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Contact: Cecilia Silva, cecilia@reflect.us

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN: REFLECTUS ANNOUNCES THE EXPANSION OF THE “IT BEGINS HERE” FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

New opportunity available for women in Texas interested in political leadership.

Dallas, Texas (May 11, 2022) ReflectUS is pleased to announce the expansion of the “It Begins Here” Fellowship Program for women in Texas seeking opportunities to explore political and civic leadership opportunities. The fellowship program is geared towards engaging women from working-class backgrounds. As the only cross-partisan Coalition of the leading women’s representation organizations across the nation, ReflectUS launched this initiative in 2021 to engage civically-minded women interested in political and civic leadership in Texas.

During the inaugural program, fellows participated in capacity-building workshops, group discussions and networking opportunities that guided and supported their new and existing goals of seeking political and civic leadership roles. After a successful completion with 100% of the Fellows completing the program, ReflectUS decided to expand their efforts and double the number of Fellows and cohorts being conducted in an effort to reach more women.

This year, ReflectUS will recruit applicants for two cohorts, reaching upwards of 36 women across the state of Texas. Throughout the program, Fellows will engage in workshops led by ReflectUS and local experts on topics ranging from campaign fundraising and financing, public speaking and storytelling, campaign staff selection, financial management, and much more.

“Through the pilot launch of the “It Begins Here” Fellowship, we’ve seen just how great the impact is when we support working-class women,” said Tiffany Gardner, ReflectUS CEO. “The results of our pilot launch have seen 100% of our Fellows applying for local boards and commissions, 100% becoming more politically or civically engaged and 88% reporting a reduced sense of isolation in pursuing their political interest. After hearing from our participants in Texas just how life changing this experience was, we knew we had to expand it to reach more women. We are ecstatic to more than double our impact by offering two cohorts this year.”

“ReflectUS’ investment in these women has led to them becoming city board members, executive directors for community organizations, and even candidates for elected roles,” said



Kimberly Sawyer, ReflectUS Interim Texas Program Manager. "The "It Begins Here" Fellowship program is designed to create a space for these women to unite and own their political and civic ambition in an effort to create tangible plans to lead their communities."

Applications are now available at <https://reflect.us/fellowship/>. The deadline for completed applications is 11:59 PM CST on Thursday, June 30, 2022.

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ReflectUS

ReflectUS is the national, cross partisan coalition that accelerates and maximizes the collective impact of Coalition members, people, and organizations working to expand political leadership of, by, and for all women.

Coalition members include [Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies \(APAICS\)](#), [Higher Heights Leadership Fund](#), [IGNITE National](#), [LatinasRepresent](#), [RepresentWomen](#), [She Should Run](#), [VoteRunLead](#), and [Women's Public Leadership Network](#).

For more information or schedule an interview, please contact Cecilia Silva, Communications Director, at cecilia@reflect.us.