**VOTER SERVICES ELECTION REPORT**

**FINDINGS, OUTCOMES AND FUTURE PLANS**

The 2020 November General Election required changes to the Voter Registration and Education Program due to the coronavirus. Many of these changes will become permanent.

The following is a brief Program Summary, Findings, Outcomes (in a side bar), Future Plans and Suggested Legislation.

**PROGRAM SUMMARY:**

Voter Service’s focus for the 2020 Election consisted of the following: (1) Mass voter flyer distribution (2) Creation of a “Help Line” (3) limited tabling and (4) Registration of high school students.

**FINDINGS**:

Mail in voting: Good start but need more voter education on the process.

Help Line: Callers were grateful for a place to get an immediate answer as well as a good recruiting tool for volunteers.

Drop boxes: Confusion where they are, how to access them and how secure they are.

Judges, Bonds and Constitutional Amendments: Voters need sources for accurate information on these ballot issues

Tracking of ballots: Voters liked Intelligent Barcodes, mailing of Absentee Ballot Applications, Rejection notices, drop boxes, etc.

Partnerships: Improved outreach through distribution of register to vote flyers, etc. to hard to reach populations.

Tabling: Good face-to-face service. Always well received.

Social Media Platform: Reached younger voters and had a good response.

Student voter registration: Registration done by students on line.

 Mail in voting applications: Confusion with Voter Information Center mailings, County Clerk’s automatic mailing of ballot applications and encouragement to request mail in ballot applications.

**FUTURE PLANS**:

* Encourage and educate voters on voting by mail. Continue to provide flyers and tabling services in English and Spanish.
* Make Help Line a permanent service.
* Provide training on Registration, SB4 election changes if they are made permanent) and the transition to Same Day Voter Registration (required by statute by 2021).
* Explore the possibility of including links that provide additional information on judge retention, bonds and constitutional amendments in the Voter Guide.
* Create strong partnerships with nonpartisan organizations to promote the importance of voting.
* Continue strong social media presence for voting information.
* Offer alternative sources of information for voters who don’t have Internet.
* Continue to promote civic education in high schools.

**LEGISLATION**:

1. Make permanent SB4
2. Begin process for New Mexico to be a vote by mail state