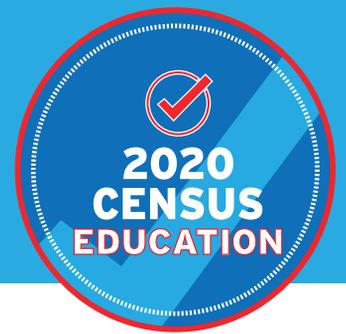


SUNCOAST Weekly Census 2020 Education Network Update



The Patterson Foundation is engaging in the Census 2020 Education project with the hope to more closely align community efforts and knowledge across Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota counties. You were identified as a community advocate for achieving a complete count during Census 2020. Please feel free to share this newsletter.

Progress and Persistence in DeSoto County

Despite the challenges brought on by COVID-19, members of the DeSoto County Complete Count Committee have been busy educating residents and businesses about the importance of the census, and their efforts are beginning to pay off. Over the course of the past few months, they have distributed nearly 8,000 Census 2020 Education primers printed by the Herald-Tribune and underwritten by The Patterson Foundation to DeSoto County residents via food drives, school supply programs, library drop-offs, and door-to-door distribution. Here are just a few of the many heroes in DeSoto County to whom TPF wants to give special thanks:

- Superintendent Adrian Cline, DeSoto County Schools
- Heather Ferjuste, Arcadia Site Manager for All Faiths Food Bank
- Clara Alvarez, Education Coordinator for Catholic Charities
- Linda Waters, Director of DeSoto County Libraries
- Becky Sue Mercer, Director of DeSoto County Housing Authority
- Debbie Wertz, Director of DeSoto County Chamber of Commerce

Current DeSoto County response rate: 43.7%,
Internet response rate: 19.2% (this means, focus on phone or mail-in response)

Stats Snapshot

National Response Rate: 60.6%
Florida Response Rate: 58%
Charlotte Response Rate: 60.3%
Manatee Response Rate: 54.7%
Sarasota Response Rate: 61.6%

Trust and Census 2020

It is critical to continue to educate on the security of census responses and why being counted in the 2020 Census is essential. Census counts determine the number of representatives areas get, districting lines, and many other aspects that allow our communities to be heard. For more information on data security of Census 2020 responses visit:

www.2020census.gov/en/data-protection



Local leaders weigh in on the importance of Census 2020

Review all the recent columns at:
www.heraldtribune.com/census

Share

Do you have a resource or idea to share with the community? Send Census 2020 ideas to hsaegerkarnei@thepattersonfoundation.org to be included in a future weekly update.



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