



What's YOUR agenda for Michigan?

2014



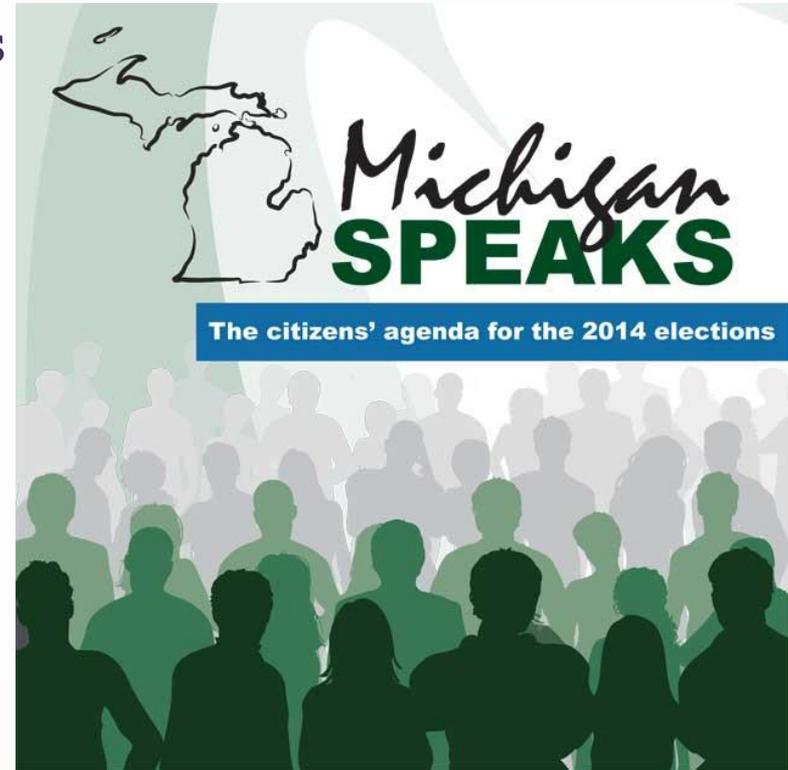
What is the Center for Michigan?



- 501(c)(3) Nonprofit & Nonpartisan Organization
- Founded in 2006
- Mission: Engage + Inform = Achieve
- 30,000+ Michigan residents engaged over 4 campaigns

Citizens' Agenda for Education

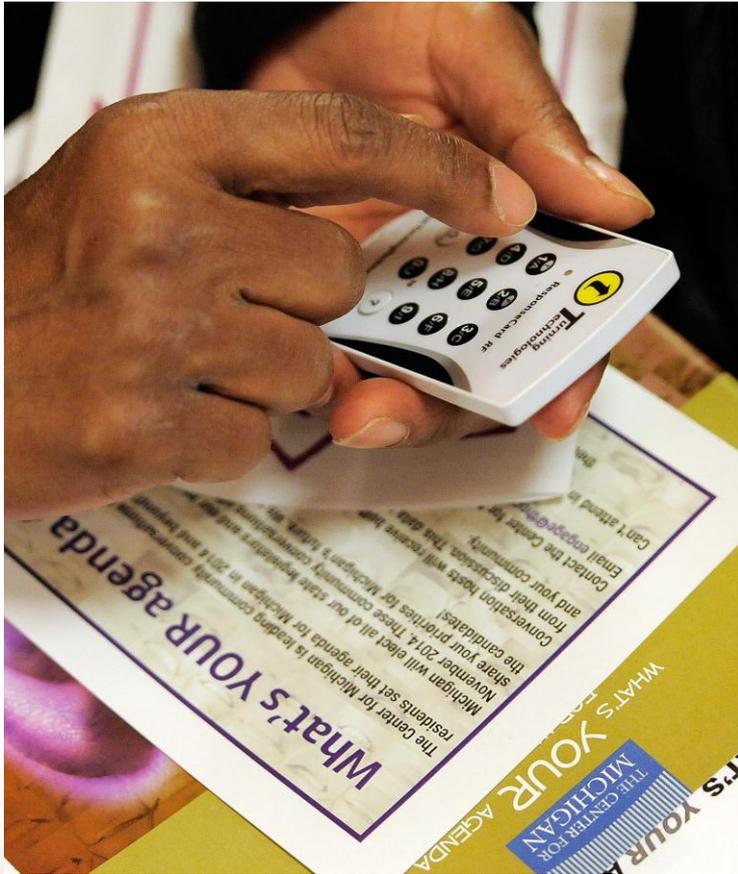
- Reached 5,500 residents
 - 166 Community Conversations
 - 2 statewide phone polls
 - 550 online participants
- Urgent education priorities
 - Improve K-12 performance
 - Intensify job training
 - Improve college affordability
 - Increase high school completion rates



The New Normal

- Challenge for policy makers: Do more, don't expect more money
- Public signals status quo is “new normal” on taxes and revenues
- Little public appetite for tax increases
- Quest for innovative solutions must continue
 - Albion-Marshall high school merger

Silver Linings



- Center for Michigan public engagement can and does make positive change
- Recent successes:
 - GSRP expansion; largest investment in public preschool in nation
 - Teacher certification legislation

Questions? Comments?

- Center for Michigan
734-769-4625
jbebow@thecenterformichigan.net
- thecenterformichigan.net
- www.bridemi.com

