IL Count Me In 2020
Presentation

Forefront
#ILCountMeIn2020
Forefront

We are a statewide membership organization that serves 1,100 members who are Illinois grantmakers and non-profit organizations in supporting a vibrant social impact sector for all the people of Illinois.

Anita Banerji, Director of Democracy Initiative
This is Illinois’ Congressional Map right now.
Imagine Illinois losing a Congressional district.
Now imagine what will happen if we lose 2, which is what could happen if everyone isn’t counted.
Why is Census Data Important?

- Steven Romalewski CUNY
  Hard to Count Mapping Tool

- Congressional representation
Importance of the Census

- Federal funds are distributed based on Census data
- Andrew Reamer Study – Counting for Dollars 2020: The Role of the Decennial Census in the Geographic Distribution of Funds

https://gwipp.gwu.edu/counting-dollars-2020-role-decennial-census-geographic-distribution-federal-funds
Each State stands to lose an average of $1,800 per year for each person who goes uncounted. For Illinois, this could be close to $1,400 a person, per year.
These are some of the services funded by money we receive based on our census count.
Government and Business

- Example: If someone wants to open a daycare center, they will choose a location with a high population of young children
HOW DOES AN UNDERCOUNT HAPPEN?
HARD-TO-COUNT POPULATIONS

- UNDOCUMENTED INDIVIDUALS
- RURAL COMMUNITIES
- IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES
- LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES
- RENTERS
- CHILDREN UNDER 5
- THE HOMELESS
- PEOPLE OF COLOR
- SENIORS
CHALLENGES

- First “high-tech” census
  - Cyber-security risks
  - Digital divide
CHALLENGES

- Budget shortfalls
- Incomplete testing
- Leadership vacuum
There are multiple lawsuits fighting to stop the addition of a citizenship question on the 2020 Census.
HOW CAN WE GET AN ACCURATE COUNT?
TRUSTED MESSENGERS AND EFFECTIVE MESSAGES
MOBILIZATION BUILDING BLOCKS

- Securing campaign funding
- Targeted messaging
- Legal clarity
- Understanding and addressing community concerns
# Census 2020 Efforts
## National and State Partners

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<tr>
<th>National Partners</th>
<th>Statewide Efforts</th>
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| **01** Funders Committee for Civic Participation (FCCP)  
  • Funders Census Initiative – Leadership team | **02** Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights |
| **03** Illinois Complete Count Commission | **04** IL Count Me In 2020 Statewide Advocacy Coalition  
  • IL Count Me In 2020 steering committee |
| **05** IL Count Me In 2020 Funders’ Collaborative |
MOBILIZATION BUILDING BLOCKS

- Mapping hard-to-count communities
- Addressing obstacles
- Identification, engagement, and mobilization of trusted partners
IL COUNT ME IN 2020 EFFORTS

IL Complete Count Commission

IL Count Me In 2020 Statewide Advocacy Coalition
- Communications/Messaging Working Group
- Policy Concerns Working Group
- State Appropriations Working Group
- Get Out the Count Working Group

IL Count Me In 2020 Funders’ Collaborative
IL Count Me In 2020

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