



About the Partners

The **E³ Alliance** is a regional collaborative working to increase global competitiveness, economic vitality and overall quality of life of Central Texas by aligning our education systems to better fulfill the potential of every citizen. As part of their Data Analysis and Research mission, the E³ Alliance has developed the most comprehensive set of achievement gap data for Central Texas that is available anywhere in the state of Texas.

Austin Voices for Education and Youth mobilizes young people, parents, and community members to strengthen public schools and expand opportunities for youth. Over the past four years Austin Voices has convened hundreds of people to weigh in on the education issues that affect them—from the neighborhood level with public housing “community conferences” to the national level with hearings on No Child Left Behind. Austin Voices’ youth and community engagement work was recognized with an Austin Chronicle 2005 “Best of Austin” award for their “Out-of-the-Box Public School Philosophy.”

Through deliberation, **Texas Forums**, an initiative of the LBJ Presidential Library helps people in communities broaden their understanding of complex public issues, find common ground for action, and imagine new and creative ways to solve public problems. Texas Forums maintains a network of over 400 people in Central Texas and around the country who are trained deliberative democracy moderators, skilled issue framers, innovative community organizers, and respected scholars and researchers of public deliberation.

Community Partners will include the United Way – Capital Area, who is hosting forums on systemic community change in May and September of 2007, youth services groups and other community-based organizations, as well as target communities around the seven regional institutions of higher education and the following school districts: Austin, Bastrop, Del Valle, Eanes, Manor, Round Rock and San Marcos.