

## About HCG

Election-Year Forums & More — Are there areas of public life where Americans can agree and work together to solve problems? We'll tackle this question in our election year research and deliberation project called Hidden Common Ground. The project will include national press coverage from USA TODAY, opinion research from Public Agenda, and, through the network of the National Issues Forums, opportunities for people across the country to deliberate and exchange ideas about issues like divisiveness, health care, immigration, and the economy.

Beginning in December 2019 and lasting through the 2020 elections, Hidden Common Ground will focus on issues Americans across the political spectrum care deeply about... The project will tackle these four urgent national issues:

- December 2019: The division in our country
- February, March, and April 2020: Our health care system
- May, June, July, and August: Our immigration system
- September, October, and November: Our economy

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## Hidden Common Ground (HCG)

### Description:

Hidden Common Ground is a joint project of USA TODAY, Public Agenda, the Kettering Foundation, and NIF...

### Stakeholder(s):

**USA TODAY**

**Public Agenda**

**Kettering Foundation**

**NIF**

### NCG Supporters :

*The Hidden Common Ground initiative is supported by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the Charles Koch Foun-*

*dation, The Rockefeller Foundation and the Carnegie Foundation. It is a major project of the Kettering Foundation.*

**John S. and James L. Knight Foundation**

**Charles Koch Foundation**

**The Rockefeller Foundation**

**Carnegie Foundation**

### Vision

Americans agree and work together to solve problems

### Mission

To deliberate and exchange ideas about issues

### Values

**Agreement**

**Problem Solving**

## 1. Issues

*Research and explore the issues*

**Stakeholder(s)**

**Public Agenda**

Public Agenda will research and explore the issues, publishing its findings on one issue every few months beginning in December 2019

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## 2. Sponsors & Forums

*Encourage other sponsors to join the NIF network and also provide online forums that will be available to everyone through the Common Ground for Action platform*

### Stakeholder(s)

**National Issues Forums Institute**

**Libraries**

**Educational Institutions**

**Civic Organizations**

### USA TODAY :

*The issues will be those USA TODAY has selected for its elections coverage, starting with Partisan Divisiveness and the Collaborative Divide, and how it might be bridged, and followed by health care, immigration, and the economy.*

The National Issues Forums Institute will encourage other sponsors to join the NIF network and also provide online forums that will be available to everyone through the Common Ground for Action platform. The nonpartisan forums will be sponsored by libraries, educational institutions, and civic organizations all across the country.

### 3. Guides

*Research, develop and publish issue guides*

**Stakeholder(s)**

**Kettering Foundation**

The Kettering Foundation will research, develop and publish issue guides on each of the topics. These will be used in the forums nationwide and available for download.

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## 4. Stories & Opinions

*Publish stories and opinion pieces*

### Stakeholder(s)

#### USA TODAY Network

The USA TODAY Network will publish stories and opinion pieces on each issue and the associated research, as well as surface “Strange Bedfellow” stories of people in communities actually working together for the common good across partisan and other divides.

### Administrative Information

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**End Date:**

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