

JULY 2022 – JUNE 2023

ANNUAL REPORT

LWV LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®



INTRODUCTION



DEAR FRIENDS,

For 104 years, people have powered our Leagues to create a more perfect democracy.

Our 500,000+ members and supporters act on the issues that affect their communities.

Local Leagues supercharge this work, using long-standing relationships to enact change through courts and legislatures.

Finally, our national office pushes for change at the federal level, connecting Leagues through coordinated campaigns that touch every corner of our country.

As the US's oldest voting rights organization, we've long witnessed the impact of people power; July 2022 – June 2023 was no exception.

The season got off to a devastating start as the Supreme Court **overturned the Constitutional right to abortion**, threatening both women's fundamental rights and their place in our democracy.

Leagues sprang into action. Members **wrote op-eds**, went on **podcasts**, and **rallied** to make our voices heard. State Leagues joined **signature campaigns** and informed voters about **upcoming ballot measures**. Nationally, we launched our **Women's Inequality Day** campaign advocating for gender equality.

On every level, Leagues empowered voters on this and countless other issues ahead of the midterm elections, making 30+ million voter contacts through ads, digital and print communications, registration drives, [VOTE411.org](https://www.vote411.org), [League in Action](#), and more.

Our efforts paid off. The midterms saw record-breaking voter turnout across multiple states, with several wins for reproductive rights and other pro-voter concerns. We were just getting started.

The following pages detail the results of our efforts in Fiscal Year 2023. We hope you are as inspired as we are by the League's accomplishments.

Yours in League,
Alma Couverthie and Kelly McFarland Stratman
Interim Co-CEOs



EMPOWERING VOTERS

Registering Voters

In 2022, League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF) launched its largest and most diverse voter registration program, focused on young people, newly naturalized citizens, and formerly and currently incarcerated people.

Throughout the fiscal year, LWVEF registered **199,000+ voters** across the country. This was in part through our **Naturalization Ceremony Registration Project**, which registered **37,000+ newly naturalized citizens** to vote at nearly **800 naturalization ceremonies**. Tens of thousands of young voters also were registered through our high school and community college programs, and **29,000+ people registered to vote** through our digital election information hub, [VOTE411](#).

Leagues also hosted more than **600 events** on National Voter Registration Day, registering voters at schools, libraries, food pantries, and other community locations.

LEAGUE SPOTLIGHT

NEARLY
2,000
VOTERS REGISTERED IN A DAY



[LWV of Houston](#) has registered citizens at naturalization events for almost three decades, empowering tens of thousands of voters in their strongest years. During one January 2023 naturalization ceremony, they registered nearly 2,000 voters in a single day.



Empowering Voters and Election Officials

During FY23, LWVEF made nearly **24 million contacts** via canvas, email, mail, phone, and text with election information, including candidate info and local voting rules. LWVEF also ran three respective marketing campaigns for VOTE411 ahead of the primary, midterm, and Georgia runoff elections, reaching **2.31 million voters**.

During this period, **4.3 million people** accessed VOTE411 for election information. For the 2022 general election, Leagues reached out to **52,000+ candidates** with nonpartisan questions for **VOTE411's** online voter guide. To further inform voters about their candidates, Leagues hosted approximately **3,000 candidate debates and forums**.

To counter mis- and disinformation and advance public understanding of the electoral process, LWVEF partnered with leading experts to create 15 videos (in English and Spanish) and offer 45+ trainings, reaching nearly **3.4 million people**.

Leagues also facilitated **1,000+ meetings** with election officials to ensure elections ran smoothly.

LEAGUE SPOTLIGHT

1st

STATE TO VOTE ON ABORTION RIGHTS



On August 2, 2022, Kansas became the first state to vote on abortion rights following the Supreme Court's rollback of reproductive freedom. **Leagues in Kansas** went straight to the people to empower them around this vote, sharing information at community events, via local media, and more. They partnered with organizations to conduct research, develop talking points, and inform the public in a nonpartisan fashion. Their efforts succeeded, with abortion rights winning in a landslide.



