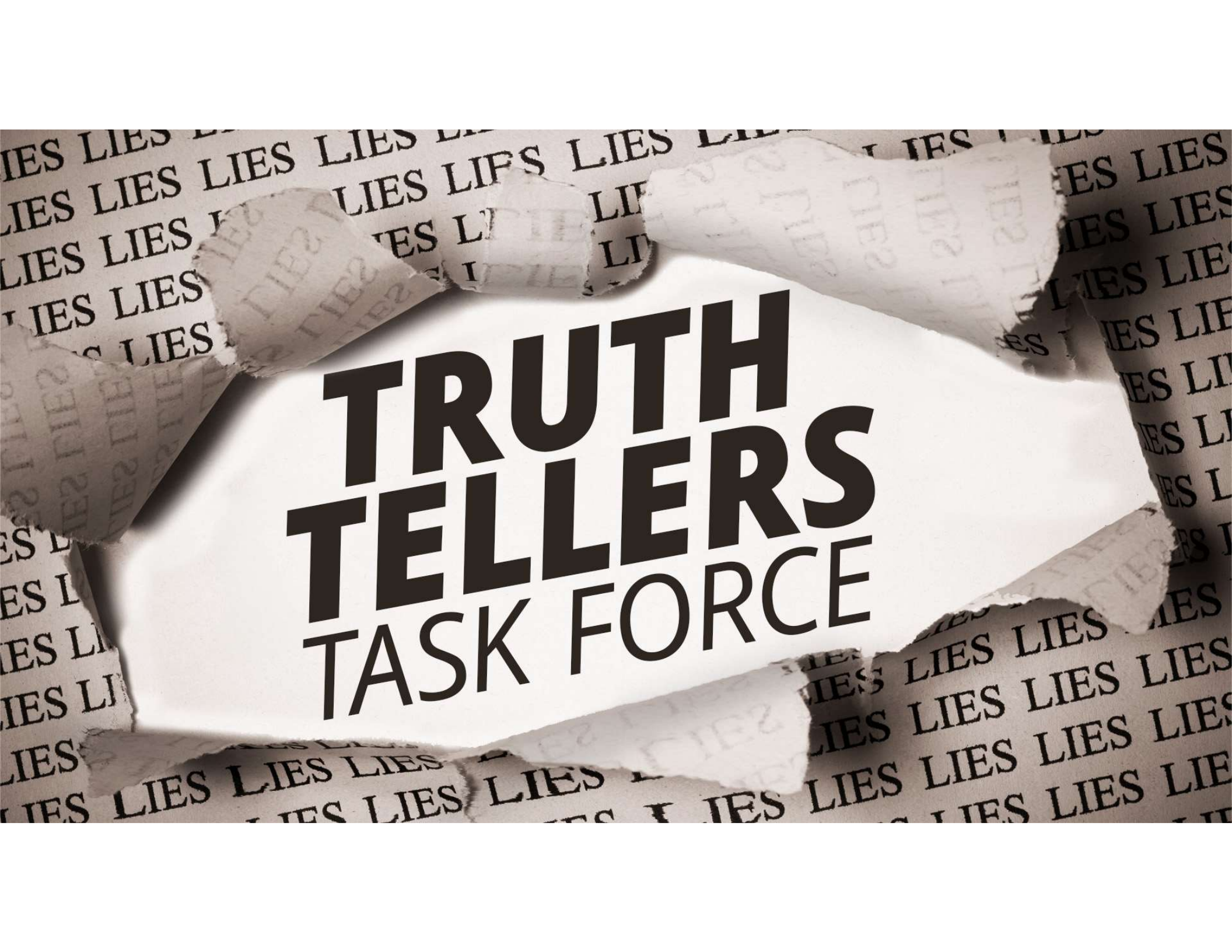




NASS

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**Michigan Secretary of State
Jocelyn Benson**



**TRUTH
TELLERS
TASK FORCE**

Current state of elections

- Communities of color are targeted by rampant misinformation tactics
- Voters in these communities are not sure who or what to believe





The power of a trusted voice

- Saw immediate value in working with local leaders at community conversations
- Called upon the voices of trusted messengers to share factual election information and debunk misinformation
- Enter the Truth Tellers Task Force*
(**working name*)

Makeup of the task force

- Task Force to include 25-30 members from across the state
- Made up of clergy; leadership from the Divine 9; small business owners; and representatives from nonpartisan organizations
- Representatives from communities more likely to be targeted by misinformation/disinformation campaigns

Makeup of the task force (continued)

- Potential members also include pro-democracy partners from previous initiatives
- Individuals must be willing to undergo training in Michigan election law, procedures, and newly enshrined rights and available to speak to audiences and share election facts and resources

Objectives of the task force

Process going into the 2024 election cycle:



Assess trends



*Educate on
pre-bunking
tactics*



*Communicate
accurate
information
effectively*



*Train and
empower other
Truth Tellers*

State of the program

- Statewide program is just getting started
- Enthusiasm is high surrounding its goals
- We know the need is great





Hope for the program

- Educate and inspire community leaders
- Learn from them about the best way to reach voters in their communities
- Establish a program that can serve as a model for other states to follow



Q & A



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