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Langeloth Foundation Doubles Democracy Funding to \$20 Million in 2020

The Foundation has drawn over 20% from its \$88 million endowment in 2020 to support election preparedness and voter engagement efforts

NEW YORK – The **Jacob and Valeria Langeloth Foundation** announced today that it will invest an additional \$10 million in civic participation and engagement organizations ahead of the November elections. The Foundation announced the first \$10 million in grants in June in response to both the racial justice related uprisings sparked by the death of George Floyd and to the increased challenges to safe, healthy, and accessible voting created by COVID-19. These concerns continue to impact election and democracy advocates working to ensure that historically underrepresented communities, including communities of color, lower-income communities, and young people, can cast their ballots and have each of those ballots counted.

This funding is a reflection of the Foundation's firm commitment to protecting the right of all eligible voters to cast their ballot safely and without obstruction. This additional \$10 million brings the Foundation's total giving in 2020 to \$28 million, over 30% of the \$88 million dollars that comprised the endowment at the beginning of the year.

"In the face of cascading, interconnected crises that threaten the very foundations of our society, philanthropy must do more than sit on the sidelines and maintain the status quo," said Scott Moyer, President of the Langeloth Foundation. "We hope that our decision to make such a major investment motivates others, including our colleagues in philanthropy, to consider what they do to support civic engagement and meet the demands of this moment. There is a tremendous need for non-partisan support that can make a difference on the ground, but we must act swiftly, decisively and courageously to meet that need."

The \$10 million investment will be divided across six organizations and funder collaboratives that work to ensure underrepresented communities have the information and access they need to vote in a safe and healthy manner. Areas of focus for the grantees include turning out and supporting young people, communities of color, and lower-income communities. Additionally, some grantees are focused on ensuring that election infrastructure is fully functioning, addressing shortages of poll workers, election administration challenges and voting security.

The grantees receiving funding are:

- State Infrastructure Fund
- Youth Engagement Fund
- Alliance for Youth Organizing
- Power the Polls
- Center for Secure and Modern Elections
- Trusted Elections Fund

Among these groups, the Langeloth Foundation has already supported the State Infrastructure Fund, the Alliance for Youth Organizing and the Youth Engagement Fund. The other grantees were invited to submit proposals after being identified in collaboration with leading experts in the field of civic engagement and participation.

"Civic participation and engagement are the underpinnings of all the work we do to support safe and healthy communities and justice reform," said Carmen Nevarez, MD, MPH, Langeloth Foundation Board Chair. "Without a functioning democracy that represents the needs and priorities of all citizens, we cannot hope to see the lasting, transformative changes we are being called upon to make."

The Langeloth Foundation has signed on to the <u>Crisis Charitable Commitment</u>, an effort launched to help create a reasonable benchmark for philanthropists that will encourage significantly greater resources to go to meet the needs created by the multiple crises facing the United States.

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The <u>Langeloth Foundation</u> supports justice, equity, and opportunity for all people to foster and sustain safe and healthy communities. The Foundation envisions a society free of systemic barriers to equity where each individual has the opportunity and ability to reach their full potential.