LEAGUE SPOTLIGHT

TRAININGS FOCUSED ON

Voting Rights



IN THE DISABILITY COMMUNITY

Promoting Civic Involvement

LWV empowered voters to get involved in all aspects of our democracy. Leagues activated their communities, promoting civic involvement within voters' networks. Through LWVUS's relational organizing tool, **League in Action**, supporters took **34,156 grassroots actions**, such as sharing voting tools with friends and family.

Leagues partnered with the creators of the film **No Time to Fail** to host screenings informing voters about the importance of election workers. We also continued our partnership with **Power the Polls**, encouraging voters to sign up as poll workers in their communities.

Leagues also strengthened their members' grassroots leadership. Our inaugural **Power the South** convenings saw Leagues in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee training members on getting out the vote, relational organizing, leadership development, and more.

During the Power the South convening, **LWV of Alabama** hosted trainings focused on promoting voting rights in partnership with the disability community. In Alabama, approximately 1 in 3 adults live with disabilities; the League's trainings recognized that all effective state democracy work needed to address those voters' needs.



DEFENDING DEMOCRACY

Promoting People Over Politics

In October 2022, Leagues from all 50 states and the District of Columbia joined forces with LWVUS and filed an amicus brief in [Moore v. Harper](#). The Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) case centered on the North Carolina legislature's assertion that state legislatures have exclusive power over redistricting under the dangerous Independent State Legislature Theory (ISLT).

As SCOTUS heard oral arguments in the case, League members from across the country rallied in Washington, DC. The Supreme Court rejected ISLT in June 2023.

LEAGUE SPOTLIGHT

In addition to supporting the DC rally, [LWV of Piedmont Triad \(North Carolina\)](#) hosted a rally and press conference speaking directly to North Carolina voters about the case.

Jo Nicholas of [LWV of North Carolina](#) stated, "Extreme partisan gerrymandering continues to be the battle for fair maps in North Carolina...[w]e will continue to fight for fair maps for everyone."

RALLIED FOR

Fair Maps



LEAGUE SPOTLIGHT

Encouraged



CITIZEN INPUT ON LOCAL ISSUES

[LWV of Santa Fe County](#) wrote an op-ed recommending that local governments encourage and enable citizen input on local issues. Further, they emphasized the importance of engaging their diverse citizenry, including members of the four Pueblo nations, Navajo and Mescalero Apache tribes, and other indigenous communities.

Advocating to Elected Officials

In FY23, LWVUS created 13 action alerts enabling supporters to contact elected officials on issues like voting rights, gender equality, gun reform, and more. The alerts resulted in **69,000+ letters to Congress**, 45,000 of which were written by new activists.

These included:



41,588

Letters supporting the Equal Rights Amendment



21,600

Letters supporting the DISCLOSE Act and transparency around election finances



14,000+

Actions around voting rights

FILED A LAWSUIT

Against

DROP BOX
INTIMIDATION



In 2022, Arizona voters faced coordinated efforts from anti-voter groups to intimidate people casting their ballots at drop box sites. Bad actors wearing tactical military gear were staking out drop boxes and taking pictures and videos of voters, falsely accusing them of voter fraud.

Two weeks before Election Day, LWV of Arizona filed a lawsuit in response and secured a critical temporary restraining order against drop box intimidation ahead of the 2022 election.

