vetting and understanding how elections in their jurisdictions work, the community leaders are asked to validate elections' reliability to their networks. By standing behind professional, nonpartisan election administration, these trusted leaders play an indispensable role in protecting public confidence in the integrity of our voting systems in key local jurisdictions.

Led by bipartisan veteran election attorneys Bob Bauer and Democracy Goal 4 Co-Chair Ben Ginsberg, the Pillars' 2024 effort targeted key counties in the states where attacks on professional election administration or outright election denialism were the most prevalent -- Arizona, Georgia, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. In 2026, the Pillars will expand to also include Michigan, Nevada and North Carolina.



More Perfect continues to make progress in strengthening local news and journalism through its partnership with [Press Forward](#), and with key frontline organizations, including [Rebuild Local News](#) and the [American Journalism Project](#):

PRESS FORWARD SUCCESS — JANUARY 2024 TO JUNE 2025

Press Forward is a nationwide coalition investing more than \$500 million to strengthen local newsrooms, close longstanding gaps in journalism coverage, advance public policy that expands access to local news, and to scale the infrastructure the sector needs to thrive. Key

accomplishments include:

- Coalition expanded to 109 foundations/individual donors
- Over \$200 million awarded in pooled and aligned funds to date
- Launched 41 chapters in 30 States, and in the last 6 months added:
 - Indiana (State)
 - Lake County (City of Gary), Indiana
 - Bloomington, Indiana (City)
 - North Texas (Fort Worth and Dallas)
 - El Paso, Texas (County)
 - Kansas City
 - Pennsylvania Wilds
- Press Forward named to Fast Company's 2025 List of World's Most Innovative Companies (June 2025)
- Launched research and messaging project on how the public views local news for future awareness building and fundraising

REBUILD LOCAL NEWS ADVANCES STATE POLICY CHANGES

There continues to be a dramatic increase in policies being introduced across the country to help support local news, not just from More Perfect partner [Rebuild Local News](#) directly, but from copycat legislation that is based on RLN's design and advocacy work. This includes government advertising laws, journalist employment tax credits, big tech compensation legislation, and newsroom sale notice bills.

In 2024, for example, Rebuild Local News, headed by DG 5 Co-Chair Steven Waldman, secured consequential wins in the States of Illinois and New York through journalist employment tax credits, which inspired copycat bills in New Mexico, Maryland, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. This year, lawmakers borrowed RLN's model language and passed bills on government advertising transparency in Illinois and Minnesota. The Illinois bill requires transparency and annual reporting on government advertising spending. Minnesota's legislation encourages all State agencies to advertise with local news "when practicable." In 2025 alone, governments will provide \$107 million to local newsrooms as a result of public policy changes.

AMERICAN JOURNALISM PROJECT EXPANDS INVESTMENTS IN NON-PROFIT LOCAL NEWS

The [American Journalism Project](#) (AJP), led by DG 5 Co-Chair Sarabeth Berman, has cumulatively committed \$72.6 million to nonprofit local news since 2019, investing in 50 organizations working across 36 States plus Puerto Rico.

- Across their first 22 three-year investments, \$25 million in American Journalism Project capital helped organizations grow their annual revenue by \$45 million. That growth has funded nearly 250 new journalism roles. Across its portfolio, total revenue grew by 22% from 2023-2024 and 86% of organizations grew revenue (not including AJP funding).

- In September 2024, the American Journalism Project [announced a local](#) news startup, the L.A. Local News Initiative. With \$15 million raised, this new nonprofit will provide local coverage for communities across the region, enhance the capacity of LAist and CalMatters to provide regional coverage, and engage in close collaborations with a growing list of over two dozen partners.
- In December 2024, the American Journalism Project [launched](#) the Tulsa Local News Initiative with \$14 million raised from a coalition of media and philanthropy leaders. The initiative will expand the historic Oklahoma Eagle – a Black-owned newspaper serving the area for more than a century – and create over two dozen journalism jobs. It will also enhance capacity for four local newsrooms – The Frontier, KOSU, La Semana, and Focus: Black Oklahoma – to better serve Tulsa’s Hispanic, Native, and immigrant communities.



Los Angeles Local News Initiative

The American Journalism Project launched its third fund at the beginning of 2025 with the goals of bringing nonprofit local news to more communities and building the long-term sustainability of the field. To date, they have raised \$55.9 million toward this effort.



Through More Perfect’s partnership with the bipartisan [Council for Responsible Social Media](#) (CRSM), a project of [Issue One](#) led by DG 5 Co-Chair Nick Penniman that comprises more than 50 government, industry, and academic leaders, including More Perfect CEO John Bridgeland, progress has been made to address the negative mental, civic, and public health impacts of social media in America:

STATE VICTORIES ON KIDS ONLINE SAFETY

Issue One played a leading role in advancing major social media and kids online safety legislation

in Nebraska, South Carolina, and Vermont. In Nebraska, they helped secure passage of the Age-Appropriate Design Code (AADC) by providing public comments on behalf of CRSM members. The bill was signed into law on May 30, 2025. In South Carolina, former Congressmen Zach Wamp (R-TN) and Dick Gephardt (D-MO) submitted written testimony in support of the bill, which passed the Senate before the end of the session in a unanimous 43 - 0 vote. In Vermont, Issue One engaged, among others, former Lieutenant Governor Kerry Healey and Representative Gephardt, in the two-year fight for the AADC, which passed in 2025.

