

## Welcome to the NRP's Rural Roundup!



**From** Team New Rural Project <info@newruralproject.org>  
**To** Steve Johnston <sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org>  
**Reply-To** <info@newruralproject.org>  
**Date** 2021-12-22 15:28

**The New Rural Project's**  
*Rural Roundup*  
**DECEMBER NEWSLETTER**

Steve,

Back in April, we launched the New Rural Project because we saw the need for an organization committed to rural empowerment. Since then, our organization has been working diligently to fill that need in our communities through our three-pronged strategy of listening, civic engagement, and electoral engagement.

Whether it's through vaccination clinics, community focus groups, or any of the other ways the New Rural Project is investing in rural communities, we are always working hard to achieve our mission.

Thank you for supporting our work every step of the way!

With gratitude,

Cynthia and Helen

**LISTENING**

We knew one of the first things we had to do to better serve rural communities was to listen to their concerns. That's why we've hosted county conversations and focus groups— to break open the lines of communication. We've brought diverse infrequent voters, community advocates, elected officials, and key stakeholders to the table to talk about the critical issues impacting their communities and the barriers to civic engagement, beginning the discussion to identify effective solutions.



In 2022, we're expanding our focus groups and listening sessions to gather even more information and a deeper understanding. We'll be working with a newly hired Program Director to develop opportunities to bring community members together for regular candid conversations to move things forward. Additionally, in January we are kicking off our deep canvassing efforts to expand our conversations with rural residents about what issues are most important in their communities.

---

## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



Last Saturday, we were proud to partner with HOLLA!, Las Amigas, Equality NC, Anson County Partnership for Children, the National Association of University Women, and You Can



Vote, to host a vaccination clinic with Atrium Health in Anson County that not only served adults, providing them with first and second shots and important booster shots but also served kids ages 5-11 making this the first community vaccination clinic in Anson for children! We will be back again in Anson County on January 8th so those children who were vaccinated last weekend can get their important second shot.

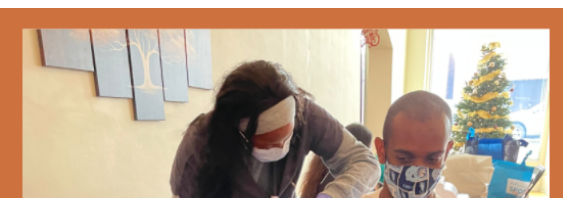
As we enter the holiday season, if you or a loved one hasn't gotten vaccinated or boosted yet, please make your [appointment today](#). You may also call the North Carolina Vaccine Help Center at 888-675-4567 for assistance in making an appointment for a vaccine.

Additionally, before you gather with family and friends for the holiday, make sure you are negative for COVID-19. Find out where you can get tested [here](#).

**Find a COVID-19 Vaccine**

**Find a COVID-19 Test**

The [NCDHHS has launched a new program](#) where residents can request a test collection kit for themselves. To do so, go to this [link](#) and follow the instructions to request your at-home collection kit. Once requested, your kit will be mailed to you via FedEx Overnight shipping.



We're already gearing up to host more community vaccination events in Scotland, Hoke,

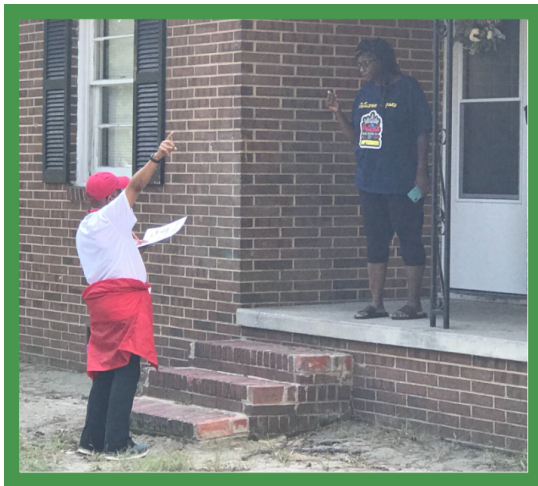


Richmond, and Moore counties in early 2022 to help educate people about the COVID-19 vaccine and get even more shots in arms!

Also in 2022, we will be launching our Civic Education initiative to connect the dots between people's lives and the impact of their civic engagement and their vote on their community.

---

## ELECTORAL ENGAGEMENT



This was a wild month for North Carolina politics! After the North Carolina Supreme Court ruled, filing to run for state and Congressional offices in North Carolina was halted and our primary election was moved from mid-March to May 17th.

That's because ongoing lawsuits challenge that the maps drawn and adopted by the North Carolina General Assembly were drawn using racial and partisan gerrymandering. This delay in filing for office will give the Court adequate time to handle the legal cases and for the various district lines to possibly be redrawn, should that be the Court's ruling.

### [Important North Carolina Election Dates](#)

- **March 28, 2022:** Absentee ballots become available for registered voters
- **April 22, 2022:** Deadline to register to vote in the 2022 primary election
- **April 28, 2022:** One-Stop Registration and Early voting begins for the 2022 primary election

- **May 10, 2022:** Deadline to request an absentee ballot
- **May 14, 2022:** Early voting ends
- **May 17, 2022:** Election Day for the 2022 primary election

Laurinburg (Scotland County) and Lumberton (Robeson County) will also have their local municipal elections on May 17, 2022.

---

## OTHER UPDATES

The New Rural Project is excited to expand our team! We are hiring a Regional Organizer who will live in, and support, Union, Anson, and Richmond counties. Additionally, we are hiring a Program Director who will serve all seven of our counties and help build and create robust programs and events!

As we close out 2021, we need your help to kick-start the New Year so we can be in the best possible position to meet our extensive goals and plans for 2022. [Can you please chip in \\$10, \\$25, \\$50, or more to help us sustain and expand our work in rural communities?](#)

Thank you so much for being such a valuable member of the New Rural Project!

We hope you and your family have a safe and Happy Holiday!

Team New Rural Project

**VOLUNTEER**

**CONTRIBUTE**



New Rural Project is a 501(c)(4) registered non-profit organization and does not support or oppose any political candidate or party. New Rural Project can accept unlimited contributions from individuals, PACs, corporations and unions, and other 501(c)(4) organizations, but contributions to New Rural Project are not tax deductible.

New Rural Project  
PO Box 77424  
Charlotte, NC 28271  
United States

If you believe you received this message in error or wish to no longer receive email from us, please [unsubscribe](#).