

Make a Difference in Education Equity!

At Pitt

- [Join an Elsie Forum program!](#)
- Search for volunteer opportunities using [PittServes' Volunteer Portal](#)
- Join a Pitt student organization that tutors primary & secondary students.
 - [Keep It Real](#)
 - [FORGE](#)
- Watch the full Governing in Crisis Series interview with Robert Scherrer: iop.pitt.edu/governing-crisis

In politics

- Contact your federal, state, and local elected officials
- [Vote](#) in the 2020 Presidential Election, and every other local & regional election!
- Make a voting pact with your friends or family. Collectively commit to register and vote.
- Communicate with your elected officials to share your views on issues you care about. A letter, phone call, or visit are still the best ways to contact them.
- [Check out our guide](#) on how to engage with your elected officials.

In your community

- Attend your local school board meetings
- Volunteer with [a direct service organization](#) that supports student learning
- Attend a discussion or event in your community or school about education equity.
- Visit a library. Librarians can point you to important books on our American democracy.
- Attend a city council or community board meeting. [The National League of Cities](#) can help describe its function.
- Advocate for civic education in schools. Not all states require it, and you can join the [CivXNow](#) campaign to push for it.
- Support the teachers at your local school. Ask how you can help and consider starting with supporting classroom projects through [DonorsChoose.org](#).
- Volunteer at a public library.
- Volunteer to help teachers.
- Invite friends and neighbors to watch a documentary on equity in education. [Here's a few options.](#)

Online

- Read and subscribe to daily local, regional, or national newspapers. Check out [Allsides.com](https://www.allsides.com) for news from conservative, liberal, and centrist points of view.
- Facts matter: Is your news source trustworthy? Check out [factcheck.org](https://www.factcheck.org).
- Write an op-ed or letter to an editor.
- Contribute financially to a cause, even \$5 can help.
- Use your social media accounts to post uplifting information relevant to making our society more civil.

At work

- Do a year of service. [Serviceyear.org](https://www.serviceyear.org) can help you connect to thousands of opportunities to develop real-world skills while giving back to your community.
 - [Teach for America](https://www.teachforamerica.org)
 - [AmeriCorps](https://www.americorps.gov)
- Choose to work at or support a nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing education equity.

Education equity local volunteer opportunities

- [Allies for Children](#)
- Consortium for Public Education: [Be a middle school mentor](#)
- [Neighborhood Allies](#)
 - Internship Opportunity: [Fund My Future Outreach Assistant](#)
- [Neighborhood Learning Alliance](#)
 - Virtual tutoring
 - Virtual support (SAT tests, editing college essays)
 - Advocacy
- [Mentor Partnership of SWPA](#)
 - Formal mentoring
 - Everyday mentoring
- [Literacy Pittsburgh](#)
 - [Literacy tutoring](#) - 2 hours, 2 times a week
 - Classroom aide
 - Literacy intern
 - Classroom conversation partners
 - Career transitions
 - Fundraising
- [Sarah Heinz House](#)
 - After-school
 - Preschool & tots
 - Summer programs
 - Adult fitness programs

More local volunteer opportunities

- [Boys and Girls Club](#)
 - After school games room & gym activities
 - Teen workforce development academy
 - Education center & computers
 - Sports coaching
 - Special skills - cooking, arts, music, etc.
 - Maintenance skills
 - Fundraising
 - Clubhouse programs
- [YMCA](#)
 - [COVID-19 help volunteering - online & remote](#)
 - Community calls
 - Youth & senior pen pal program
 - Help with food security at food pantries - Homewood, Hazelwood
 - [Y Achievers program](#)
 - [Turkey Trot volunteers](#)
- Pitt Civic Engagement Opportunities
 - [Pitt Neighborhood Commitments](#)
 - [America Reads](#) (paid positions available for work-study)
 - [Jumpstart](#) early childhood
 - [Creative Empowerment for Youth](#)
 - [Community Research Fellowship](#)
 - [PittEnrich](#) - tutoring for elementary students