Detroit-Area Resources

Public Policy/Research/Reportage/Think Tanks

Citizens Research Council in Michigan (CRCM) non-partisan organization researching ballot proposals, state budgets and related state issues http://crcmich.org/

MI League for Public Policy works on issues impacting low-income families http://www.mlpp.org/

Data Driven Detroit Date and analysis about a variety of issues https://datadrivendetroit.org/

Detroit Journalism Cooperative is a partnership of five media outlets reporting on the city's future after bankruptcy with stories not usually told https://www.detroitjournalism.org/

The Bridge Magazine Bridge ("News and analysis from The Center for Michigan") is an online magazine publishing content throughout the week focused on six key facets of life in Michigan including children and families and education http://www.bridgemi.com/

Model D Weekly online magazine covering stories of creativity & innovation moving Detroit forward. Published every Tuesday http://www.modeldmedia.com/

Gonwer daily reporting on Michigan's policy and politics https://www.gongwer.com/programming/index.cfm

Michigan Nonprofit Association resources for nonprofits including *A Michigan Primer* which outlines how nonprofits can advocate and what they and should not legally do during election times https://mnaonline.org/

Chalkbeat nonprofit news organization covering the effort to improve schools for all children, especially those who have historically lacked access to a quality education. Covers 5 locations including Detroit https://www.chalkbeat.org/detroit/

There are countless think tanks that operate at the national/regional levels. Brookings Institution is the nation's oldest think tank (and most widely cited by media) that produces respected scholarship on a variety of issues and diversity of political views, but is generally considered progressive https://www.brookings.edu/

Information about the "50 Most Influential" think tanks can be found at http://www.thebestschools.org/features/most-influential-think-tanks/

Advocacy/Action/Civic Engagement Resources:

Michigan United is an advocacy group currently focused on immigration, criminal justice reform, racial injustice, and the Flint water crisis. http://www.miunited.org/

Common Cause advocates (at national and state levels) for open, honest government, including reform of the Electoral College through National Popular Vote. http://www.commoncause.org/states/michigan/

American Civil Liberties Union-MI Defending a wide range of civil rights and liberties. National and state-level. http://www.aclumich.org/

Detroit NAACP Detroit branch of the nation's oldest civil rights organization http://detroitnaacp.org/

The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights is the nation's premier civil and human rights coalition-based organization with over 200 members. https://civilrights.org/

Better Angels a bipartisan effort started in 2016 to use community conversation to lessen polarization. https://better-angels.org/

Beyond the Cause: The Art and Science of Advocacy is a study that identifies five essential approaches to successful advocacy and analyzes the effectiveness of advocacy on issues facing the entire nonprofit and philanthropic sector. https://www.independentsector.org/resource/beyond-the-cause-the-art-and-science-of-advocacy/

Voter/Candidate/Legislator Education Resources

League of Women Voters Guide is online and in print format. Customized for regional/local info http://www.vote411.org/

Vote Smart provides information about candidates, legislators, voting record and ratings by interest groups etc. https://votesmart.org/

Gov Track helps follow an issue and/or your member of Congress for info on bill sponsorship, voting etc https://www.govtrack.us/

