



Everyday Democracy is powered by Everyday People.

Dear Everyday Democracy friends and partners,

2022 marked a year of important transitions for Everyday Democracy. In May, we said goodbye to our long-time Executive Director, Martha McCoy, and welcomed Merle McGee as President and CEO. Merle brings a justice-driven vision to the team and passion for community transformation.

This year, we also transitioned to public charity status to ensure our sustainability, expand our reach, and deepen our community engagement. We are proud of our commitment to centering racial justice and supporting communities as they work to address their most pressing needs.

As the need for healthy democracy is greater than ever and the demand for community dialogue and action grows, your support enables us to continue this vital work. Thank you.

Merle McGee  
President & CEO

Miles Rapoport  
Board Chair

## END OF YEAR REPORT 2022



May 2022 "On The Road" Transition Event



### OUR MISSION

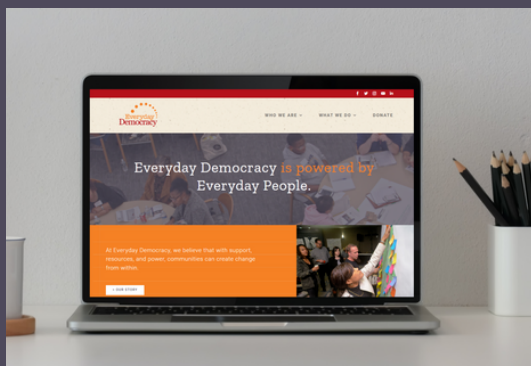
Everyday Democracy builds power with individuals and groups advancing multiracial democracies in their local communities.

### ABOUT US

For the last 30 years, Everyday Democracy has engaged tens of thousands of people across 42 states as their communities grapple with social and political issues through meaningful dialogue. Organizations across the country use our facilitation and training model to build trust and accountability, and we work alongside communities as they generate solutions that drive equitable local change.

## A new & improved everyday-democracy.org

A fresh modern look with vibrant photos and easier navigation are just a few of the improvements on the Everyday Democracy's redesigned website. This new site will help us better connect with everyday leaders and share our work. We hope you like our new look and stay tuned as we continue to enhance our website with portals for resources, information, and opportunities to get involved with strengthening local democracies.



# 2022 Highlights

## MacArthur Foundation Safety & Justice Challenge



As a Technical Assistance provider for the MacArthur Foundation's Safety and Justice Challenge (SJC), Everyday Democracy works with local jurisdictions in Arizona, Florida, Illinois, and South Carolina in their efforts tackling the misuse and overuse of jails. In Palm Beach County, FL, our team hosted a panel discussion on a dynamic community engagement initiative using our [Dialogue to Change](#) process to bring residents together to reimagine community safety and justice. The process resulted in a diverse set of action projects taking place in nine subregions of the county, which you can [read about here](#).

We are thrilled that the MacArthur Foundation has renewed our grant to continue work with our community partners in the Safety and Justice Challenge for another two years!

## Leadership Equity Institute

The Everyday Democracy Safety and Justice Challenge team held a three-week learning opportunity that brought together sixteen individuals with lived experiences to develop equity-focused skills for authentic community engagement and local criminal justice reform. Participants gained knowledge in racial equity, organizing and facilitating dialogue, community engagement strategies, personal leadership styles, storytelling for social change, and strategies for self-care.



"I'm planning on applying the skills and knowledge given to me during this training to fight for inclusive democracy, for our human rights, and for our right to live free from fear and oppression."

Leadership Equity Institute Participant



## Connecticut Civic Ambassadors



Celebrating 5 years! Since 2017, Everyday Democracy has played a key role in cultivating a network of local changemakers in our home state through the Connecticut Civic Ambassadors Initiative. In bringing together passionate individuals from across Connecticut, Civic Ambassadors encourages diverse groups of residents to work together and alongside government to strengthen their communities. We now have more than 142 Civic Ambassadors statewide and growing!

This year's Connecticut Civic Ambassadors Summit focused on the principles and practices of equitable and inclusive civic engagement featuring Dwight "Kip" Holley, Research Associate at The Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity at Ohio State University.

## Organizational Capacity Building

Everyday Democracy provides coaching and training to civic, private, and community groups working to build equitable and inclusive policies and practices within their organizations. Our team helps them identify goals and strategies through trust building, relational organizing, and talking honestly about the causes and outcomes of racial inequity.

## OUR REACH *at a glance*

446

individuals engaged through our community Dialogue to Change process

14

organizations and community partners trained in facilitation, organizing, & racial equity

4

county-wide coordinating councils assisted through the Safety and Justice Challenge

This work is possible due to your support and the support of our funding partners.

# THANK YOU.

**CT**humanities

 **SAFETY+JUSTICE**  
CHALLENGE  
Supported by the John D. and Catherine T.  
MacArthur Foundation

 **Hartford Foundation**  
FOR PUBLIC GIVING



Robert Wood Johnson  
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Aicher Family Foundation  
CT Humanities  
Democracy Fund  
John D. and Catherine T.  
MacArthur Foundation

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donations listed as of 11/28/22

Stay connected!



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