Concord Middle School Civic Action Projects:

Concord Resource List *

The purpose of this guide is to provide students with community resources to learn more, seek some advice, and advocate for their topic.

Topic	Resources	Contacts
Affordable Housing Volunteer Opportunity	**Concord Housing Authority** develops and manages safe, good quality affordable homes for low and moderate income individuals and families. **Habitat for Humanity** works to strengthen families by bringing people together to build and repair safe, energy efficient, affordable homes. There is a house on Commonwealth Avenue that is currently being built.	Liz Rust, Director, Regional Housing Services Office Stephan Bader, vice chair CHA lowellhabitat.org
Anti Racism/ Racial Justice/ DEIB	**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee** increases cooperation, understanding, and dialog among residents of diverse cultural, religious, socio-economic, racial and ethnic backgrounds, and to promote inclusion throughout the town.	Andrew Nyameyke, Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Josh Lee, DEI co-chair
Book Banning	**Fowler Library** **Concord Free Public Library**	Laura Mills, Dorrie Karlin, Cary Stough, Fowler Librarians Barbara Gugliuzza, Concord Main Branch Librarian
Black History	**The Robbins House,** a nonprofit focused on raising awareness of Concord's African, African American, and anti-slavery history from the 1600s-1800s.	Robbinshouse.org
Climate Crisis	**Climate Action Committee** advises and provides strategic direction to the Director of Sustainability and the Town on how to meet its climate goals.	Janet Miller Eric Simms, Sustainability Director

Disabled children & adults	**Concord Commission on Disability** promotes the inclusion and integration of persons with all types of disabilities in the community. **Minuteman Arc** improves the lives of children and adults with disabilities by increasing lifelong independence.	Jean Goldsberry, Board Chair and CEO
Drug Addiction	Alcohol, Tobacco, Cannabis, Opioids	Dr. Eden Evins, psychiatrist, former Board of Health member Ray Considine, former Board of Health member
Endangered Species	Reintroducing the endangered Blanding's Turtles to Concord	Bryan Windmiller, biologist
Environment / Wildlife	**Natural Resources Commission,** **Pollinator Health Advisory Committee,** protecting insects **Restoring Tree Canopy in Concord**	Delia Kaye, Director Mark Hansson, Board Member Brian Rosborough
Green Transportation Options (EVs)	Electric functioning cars and charging options	Janet Miller, Susan Frey, owners of EV Bolts
Homeless Shelter in Concord	Located at the former Best Western Hotel	Simon Cataldo, State Representative Kyle Stapleton, Cataldo assistant
Hunger	**Open Table** has a mission to end hunger in our local community by providing healthy food in ways that respect the dignity and diversity of those served. **Gaining Ground**, a nonprofit organic farm in Concord, Massachusetts, grows vegetables and fruit with the help of several thousand community volunteers and donates all of this fresh food to area meal programs and food pantries.	Open Table Gaining Ground
Immigration Refugees	Local contacts on issues and rights	Laurie Van Loon

LGBTQ+ Rights	Local contacts on issues and rights	Lynn Lucier, CMS School Nurse, Sarah Ballard, First Parish Concord
Local Media	***The Concord Bridge*** weekly newspaper in Concord	Betsy Levinson, reporter, former editor
Mental Health	Emotional stress, depression, and anxiety	Jill Block, Board of Health Dr. Deb Greene, Emerson Physician, former Board of Health member
Police; Gun Safety	**Police Department** - body cameras, gun background checks, assault weapons, graffiti	Chief Michael Mulcahy
Prison Reform	**Concord Prison Outreach,** a nonprofit committed to helping people who are incarcerated (imprisoned) build better lives for themselves and their families. www.concordprisonoutreach.org **NEADS**, a Therapy Dog Training Program at the Northeast Correctional Facility in Concord where Concord families help raise puppies in training on weekends.	Concord Prison Outreach NEADS/Puppy Raisers
Renewable Energy Solar/Wind	**Concord Municipal Light**	Jan Aceti, Energy Conservation Coordinator
Restorative Justice	**Communities for Restorative Justice**	Emily Wheeler
Reproductive Care & Abortion Laws	Local Contacts on issues and rights	Lynn Lucier, CMS School Nurse Dr. Jill Block, Board of Health
School Questions	**Concord Public Schools, Concord-Carlisle Regional School District** Critical Race Theory, School Uniforms, Pledge of Allegiance	Kristen Anderson, Director of Teaching and Learning
Sports	Mental health of professional athletes; transgender athletes; and compensation for college athletes	Aaron Joncas, Athletic Director, CCHS

Ukraine	**Concord for Ukraine,** a group of concerned Concord citizens who have come together to raise money and provide medical equipment to those on the frontlines in Ukraine through a Boston-based organization called Ukraine Forward.	Igor Kowalski, Coordinator Ellen Quackenbush
Water Issues	Plastic Water Bottle Ban **Organization For The Assabet, Sudbury & Concord Rivers (OARS)**'s mission is to protect, improve, and preserve Concord's 3 rivers and tributaries and watersheds for public recreation, water supply and wildlife.	Janet Rothrock www.oars3rivers.org
Voting	**League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle,** a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.	Linda Ziffrin, League Volunteer
Troubleshooting	**If you need additional help finding resources, contact:**	Susan Frey and Mary Sterling
Town of Concord	**If you have a question about Concord town government, contact:**	Terri Ackerman, Select Board Member
Governor	**Governor Maura Healey**	Governor Maura Healey
Congresswoman	**Representative Lori Trahan**	Representative Lori Trahan
State Senator	**Senator Mike Barrett**	Senator Mike Barrett
State Representative	**Representative Simon Cataldo**	Simon Cataldo State Rep. Kyle Stapleton, assistant
State Representative	**Representative Carmine Gentile**	Representative Carmine Gentile
Concord Town Manager	**Ms. Kerry Lafleur**	Kerry LaFleur

*Topics based on student projects from 2021-22, 2022-23

** Complied by volunteers from the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle