

TO: Participants in the Statewide Local Government CECH-UP Program

University of Missouri Extension is pleased to support the Statewide Local Government CECH-UP Program. This program is designed to increase middle school students' knowledge and understanding of local government in Missouri and to help prepare young people for future roles as citizens and government leaders. The program is a unique partnership among University of Missouri Extension, Citizenship Education Clearing House, University of Missouri-St. Louis, schools and local governments.

The program connects the school with local government and the community to provide a multi-faceted learning experience. Communities benefit as youth work in local government and community organizations to improve their communities.

The handbook serves as a guide for the teachers in implementing the Statewide Local Government CECH-UP Program. It is aligned with the Missouri Show Me Standards and includes information about local government in Missouri, activities for students, suggestions for the development of community projects and a listing of additional resources on local government. Students and their teachers also have access to a web page for information and research assistance with the projects.

Extension believes in the significance of this program and its potential benefit in all parts of Missouri, with other populations, and as a model for other states. We are proud to support the advancement of this important program.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Henderson
Interim Vice Provost and Director
of Cooperative Extension