

IMPACT REPORT 2015/2016



LWW

LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®
EDUCATION FUND



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LETTER FROM THE LEADERSHIP



The League of Women Voters Education Fund plays a crucial complementary role in supporting the League's work to expand citizen participation in our democracy and defend voters' rights.

In 2015 and 2016, the League of Women Voters Education Fund was present in all 50 states and provided customized information to 4.5 million voters across the country not only about voting and registration rules in their state and local communities but also about specific races on their ballots. In addition, we helped register tens of thousands of new voters, and protected voters' rights at the polls.

We are pleased to present this 2015-2016 Impact Report highlighting the contributions to democracy made throughout the country.

In League,

Wylecia Wiggs Harris
Chief Executive Officer
League of Women Voters
Education Fund

Chris Carson
Chair
League of Women Voters
Education Fund

OUR MISSION



The League of Women Voters Education Fund works to encourage the active and informed participation of citizens in government and to increase understanding of major public policy issues.



REGISTERING, EDUCATING AND ENGAGING VOTERS



The best way to counter voter suppression laws and the corrupting influence of money on democracy is by expanding citizen participation in our elections.

The League's innovative *VOTE411.org* initiative was especially useful in helping voters across the country navigate changing requirements for registering and voting. By the end of the election cycle nearly 4.5 million voters had accessed *VOTE411.org* for information about their local elections.

In preparation for the 2016 General Election, the League launched one of the most ambitious voter registration campaigns in our history. In the Spring of 2016, the League launched a program in fourteen communities across the country to register newly naturalized citizens.

VOTE411.ORG

At the same time, the League's national Youth Voter Registration Project registered nearly 15,000 high school and community college students in 25 communities.

To mitigate the harm from voter suppression laws, the League also launched extensive education programs in states like North Carolina, Texas and Wisconsin to help voters understand and prepare for the new requirements.



PUTTING VOTERS AT THE CENTER OF CANDIDATE DEBATES



Candidate debates have a long history in American politics—and so does the League. We made sure that they would be structured to enlighten voters, not to advantage candidates or put the spotlight on moderators.

In advance of the presidential and vice presidential debates, we also sent an open letter to the moderators urging them to keep voters at the forefront of the debates.



MONEY IN POLITICS



The League strongly supports a comprehensive approach to big money in politics that includes enhanced disclosure, ending Super PACs and other outside spending coordinated with candidates, restructuring the Federal Election Commission (FEC) so it can be an effective enforcement agency, and public financing for congressional as well as presidential elections.

The League held more than 300 educational events in communities across the country to help people understand the new schemes and structures used to influence elections and erode protections against corruption in our political process, and to review possible responses to counter them in the current environment of rapid change.



PROTECTING VOTERS



The League is dedicated to ensuring that all eligible voters—particularly those from traditionally underrepresented or underserved communities, including first-time voters, non-college youth, new citizens, minorities, the elderly and low-income Americans—have the opportunity and the information to exercise their right to vote.

IN THE COMMUNITY ...

The League's members stood on street corners across America registering new voters, sponsored candidate debates and forums, and wrote letters to their local newspapers.

- State Leagues across the country worked in opposition to legislation that would reduce voter participation, often among minorities and young people, through such techniques as cutting early voting hours, imposing strict photo ID requirements and interfering with voter registration efforts.
- Echoing common feedback heard from Leagues, many reported that as a result of their positive relationships with officials, League volunteers were often called in to cover registration or voter outreach events that the officials themselves could not.
- In Pennsylvania, a League's intervention with an official directly resulted in the word "student" added to the listed of accepted absentee voters in a key state voter education resource.
- One League reported that as a direct result of their work with coalition partners, city officials agreed to conduct future elections with more transparency and improved accessibility.
- In Wisconsin, a local League worked with area clerks to arrange for taxi rides to the DMV for voters to obtain required voter ID, and also reached an agreement with officials to allow for social workers to assist homeless voters in verifying residency in order to vote.

... AND AT THE POLLS

Responding to widespread fears of voter intimidation and confusion over new voter suppression laws, hundreds of League volunteers served as election observers during the primaries and General Election.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

Unrestricted Activities	2016
REVENUE AND SUPPORT GRATS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,751,751
CONTRIBUTIONS IN LIEU OF PER-MEMBER PAYMENTS	44,342
PUBLICATION SALES AND OTHER INCOME	97,750
INVESTMENT INCOME	20,717
	2,014,560
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS	450,290
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	2,464,850
EXPENSE	
PROGRAM SERVICES	
COMMUNICATIONS	297,165
ELECTION SERVICES	868,785
MEMBER SERVICES	276,894
ADVOCACY	324,558
COUNCIL AND CONVENTION	2,811
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	1,770,213
SUPPORTING SERVICES	
FUND RAISING	705,470
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE	480,381
TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	1,185,851
TOTAL EXPENSE	2,956,064
CHANGE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS	(491,214)
NET REALIZED AND UNREAZLIED LOSS ON INVESTMENTS	(78,810)
CHANGE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	(570,024)
Temporarily restricted activities	2016
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	280,340
INVESTMENT INCOME	34,338
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS	(450,290)
CHANGE IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	(135,612)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(705,636)
NET ASSETS, JULY 1, 2015	5,370,925
NET ASSETS, JUNE 30, 2016	\$4,665,289

THANK YOU!

The League’s success is made possible by the tens of thousands of supporters and partners who contribute to our programs and help us realize our mission every day. We are grateful for all they do and wish we had space to list each and every one. Below, it is our privilege to recognize the individuals, foundations and corporations who donated \$1,000 or more during the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 20, 2016.

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Please notify our Development office at 202-263-1336 or development@lww.org.



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