

June 27, 2019

This morning, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the proposed citizenship question cannot, for now, be added to the 2020 Census. (Read [the decision](#).) Given the short timetable, it seems unlikely that the citizenship question could be added.

Regardless of the final outcome, we must all stand up for a fair and accurate count of all residents of New Jersey. A complete count will help our state to receive its fair allocation of representation and federal funding. At present, [more than \\$22.7 billion](#) of federal funding come into the state every year, helping to support roads, schools, hospitals, Medicaid, school lunch programs, programs for veterans, programs for seniors, head start, and unemployment benefits.

When every person in New Jersey is counted, every person in New Jersey benefits.

The Census 2020 New Jersey Coalition is coordinating nonprofit Census work throughout the state. Visit census2020nj.org for more information on the importance of the Census and materials/resources for people interested in learning more.

Now, we must work together. **Will you join us?**

Here are a few key ways that nonprofits and civic organizations can get started:

1. **Join the Census 2020 NJ Coalition.** [Sign up here](#) to receive updates, information and action items as key deadlines approach.
2. **Become a Census Partner.** The U.S. Census Bureau provides information, training, job hiring, and other resources for local organizations that participate in their partnership program. You can sign up to [receive updates here](#).
3. **Participate in a local Complete Count Committee (CCC)** to help your home community be counted. Email [Peter Chen](#) to learn if there is a CCC in your community and how you can participate.
4. **Serve as a Census hub in your community.** In less than 10 minutes, residents can fill out the Census online or over the phone. Your site can help provide education and reach hard-to-count people in 2020. This should be coordinated through a local CCC or the [Census 2020 NJ Coalition](#).
5. **Get organized and informed.** The statewide nonprofit coalition is organizing trainings on the Census throughout the state for community and local groups and coalitions. If you would like to organize a training or education session for your community, contact [Peter Chen](#).

Any effort to educate and build capacity for the 2020 Census count will assist in ensuring New Jersey has the resources it needs to support all its residents. Let's work together.

Kiki Jamieson, President, The Fund for New Jersey