

# The League of Women Voters of Washington and the League of Women Voters of Washington Education Fund Annual Report 2020-2021

We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.

The League believes in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.

### **Board of Directors**

President, Lunell Haught 1st Vice President, Susan Fleming 2nd Vice President, Amanda Clark Secretary, Jean Snider Treasurer 501 (c)(3), Myra Howrey

### **Portfolio Directors**

Advocacy, Joan Lawson Civic Education, Beverly Austin Communications, Lea Galanter Membership Education Leadership Development, Linda Benson Fundraising, Amanda Clark, Donna Dekkert Fontaine Voter Services, Mary Coltrane 501 (c)(4) Treasurer, Joanna Cullen

The League of Women Voters of Washington includes 18 local Leagues and three units-at-large that are home to 2,775 members. Hundreds of members have engaged in a difficult environment and succeeded in bringing more people into civic life. We learned that attendance virtually using Zoom is greater than attendance in person. Using Zoom also allowed us to record meetings and make them available on the LWVWA website. Our donors have made it possible to reach more people with more tools to make sure our democracy is working. The League is standing up in new places, providing facts, support, and processes in these unpredictable times that are challenging our democracy. Additional annual information is available on the LWVWA website.

## **Impact: Advocacy**

### Advocacy

- The League's Advocacy Team is a dedicated group of 14 issue chair citizen lobbyists who advocated on 17 issues, met with 69 legislators, and supported 106 successful bills, including the Access to Democracy package.
- The LWVWA successfully opposed bills and Referendum 90 (to eliminate comprehensive sex education in schools) and participated in 12 statewide coalitions. The LWVWA consistently uses the diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) lens for all legislation.
- During Lobby Week, co-hosted with Fix Democracy First, hundreds of people met through Zoom and held numerous personal meetings with legislators; attendees also participated in Action Workshops, also held virtually.
- The LWVWA filed an amicus curiae brief in *Aji P. v. State off Washington*, the "youth climate" case (no final ruling yet), and participated in the Washington Climate Assembly, an innovative and successful exercise.
- The League filed an amicus curiae brief in a suit regarding I-976 (*Garfield Transportation Authority, et al. v. State of Washington, et al.*, the "car tabs" case), and prevailed in a ruling that included the unconstitutionality of the initiative.

## Impact: Local League Support

### **Voter Services**

The Voter Services Committee was pivotal in providing voting information materials to League members and the public. Some of these included:

- The <u>Your Vote</u> tabloid filled with information challenging dis- and misinformation. It was produced in conjunction with *The Spokesman-Review*, and newspapers throughout Washington can freely use the electronic version. It will also be available in Spanish.
- Providing an online voters' guide and ballot summaries in multiple languages.
- Assisting the Secretary of State and county election officials in coordinating and publishing facts on elections issues, including dis- and misinformation.
- Having both Republican and Democrat state leadership encourage candidates to participate in local and state debates.
- Presenting the first statewide Voter Services Workshop to educate and inform local Leagues about debates and forums.
- VOTE411 received information from more than half of the candidates running, except in counties where there is no League, showing the impact of local Leagues. VOTE411 received more than 74,000 inquiries about campaigns in 2020.

## **Civics Education**

• Published *The State We're In: Washington* textbook for elementary school students and represented it at social studies conferences.

- Worked with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to promote school district use of *The State We're In: Washington* texts.
- Partnered with the Office of the Secretary of State on its outreach program.
- A state committee surveyed local Leagues to identify programs focused on adult education, with an eye toward learning how many included people with diverse backgrounds, races, and socioeconomic status.

### Membership Education and Leadership Development (MELD)

- Groups of local League leaders met monthly with a facilitator and state board liaison to discuss common issues and ideas.
- Affinity groups were created as an informal network of people who share similar interest and concerns about an issue. These groups act as incubators for ideas and actions.
- An Observer Corps tool kit, based on the best from each Observer Corps, was made available on the League website.
- An orientation video and PowerPoint slides was produced to act as a template for newmember orientations, allowing local Leagues to customize the presentation for their community.

