



## HOUSTON ACTION RESEARCH TEAM



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### *Mi Familia Vota Civic Engagement Curriculum Design – Spring 2017*

This HART, comprised of undergraduate students from sociology, political science, statistics, and policy studies, collaborated with Mi Familia Vota (MFV), a voter turnout and advocacy organization, to create a high school level civic engagement curriculum. This project drew upon pedagogical, political science, sociology, and education literature to develop attainable goals for high school students in becoming effective citizens. Additionally, the HART developed and subsequently analyzed data from, a survey of seniors at Cesar Chavez and Northside High Schools to benchmark current levels of civic engagement amongst high school students. The team’s effort contributed to a greater understanding of engagement amongst youth, and identified gaps in civic education among HISD students. The team created a curriculum to improve civic education by increasing, political knowledge, motivation, feelings of self-efficacy, and ultimately active engagement.

#### Curriculum Objectives

##### Informed

- ◆ Reading/watching the news
- ◆ Political discussion
- ◆ Awareness of community issues
- ◆ Knowledge of reliable news sources
- ◆ Making an informed vote

##### Motivated

- ◆ Belief in responsibility for community
- ◆ Belief in power of voting, protesting, and contacting elected officials

##### Empowered

- ◆ Enacting change in community
- ◆ Taking initiative
- ◆ Trying new things
- ◆ Public speaking, leading others
- ◆ Encouraging others
- ◆ Seeking out reliable sources
- ◆ Voting confidence

##### Active

- ◆ Posting political opinions
- ◆ Sharing news articles online
- ◆ Volunteering
- ◆ Engaging in political discussion
- ◆ Attending a march/rally