STATE VICTORY ON DATA PORTABILITY

Issue One worked in Utah to help pass the nation's first data portability law, the Utah Digital Choice Act—a landmark measure that gives users greater control over their personal data and sets a national precedent for platform accountability. The legislation was signed into law by Governor Spencer Cox on March 27, 2025, marking a significant victory in the movement for user rights and platform transparency.

DEFEATED BIG TECH'S PROPOSED 10-YEAR AI MORATORIUM

Issue One led dozens of organizations in the successful removal of a hidden provision in the 2025 reconciliation bill that would have blocked States from regulating artificial intelligence and social media algorithms for 10 years. The provision threatened to withhold vital broadband funding unless States surrendered their regulatory power. The provision would have provided Big Tech a decade of immunity on algorithmic harms, deepfakes, and child safety.

THE FUTURE OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND DEMOCRACY

In May 2025, Issue One partnered with Notre Dame's Democracy Initiative to host a private convening on the future of social media and democratic governance. The event brought together over 60 national leaders – CRSM members, policymakers, academics, and advocates — for a deep, solution-focused dialogue on shaping a healthier information ecosystem.

BUILDING THE POLICY BLUEPRINT TO REFORM SECTION 230

In 2024, Issue One launched the Section 230 Task Force, bringing together top legal scholars, technologists, and bipartisan policymakers to develop the first precise legislative text to reform Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, which provides Big Tech with sweeping legal immunity. This task force is the first of its kind to produce workable, bipartisan reform language ready for introduction in Congress.



Part IV: Action-Forcing Events

More Perfect continues to leverage collaboration with over 40 Presidential Centers and other partners to host “action-forcing events” that provide visibility, plans, and resources to advance progress on the five Democracy Goals:

UPCOMING ACTION-FORCING EVENTS		
DATE	EVENT	HOSTS
November 2025	Mount Vernon Convening of Presidential Centers	George Washington’s Mount Vernon & More Perfect
December 2025	Advancing Local News in Texas	The George W. Bush Institute, More Perfect, Press Forward & American Journalism Project
2026	Advancing Local News in Massachusetts	The John F. Kennedy Presidential Library Foundation & More Perfect
May 2026	What de Tocqueville Still Means to America	More Perfect, The Tocqueville Foundation, Le Figaro, and George Washington’s Mount Vernon

PREVIOUS ACTION-FORCING EVENTS

Features of our previous events can be found [here](#).

DATE	EVENT	HOSTS
October 2025	Declaration Next	UVA's Karsh Institute of Democracy, Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, More Perfect
October 2025	Democracy 360 convening of thought leaders, journalists, policymakers and youth to reshape our democracy	UVA's Karsh Institute of Democracy, with sessions co-sponsored by More Perfect
October 2025	Press Forward Summit: Safeguarding Democracy and Civic Trust Plenary Panel Discussion	Press Forward
September 2025	Stanford PACS "Beyond the Summit Salon Series: Strengthening Democracy": Fireside Chat: Reimagining a Healthy, Thriving Democratic Society	Stanford Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society
September 2025	Civics, Citizenship, and the Constitution	More Perfect & iCivics
February 2025	More Perfect Together: The Democracy Goals & Road to the 250th & Beyond	George Washington's Mount Vernon, The Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands, Boeing & More Perfect
October 2024	Passion for the Public Good and Civic Education	The Adams Presidential Center & More Perfect
September 2024	Convening for Work Leading into the 250th	George Washington's Mount Vernon & More Perfect
September 2024	Principles for Trusted Elections	The Ford Presidential Foundation, The Carter Center & More Perfect
May 2024	Connecticut Service Symposium	The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford, Gerry Goldberg of GYL Financial Synergies, Governor Ned Lamont & More Perfect
April 2024	Trust. News. Democracy Event	The Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library, More Perfect & the MacArthur Foundation
March 2024	Collaboration on Work Leading into the 250th	The Thomas Jefferson Foundation, UVA's Karsh Institute of Democracy & More

		Perfect
January 2024	More Perfect Convening	The Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands & More Perfect
January 2024	State Innovations in National Service	National Governors Association Chair Governor Spencer Cox & More Perfect
November 2023	A Panel on Local News	Obama Foundation Democracy Forum, with local news panel organized by Press Forward & More Perfect
October 2023	Celebrating 30 Years of National Service	The William J. Clinton Presidential Library, More Perfect & other partners
October 2023	More Perfect Panel in the Rotunda, Democracy360 Summit	Karsh Institute of Democracy at the University of Virginia featuring More Perfect's 5 Democracy Goals
September 2023	More Perfect featured at the Presidential Sites Summit	White House Historical Association
September 2023	America the Possible keynote and panel, CPB Thought Leader Forum at the NETA Annual Conference & Dinner Forum	The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, CPB, & More Perfect
May 2023	RISE 2023 – Civic Education: The Cornerstone of a Free and Democratic Society	Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute, featuring More Perfect
February 2023	It's Our Democracy Summit	The McChrystal Group & More Perfect
October 2022	Our Civics: Safeguarding Our Democracy	The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library & More Perfect
October 2022	Sustainable Democracy Goals: Launching a Roadmap for Impact by 2026	The Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands & More Perfect
May 2022	Our Elections: A More Perfect Union	The George W. Bush Presidential Center & More Perfect