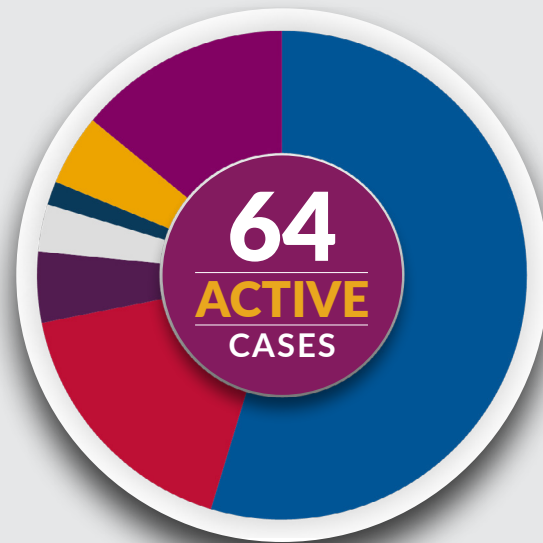
“No voter should have to confront armed individuals or be baselessly accused of fraud just for exercising their fundamental right to vote,” said Pinny Sheoran, President of LWV of Arizona. The suit was settled in favor of voters in May 2023.

Litigating for Democracy

During FY23, LWV engaged in litigation across the country. Through **64 cases in 31 states**, Leagues used legal action to **protect more than 12 million voters**.

Litigation centered on the issues within the League’s Making Democracy Work™ campaign, such as voting rights, improving elections, and redistricting. LWV also expanded litigation around reproductive justice, LBTQIA+ rights, and other priority issues.

ACTIVE CASES FY23



■	35 Voter Access/Voter Protection
■	11 Redistricting
■	3 Voter Purges
■	2 Protected League Activities
■	1 Money in Politics
■	3 Reproductive Justice
■	9 Other (education, LBTQIA+ rights, etc.)



Transformation Journey

Our work during the fiscal year was not only external, but internal.

In June 2022, LWV launched our Structure Transformation Plan. This phase of the League’s transformation journey aims to grow League membership, strengthen our grassroots power, and bolster our ability to empower voters and defend democracy.

Its goals include:

- Establishing League-wide rights and responsibilities for both our members and our state and local Leagues;
- Upgrading our membership system to encourage growth in both numbers and diversity; and
- Investing in the grassroots power of state Leagues.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) is a central tenet of the plan.

In FY23, Leagues provided input on a new League business model, data needs, our membership model, and League capacity. LWV closed the fiscal year by previewing our new shared dues model at our June 2023 Council. The model will reallocate national funding to our state and local Leagues, creating a more streamlined and inclusive experience for members.



PARTNERS AND DONORS

Our work is strengthened by countless legal, organizational, corporate, and other partnerships. We're grateful to all these partners, including:

LEGAL PARTNERS

- Asian American Legal Defense & Education Fund
- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
- ACLU Georgia
- ACLU Maryland
- ACLU Mississippi
- ACLU Ohio
- ACLU Pennsylvania
- ACLU Texas
- ACLU Virginia
- Brennan Center for Justice
- Campaign Legal Center
- Crag Law Center
- Disability Rights Texas
- Fair Elections Center
- Free Speech for People
- Harvard Election Law Clinic
- Law Forward
- Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
- Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights
- Mississippi Center for Justice
- NAACP Legal Defense Fund
- National Women's Law Center
- New Jersey Institute for Social Justice
- Protect Democracy
- Southern Coalition for Social Justice
- Southern Poverty Law Center
- Texas Civil Rights Project

CORPORATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS

- Bernard and Anne Spitzer Charitable Trust
- Democracy Fund
- Diane and Norman Bernstein Foundation
- Donald A. Pels Charitable Trust
- Glassybaby Foundation
- Herb Block Foundation
- Howard and Geraldine Polinger Foundation
- Jerome L. Greene Foundation
- Lisa and Douglas Goldman Fund
- The DJ McManus Foundation, Inc.
- Meeus -Stevens Charitable Fund
- Mertz-Gilmore Foundation
- Salesforce
- Philip J. Solondz Family Foundation
- The Schnieders Family Foundation
- The Stone Family Foundation
- Theodore Cross Family Foundation
- Zegar Family Fund