### Communication

- Increased postings to social media about both League activities and issues and related events from like-minded groups.
- Modified the schedule for *The Voter* and *This Month in the League* newsletters. Continued to seek ways to keep people informed but not overwhelmed by local, state, and national news.
- Created and organized League style guidelines—wrote the *LWVWA Style Guide* and made all national guides available in the Resources section of the League website.
- Ensured that League public-facing documents are professional-looking and adhere to League templates and branding, including documents posted on the LWVWA website, *The State We're In: Washington* textbooks, letters to the editor, op-eds, voter services materials, and League amicus briefs.
- Co-authored with the Washington Policy Council an op-ed on remote testimony that was published in print media throughout the state.

## Nonpartisanship

- A group of experienced League members (including former board members) discussed and consulted with local and state Leagues to determine how best to maintain nonpartisanship within the context of how League members advocate for and work on issues.
- Co-authored an op-ed with the conservative Washington Policy Center and co-sponsored events with the liberal Indivisible group, demonstrating that the League can work with organizations of all political leanings on public policy issues we agree on.

# Impact: Capacity-Building

## Development

- Sent out fundraising letters with a first-time-ever annual report brochure via mail.
- Organized three successful internet fundraising campaigns (Give Big, Giving Tuesday, and Advocacy)
- Added a new and successful Donate button on the LWVWA website for events.

### **Research—Evaluating League Effectiveness**

- Contracted with Washington State University to provide services for a study to assess the effectiveness of the LWVWA strategic plan.
- Engaged five university student interns to work on the project.
- Trained 20 members in the semistructured interviewing technique. These people interviewed 100 local League members about their experiences in the League, setting the foundation for a League-wide survey.

### Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- The DEI lens was used in all LWVWA/Education Fund work, with the League applying the following questions:
  - Who is involved in the process?
  - Who will be impacted?
  - o What are the intended and unintended outcomes?
  - o Does this align with our vision for an equitable and inclusive organization?
  - What changes could be made to make this more equitable?
- Surveyed local League leadership for personal diversity interests.
- Identified and acknowledged current DEI work by local Leagues at 50 events.
- Delivered DEI presentations at the LWVWA 2020 Council and the LWVWA 2021 Convention.

### Capacity/Infrastructure-Building

- This year saw the League move to Zoom for state and local League meetings; connect members, committees, teams, and Leagues through SharePoint (an online cloud-based document system that provides access to information and collaborative writing).
- Having the state council, convention, and workshops all remotely accessible through Zoom allowed the LWVWA to increase attendance and participation at League events and meetings.
- Implemented staggered terms for the Board of Directors
- Adopted a new state study after many years.
- Adopted an increased budget (supported by LWVWA members) that incudes additional part-time staff, voter service funding, and resources for members to attend board meetings without paying out-of-pocket travel expenses.

• Adopted a new bylaw to change Board of Director elections from every two years to staggered terms, with Board members elected by delegates at both the LWVWA council and LWVWA convention.

## **Investment Report**

The LWVWA Endowment Fund stood at \$781,524.80 on July 1, 2019. Between July 1, 1019, and June 30, 2021, the fund received \$20,061.90 in donations, and \$86,050 was transferred to the Education Fund in support of 501(c)(3) projects. That means that we spent almost \$66,000 more than we took in. That funding came from investment gains.

During this same time, the fund earned \$80,000 in dividends and \$10,000 in realized gains. The portfolio also gained an additional \$130,000 in unrealized gains. As of March 31, 2021, the fund was valued at \$941,458.86.

# Appendix

LWVWA Education Fund Biennial Year-End 2021 Financial Report

	Actual
Revenue	
Grants	73,980
Contributions	94,520
The State We're In	106,716
Endowment	72,228
Misc.	171
Total	347,615
Expenditures	
Administration	142,962
Fundraising	7,659
Program and Study/Civic Ed	40,564
Outreach and Public Relations	1,265
The State We're In	121,050
Total	313,500
Local League Education Fund	
Accounts	
Revenue	102,737
Expense	109,296

Revenue	FISCAL YEAR 7/1/2020 through 6/30/2021	
Education Fund contribution for rent	\$63,500	
Membership Per Member Payment	50,717.42	
Donations	17,569.74	
Program Income	9,076.65	
State Convention Registration	2,534.79	
State Convention Donations	4,570.74	
Misc. Income	2,940.05	
Total		\$150,909.39
Expenses		
Member Services	\$1,616	
Action Teams	12,025	
State Board Expenses	625.74	
Convention	1,951.16	
Operations	11,670.85	
Rent	20,738.31	
Insurance	1577.00	
Payroll	75,468.04	
Fees and Taxes	1,410.42	
Total		\$127,082.52

