



A 2 Day Civic Education and  
Public Policy Leadership Program

For

College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP)  
Higher Education Program (HEP)  
High School Students  
Youth Organizations

**Bert Corona Leadership Institute**  
1500 Farragut Street, NW, Washington, DC 20011  
202.723.7241 [www.bcli.info](http://www.bcli.info)



*"The path of Cesar Chavez and Bert Corona have crossed many times. They worked together to advance the cause of social justice for the disen-*

## Vision and Mission

BCLI embraces the spirit and energy of its visionary, Bert Corona, by continuing to provide “hands-on” training programs aimed at bringing migrants and immigrants into the mainstream. As such the Institute’s mission is to serve as the premiere leadership for migrant and immigrant populations across the United States and in the Americas, by promoting civic participation, education, and economic advancement.

## Program Description

The Experience in Democracy Leadership Training prides itself in teaching American civics by teaching the skills and tools through hands on interactive workshops and seminars. The 2 day leadership training sessions combine academic skills with civic education from a practical hands on learning process.

- Training for CAMP and HEP students are coordinated through CAMP/HEP programs and help to strengthen civic, public policy, academic and leadership skills on college campuses and communities.
- Training for High School and Youth Groups are usually conducted in preparation for the Washington visit, and in conjunction with other local leadership programs or initiatives.

## The key objectives are:

1. To strengthen civic education.
2. To teach skills and tools necessary to communicate and advocate effectively to elected officials at both the national and local levels.
3. To strengthen and enhance academic skills.
4. To develop leadership within migrant and immigrant communities.
5. To provide a forum to enhance public speaking, writing, and leadership development.
6. To increase the understanding of why it is important to vote in any election campaign.

## Schedule for Sessions (February through November)

The leadership sessions take place usually during the academic school year and is customized to meet the needs of each group of campus.

## Cost

The average cost per student is \$150 based on a minimum of 50 students per class. Includes books and materials. Travel and incidentals are billed separately.

# Core Training Schedule

## Day 1

### **Civic Seminar Part I: Power and Politics (4 hours)**

Understanding the core of politics in the United States. Questions explored are: When and how you can effectively use Power to bring about change in your community? Specific areas covered include:

- (a) The importance that money plays in politics; including topics such as lobbying, campaign finance and interest groups.
- (b) The importance of organized people; including community movements and labor organizations.
- (c) The importance of voting in the political process: examining voting rights, obstacles to voting, and how to vote wisely.

### **Break for Lunch**

### **Civic Seminar Part II: The Legislative Process: How a Bill Becomes a Law (4 hours)**

(a). This module will present an overview of the U.S. Constitution, Bill of Rights, the Legislative Process (how a bill becomes a law), and Political Parties in the United States.

(b). It will include an overview of the framework and responsibilities of federal, state (including a broad overview of federal and state agencies), and local governments (including responsibilities of elected officials: congressmen, senators, mayors and other local officials).

## Day 2

### **Civic Seminar Part III: Identifying and Defining Issues, and Developing Agendas. (4 hours)**

- (a). Participate in issues definition and issues development, including accessing research that helps to develop a snapshot of past and present community reaction.
- (b). Learn to propose a future oriented, proactive community mobilization plan.

### **Break for Lunch**

### **Civic Seminar Part IV: Developing an Issues Agenda, Part II Preparing to meet with members of Congress, Elected and Government Officials (4 hours)**

- (a). Learn how to speak with and write to elected officials and U.S. Agency Officials.
- (b). Learn public speaking skills, how frame personal messages and create press releases.



*Students debating and developing agendas.*

## Special Sessions

- **Financial Literacy**

Working closely with federal agencies, banking, and community organizations to promote education in financial literacy and encouraging participants to become participants in main-stream banking and financial planning.

### **Labor, Business , Health**

Training on labor, business, and health education can also be included by special request

“I learned that all people have power and there are two types of power: PEOPLE that symbolize the voice and MONEY which symbolizes the economy. Together our PEOPLE and their VOICES must be used to help our own communities have representation.”

— EIDL Program Graduate

“The motto, ‘Participation, Empowerment, and Leadership’ truly embodies the impact that this group has made in a number of ways. Through programs such as the Experience in Democracy, the Institute has created a unique opportunity for people to experience the political process.”

— The Honorable Howard L. Berman, Member of Congress



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