INDIVIDUAL DONORS - \$5,000+

- David Altshuler
- Janice & Edward Ames
- Laura Back and Alexei Kosut
- Donna Baird
- Ken Baker
- Brigid Barton
- Nancy and Reinier Beeuwkes
- Alpine and Don Bird
- Janet Chrispeels
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- David Colton
- Elizabeth Cospers
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- Luella DeJong
- Linda deLeon
- Frances and David Edwards
- Ginger Mae Fetzer
- Janet Flores
- Teresa and Sophie Friedman
- Caroline Gabel
- John and Janet Garrett
- Juliet Goodfriend
- The Deborah Gray Estate
- Carol Hall
- Susan Helsel
- Alan Hergott
- Esther Hersh
- Hickory Farms
- Edward Hopkins
- The William J. Hopkins, Jr. Family Trust
- Interpublic Group
- Julia Kalmus
- Paul Kappils
- Olive Kimball
- Russell Kirk
- Kathy Lenzmeier
- Dena Levy
- Marc Levy
- Carol Lippman
- David and Rosamond Mack
- Jo Marie
- Paula Mathis
- Barbara McCann
- The Virginia Mertz Estate
- Judith Mishkin
- Kate Becker Morrison
- Geri Nelson
- Mary Nikolay
- Meera Oza
- Gloria Page
- Elaine Poznanski
- Garrett Quinn
- Eleanor and William Revelle
- Lynn Riggs
- David Roberts
- Sarah Robinson
- Beverly Rogers
- Josiah Sand
- Deborah and Stephen Shefler
- Heidi and Thomas Sikina
- The Femeda Spencer Estate
- Bruce and Irene Steiner
- The Dolores Stickler Estate
- Jenny Stoddard
- Orlin Trapp
- Kathleen Utgoff
- Marjorie Volkel
- Margaret Wallace
- Rosamond and George Warren
- James E. Wegly
- David and Ahlene Welsh
- Hilda Wiens
- Judy Zazulia
- Ursula Zvilna

FINANCIALS (C3 & C4)

Revenue and Support	
Contributions	\$9,399,014
Contributions of nonfinancial assets	\$3,099,095
Per-member payments	\$2,065,410
Mailing list rental income	\$226,661
Sublease income	\$335,080
Publication sales and other income	\$190,524
Interest and dividends, net of fees	\$267,188
Contributions in lieu of per-member payments	\$52,907
Council and convention	\$89,653
Net assets released from restrictions	\$1,132,718
Total revenue and support	\$16,858,250

Expenses	
Program Services	
Advocacy	\$4,333,556
Mission impact	\$4,009,528
Communications	\$2,439,077
Outcome and evaluation	\$1,224,293
Member services	\$1,172,442
Council and convention	\$436,857
Total program services	\$13,615,753

Expenses	
Supporting Services	
Fundraising	\$4,081,622
General and administrative	\$1,908,154
Total supporting services	\$5,989,776
Total expenses	\$19,605,529
Change in net assets without donor restrictions before other items	(\$2,747,279)
Net realized and unrealized loss on investments	\$633,504
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	(\$2,113,775)

Activities with Donor Restrictions	
Contributions	\$1,348,843
Interest and dividends, net of fees	\$39,699
Net investment gain	\$92,729
Net assets released from restrictions	(\$1,132,718)
Change in net assets with donor restrictions	\$348,553
Change in net assets	(\$1,765,222)

Net Assets	
Beginning	\$16,317,037
Ending	\$14,551,815



LOOKING AHEAD

As you can see, it has been an extraordinary year.


Our efforts in FY23 ensured millions of voters were protected at the ballot box, empowered with election information, encouraged to get involved in our democratic process, and enabled to make their voices heard.

And as we approach a monumental moment in our nation — the 2024 presidential election — we will do it all again, a hundredfold.

It's a task we take seriously. So much is at stake, from jobs to the environment to the very state of our democracy. We cannot afford to leave a single voter behind.

So, let's get started!

With gratitude,
Alma Couverthie and Kelly McFarland Stratman
Interim Co-CEOs



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