# Donors, July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021

## \$4000 +

с3

Judith and Robert Fisher Anonymous

## \$1,000 - \$3999

### c3

Nancy Bagley	Amanda Clark	Anonymous
David Bradlee	Sally Mackey	
Michelle and Carl Chasse	Ann Murphy	

### c4

Pamela Behring

### \$500 - \$999

William Aber	Laura Gardner	Anne Sedgwick
Liz Bander	Dee Ann Kline	J P Shapiro
Anita Bryant	Robert Lake	Jean Snider
Joanna Cullen	Dorris Martin	Anonymous
Susan Fleming	Carol Olwell	

### c4

Mary Alberts	Carol Olwell	Carolyn Webb
Lavinia Davis Downs	Judy Ostrow	Anonymous
Christina Krashan	Lounette Templeton	

# \$250-\$499

c3		
Debbie Bertlin	Linnea Hirst	Lucy Steers
Lunell Haught	Gillian Marsden	Connie Waddington
Elsie Heinrick	Mary Ellen Shields	

### c4

Anne Anderson	Robyn Grad	Suzanne Porter
Lori Feagan	Joan Lawson	Anne Thomas
Raelene Gold	Mary Mellott	Anonymous

### c3

Donna H. Allen Eunice Askov **Barrie Austin** Vladimir Baranov Criss Bardill Ruth Beckett Michael Bell Linda Benson Sue Bredensteiner **Raejean Bridges-Avalos** Lynn Busacca Eileen Carter David Church Andrea Cohen Mary Coltrane Lucy Copass Clyde Cramer Gena DiLabio Ananth Dileepkumar Ann DuBois Kaye Dykas **Clara Eustis** Alberta Finley John Garing

#### c4

Kim Abel Susan Ashe Theresa S Baker Linda Bergquist Sue Bredensteiner Lynn Carpenter Duffy Clarke Mary Coltrane Caroline Cook Joanna Cullen Nancy Eitreim Barry Fishman David Fliegel Terje Vold

Roberta Goodnow Jerri Gordon **Gourmondo Catering** Agnes Govern Yvonne Hall Helen Hepp Nancy Hinton Jerry Hoff Julie Hoke Annette Holcomb Myra Howrey Steve Johnson **Beverly Johnson-Torelli** Julie A. Jones Ruth Kagi Jeannette Kahlenberg Brian Kanes Don Krupp Joan Lawson Jav Livev Kate Lunceford **Cindy Madigan** Lisa Marchisio Elizabeth McKercher

Ann Green Lorie Hewitt Nancy Horman Diane Horn Dustin Jamieson Steve Johnson Janet Kendall Charles Laird Daniel Leonard Cathy Liu Scott Linda Martin Michael McDonell Michele Meith

Liz Mendizabal John Mumma Ellyn Murphy Janet Nail Sally Nelson Sandra Potter Cynthia Pratt Linda Provost William R. Ross Justin Ruane Sueann Sluis Charles & Marguerite Smukler Shirley Sonnichsen Kathleen Sparkes Anita Staeheli Toyoko Tsukuda Karen Verrill Susan Vossler Linda Ward Joella Werlin Ann Williams Judy Zeider Anonymous

> Janet Merriam Sandra Nelson Nancy Pearson Marilyn Perkins Robert Pierce Karol Pulliam Kerry Reid Beatrice Roy Nicholas Smith Kathleen Sommers Justin Stormo Gipson Lora Stovall Toyoko Tsukuda

#### \$1 - \$99

c3

Ann Aagaard Kim Abel Laura Ackerman Kristi Adams David Addicott Alice Allison Janet Anderson Jim Arnold **Beverly Austin Ronald Bailor** Susan Baird-Joshi John Baker **Robin Barker** Gisela Baxter Juliet Beard Heidi Bennett Sasha Bentley Laurie Beyer Daniela Birch Susan Boggiano Dian Brennan Kara Briggs Lynn Carpenter Janice Catrell **Duffy Clarke** Elinor Clausen Alice Clive Carol Colleran **Becky Cox** Jeanne Crevier Susan Daniels Glen Danielson Ana de Give Shulamit Decktor Melissa Denton Mary Ehlers Pamela Englett **Ginny Enstad** Hilke Faber Susan Fiksdal Dee Anne Finken Blaire Finney

