



Yolo  **Community**
FOUNDATION

YCF Model



Inspire Giving



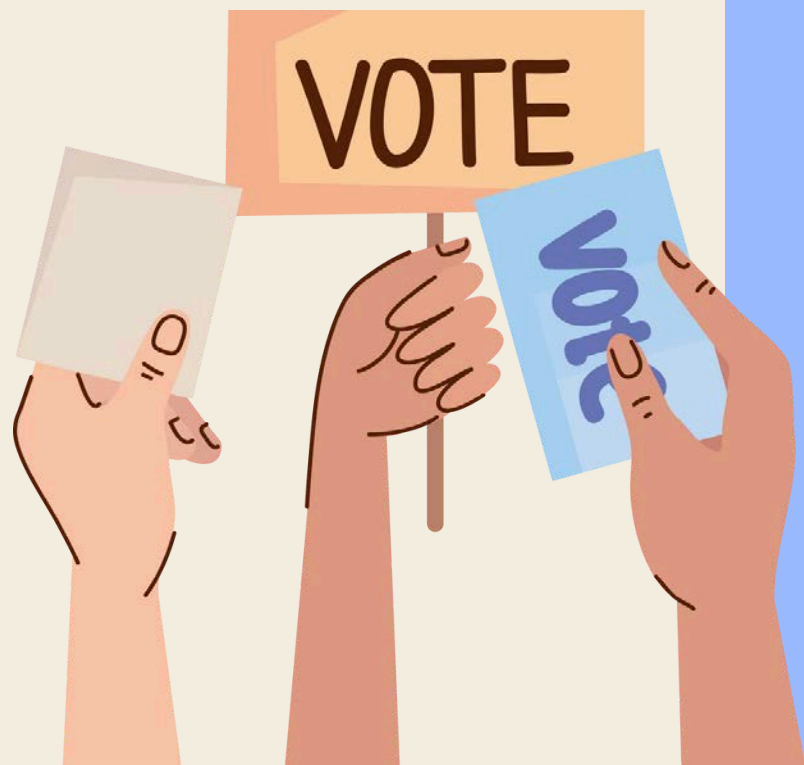
**Support
Philanthropists**



Serve Nonprofits

Voter Education Overview

- Funded by Yolo County & the Evelyn and Walter Haas Jr. Fund.
- Granted a total of \$116,390 to 9 organizations.
- Inform registered voters how, where, and when to vote, given the changes brought about by the California Voter's Choice Act.
- Outreach focused on those groups of registered voters that are historically least likely to vote – low turnout precincts, young voters, and AAPI and Latinx voters.



Voter Education Grants Pilot Program

Outreach leading up to the 2024 primaries

- Focus on Woodland and Winters
- Three grantees
 - Empower Yolo, Inc. \$8,808
 - Winters Community Corazón \$4,871
 - Yolo Food Bank \$9,716



VOTER EDUCATION GRANTS ROUND 2

Selected organizations provided outreach leading up to the 2024 general elections. This outreach was county-wide and included various methods of outreach including a printing project.

- Seven grantees selected through an RFP process (one repeat)
 - Community Housing Opportunities Corporation \$3,786
 - Davis Media Access \$14,840
 - Davis Phoenix Coalition \$5,500
 - Hui International \$15,000
 - Meals on Wheels Yolo County Inc. \$14,106
 - YMCA of Superior California \$8,500
 - Yolo Food Bank \$14,890
- Group printing project
 - Yolo Food Bank \$16,373



OUTCOMES

- Grantees reached large volumes of voters. The pilot reached 11,000 voters while round 2 was able to reach over 40,000 voters.
- The grants program likely contributed to higher-than-expected voter participation in targeted communities.
- Through positive personal interactions, event attendance, and social media engagement, voters demonstrated interest in grantees' efforts.
- Grantee strategies and materials added value to the counties' outreach efforts, demonstrating grantees' cultural competence, relationships, and creativity.
- Election officials and nonprofits established lasting collaborations and increased their respective outreach capacities.



Learnings and Recommendations

- This approach should be replicated in other California counties.
- Sustained funding, ideally from the state government, is needed to scale the model statewide. Leverage existing voter outreach funds by channeling some through programs like this one.
- Grants for these types of campaigns should be approved at least three to four months before an election to allow for adequate planning and collaboration.
- Clearer guidance to grantees and streamlined approval of materials could reduce confusion and delays.
- More intentional collaboration and joint planning among grantees could result in more efficient campaigns that reach a greater number of voters.



THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

- Haas commissioned a report by Hazelton Strategies – core report plus targeted briefs for elections officials and funders, published in Fall 2025.
- Yolo Community Foundation, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, and Yolo Office of Elections are presenting in two sessions.
 - League of California Community Foundations
 - California Association of Clerks and Elections Officials



Next Steps



- Planning for additional round of grantmaking in 2026.
- Tentatively \$130,000, split between primaries and general elections.
- Continued focus County-wide, on low-turnout precincts and registered voters.
- Expect grant to open in early 2026.