



2021-2022 Report to the Community

Empowering Voters.

Defending Democracy.

Our Mission

The League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

We serve citizens who reside in Montgomery and Greene Counties.

The League is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity and inclusion in principle and practice. Diversity, equity and inclusion are central to the organization's current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

Core Values

- Respect individuals
- Value diversity
- Empower grassroots
- Recognize the power of collective decision-making for the common good
- Encourage civic engagement

Services

- Candidate forums and interviews
- Voter registration services
- Legislation and election information
- Speakers Bureau
- Observation of government meetings
- Link to State and National LWV
- Facebook and website election information

Publications

- Annual Voters Guide, in English and Spanish which is distributed through local news publications, on our website, LWVdayton.org and Vote411.org
- Annual Directory of Public Officials
- Monthly The Voter Newsletter
- Report to the Community

Funding

The LWV depends solely upon contributions from our members and the community.

Membership

We continue to expand our membership and welcome all who are age 16 and over to join us.

A message from our President

The League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area is among the largest and most active Leagues in the state because of the support it receives from its members and the community.

When the Dayton League was founded over 100 years ago, women faced many of the same issues of today. In the 1920s, Americans were dealing with aftermath of the 1918 pandemic, inflation caused food costs to more than double, and brutal racial violence was rampant. Picketing had been outlawed by the U.S. Supreme Court and laws that ensured women were paid a minimum wage were repealed.

Throughout those turbulent times, our founders educated citizens about important issues and inspired them to vote. The mission of the suffragists who came before us continues today.

Our goal is to be a trusted source of unbiased information that gives the public the knowledge they need to make educated decisions at the polls.

The annual *Voters Guide*, our monthly television program *Empowering You*, produced in collaboration with Dayton Access TV, webinars, candidate forums, podcasts, and live educational events highlight subjects that affect our day-to-day lives. Each topic is presented from a variety of points of view, giving audience members the information they need to reach their own conclusions.

We are proud to provide this report to our community. Please take a moment to read about the activities that are undertaken by your League of Women Voters.

2021-22 Board of Directors

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Vice Presidents: David Bodary, Peggy Berry,
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Directors: Linda Fish, Valerie Lee,

Sandy McHugh, Leslie Merry, Rita Peterson,
Mary Robertson, Alaina Shoemaker

Executive Director: Christine Corba

Highlights of 2021-22



Fair Districts

The LWVGDA took an active role in educating our community about the redistricting process and gave citizens the tools they needed to advocate for their community. League members:

- Made 14 community presentations
- Produced a webinar about redistricting in cooperation with DATV
- Conducted eight mapmaking sessions
- Engaged with 1,625 citizens

Naturalization Ceremonies

After a pause due to the pandemic, League members were finally able to register new citizens to vote.

- League members participated at 15 Naturalization Ceremonies
- Registered **859** new citizens to vote
- Donated 155.5 hours of service



National Voter Registration Day

The Dayton League received one out of eight national grants to promote National Voter Registration Day activities on September 28, 2021:

- Registered voters at 19 locations
- Conducted a candidate forum in cooperation with the Dayton Unit of the NAACP and the *Dayton Daily News*

Dangerous Dames of Dayton

The League's signature event returned after a two-year hiatus because of the pandemic. Verna Williams, Dean of the University of Cincinnati College of Law offered the key note as we celebrated three amazing "dames" who made a great impact on our community. Congratulations to:

- Carol Graff
- The Reverend Dawn Martin
- The Reverend Vanessa Ward



Voter Information

The 2021 Voters Guide, which is 100% volunteer-driven and community supported, provides citizens with the information they need to make informed decisions at the polls.

The 2021 Guide was the largest to date:

- Featured over 200 candidates in contested races
- Distributed to over **60,000** local newspaper subscribers in English and Spanish
- Was available at 205 locations including libraries, schools and businesses



Events and Outreach



Our mission to empower voters did not slow down during the Covid pandemic. We presented educational and insightful programming both in-person and virtually.

One of our most talked-about programs was an evening discussing the current state of partisan politics with former Dayton Congressman Tony Hall and former Ohio Governor Bob Taft. It was held at the new University of Dayton's Fitz Center for Leadership in Community.

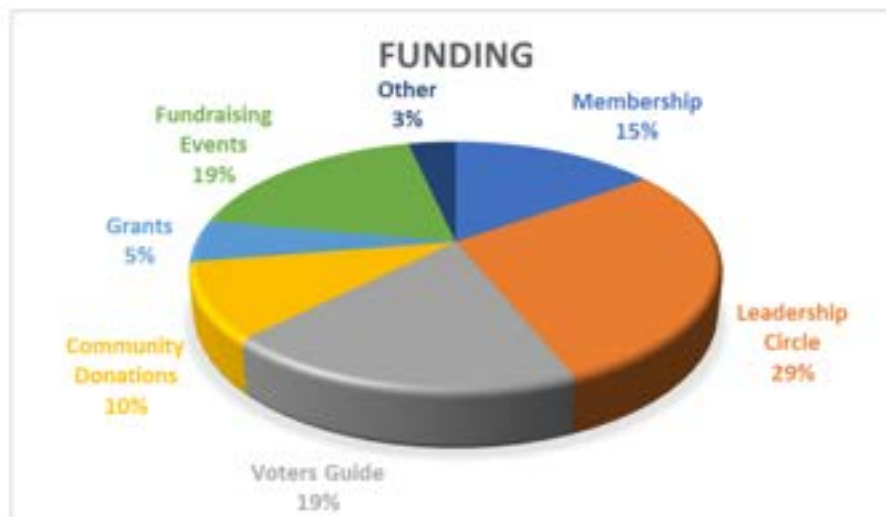
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