Willa Fisher Carol Flexer Gavle Fortson Karen Fraser Julie Frick Judith Gammon **Ray Garrido** Christine Garst Carrie Lee Gilchrest Judy Golberg Louanne Grand B. Joan Green **Devra Gross** Pam Hamon Molly Hannan Sarah Hart **Carol Haskins** Addy Hatch Hanley Ruth Ann Hatchett Elizabeth Heath Marion Heath Jackie Hertel June Hooper Mary Hughes Ellie Hutton **Delores** Irwin Judy Jennings Shelley Jones **Kindra Jonson** Pamela Jorgensen Carolyn Joswig-Jones Charlotte Kanemori Miriam Kerzner Valerie Kindschy Kay Kite Marilyn Knight Catherine Kramer Susan Kreid Sandra Lanev Carol Larsen Mimi Latta Sue Lean

Lynn Lichtenberg **Richard Lipsky** Amy Lodholz Linda Lorentsen Jo Maas Steven Macdonald Patricia MacRobbie Carolyn Maddox **Connie Marchant** Kathy Matlin Jean Maust Alison McCaffree Charles McCaffree Jane McClure Linda McNamara Meghan McNicholas Carol McVicker Kritin Metzelaar Rebekah Miller Sarah Beth Miller Linda Milsow Victoria Milton Frances Moore Meghan Moore Peri Muhich Daniel Muhm Catherine Nemmert **Carole Oesterhaus** Renee Olson Janet Orlando Judy Ostrow Suzanne Papcun Laura Parma Veigel Beth Pellicciotti Amy Peloff **Rosanne Petersen** Candace Pratt Karol Pulliam Marcia Radey Dianne Ramsey Chris Rasmusson Vicki Roberts-Gassler

Nancy Robinson Timothy Robinson **Rosemary Rognstad** Joann Roomes Jane Roush Vicci Rudin Daren Sachet Wende Sanderson Nancy Sapiro Craig Savage Mary Shatto Charlene Shelfer K Diann Shope **Cynthia Shotts** Leni Skarin Joan Smith

### c4

Jackie Aase Sue Abbott Nancy Amidei Susan Baird-Joshi Judith Baldwin Criss Bardill Sasha Bentley Katherine Bittinger Eleanor S. Brown Mary Carlson Tamara Caulkins Susan Costanzo Beatrice Crane Judy Deiro Walter Denson Sharon Feola Virginia Fitzpatrick Mary Jane Forbes Beatrice Greenwald James Hansen Laura Hauer

**Diane Snell** Lauren Snider Kathryn Snow Kathleen Sommers Judie Stanton Sue Stednick **Karianne Stinson** Susan Stitham Eycke Strickland Carol Sullivan Julie Szmania James Tatum Jr Mary Kay Taylor Sarah Tunnell Mickie Vail Lynnette Vehrs

Jonathan Heller June Hooper Dianne Hulscher Ellie Hutton Barbara Jordan Carol Kane Kitty Klitzke Robert Lake Joanna Lalos Colleen Lamb-Gunnerson **Kirstie Lewis** Rosalie McAllister Rosalie McCreary **Dorothy McDugald** Marcia McLaughlin Diane Molleson Patricia Nicola Susan O'Neil Joan O'Reilly **Dudley Ostlund** Judith Pile

Lydia Vila Joanna Vintella JoAnne Way Diane Wheeler Marjorie Whitmore Laurie Wick Agnes Wicknick Elida Wilson Stephen Wilson Britt-Mari Wisniewski Caroline Wood Wendy Wyatt Jane Young Judy Lee Young Matt Zuvich Anonymous

Terri Pollock Sarah Potter Anne Purcell Vennessa Pustek Leigh Radford Vicki Rankin Jane Relin, MSW Jasmin Rezaie-Tirabadi Craig Savage Sandra Shipley Linda Shirley Susan Silvera **KF** Steen Carol Sullivan Catherine Tardif-Douglin Karen Verrill Dottie Villesvik Britt-Mari Wisniewski Jane Young Anonymous