**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY**

**VOTER SERVICES-REGISTRATION ANNUAL REPORT**

**MAY 2020**

The following annual report includes Voter Services-Registration and Voter Services High School Registration activities for the fiscal year 2019-2020 and the proposed activities for fiscal year 2020-2021.

**Accomplishments fiscal year 2019-2020**

Voter Services-Voter Registration (Adult and High School) Activities

* Registered 426 adult and high school students to vote. Of the 426, there were 92 adults registered at League sites and 334 students registered at high schools by League trained student VRAs.
* Developed 17 voter registration sites in the fall 2019 of which 9 were at nonprofit organizations and for profit business; 7 were at high schools and one (1) at the Climate Strike event at the Capitol.
* Worked with 22 Voter Registration Agent (VRA) volunteers to staff adult voter registration sites.
* Confirmed (Spring 2020) nine (9) Voter Registration sites including malls, a hospital, senior residences, and farmers markets. Sites were canceled due to COVID 19 shelter in place requirements.
* Provided voter registration services at sites for a total of 26 days at nonprofit and for profit organizations/businesses and 9 days at high schools and one (1) day at the Climate Strike Event.
* Provided training for 23 League and non-League members that included requirements for voter eligibility, how to interact with the public, and the legal responsibility that apply to voter registrars. In addition, presented changes to existing election legislation passed by the 2018 and 2019 Legislatures. Clifford Reese, an attorney, was the trainer. He is known for his in depth knowledge of the voting registration process. The training was in addition to the required voter registrar certification process training by the County Clerk.
* Highlighted three voter registration sites on September 25th in recognition of National Voter Registration Day. The sites were Whole Foods Market, DeVargas Center and The Masters Program (TMP).
* Created Vote by Mail Flyer to promote mail in/absentee voting. Flyer includes a link to the absentee ballot application. In addition, there is wording in it requesting individuals to circulate the Flyer to their social media, Facebook, Twitter, etc. contacts. Posted Flyer on LWVSFC website. Sent flyer to League VRA volunteers. Contacted following organizations and individuals asking them to distribute flyer: NAACP, NOW, Indivisible, Mary Ellen Gonzales, Student VRA AAUW, Senior Residents.
* Recruited an additional 12 student VRAs. The 12 added to 7 VRAs recruited in 2018-2019 total 19 student VRAs. The 19 student VRAs attend the 5 Santa Fe High Schools that are participating in the HSCP.
* Trained new student VRAs using a one-on-one training model. Student VRA training has special areas that need to be emphasized; therefore one-on-one training is advised.

Voter Services-Education/Project Activities

* Began development of a “Get Out the Vote” initiative. Targeted three groups: (1) high school students, (2) voters living in Santa Fe Housing Authority Neighborhoods and (3) senior centers and assisted living homes. Began working with two of the Santa Fe Housing Authority Neighbor Councils discussing issues that are important to them and showing how voting can make their concerns law.
* High School Voter Registration Chairs Anne Culp and Randi Lowenthal met with lead teachers from participating HSCP high schools to develop strategies for student VRAs to promote the importance of voting.
* Continued to work with Robert Sobel on the Harvard Case Study Civics Workshop Program. Robert incorporated two of the Case Studies to his history class curriculum. In addition, Robert and two of his students presented at the League’s December Holiday Luncheon Race, Justice, and the Jury System in Postbellum Virginia (1880) a case study from the Harvard workshop curriculum.
* Planned a mini Community Discussion Event April 24th a requirement of the Harvard Case Study Project. Selected the case study: ERA. The event was postponed until the fall of next spring.

Mentored Delia Moon a senior at TMP in conjunction Inspire Santa Fe a volunteer mentorship program. Delia’s project was to design and administer a survey to TMP juniors and seniors history students the degree of their civic engagement. His survey included questions on voting, what voting means to you and the extent one is involved in civic activities. He administered the survey to two TMP junior and senior history classes. There were 140 students that participated. Findings from the surveys recommended the following:
Recommendation 1:

* Many high schoolers who could be registered to vote still haven’t been, despite their stated interest. Those remaining students are generally hard to reach.
* LWVSFC should at the bare minimum continue its current efforts to register students, including the use of student VRAs.
* LWV should examine potential alternative ways of having VRAs work with registrants, including helping them with online registration.
* With such alternative methods, LWV would need to ensure its VRA training preserves protection of registrars and registrants, in particular with regard to registrars asking about citizenship.

Recommendation 2

* LWVSFC may wish to replicate the survey conducted by Delia Moon in other high schools with different demographic profiles.
* LWV should conduct inquiry as to high schoolers’ civic interests and political desires, perhaps by survey or perhaps informally.
* LWV’s future high school involvement should be based on student interest—LWV is most effective there if it provides resources for students to get involved with issues they already cared about

Voter Services-Administration Activities

* Continued to work with data systems that were developed in 2018-2019 for collecting statistics on number of voters that were registered and number of voters who only requested voter information.
* Continued to coordinate with other entities providing voter registration to maximize site locations in Santa Fe. All entities are nonpartisan when registering voters.
* Revised and monitored the Voter Services Registration web page. Emphasizing “Get Out the Vote” and providing flyers and up to date news on voting challenges in the age of COVID 19.

**The following are Voter Services-Voter Registration Proposed Activities for 2020-2021**

Voter Services-Voter Registration Proposed Activities

* Design VR services so that it is effective but conforms to the Governor’s Shelter in Place requirements and related health care practices.
* Continue to work with other organizations conducting voter registration to coordinate site development and to assure voter registration sites are represented in all area of the county.
* Organize and schedule voter registration training for League voter registrars (may have to be done on line).

Voter Education Proposed Activities

* Implement Delia Moon’s recommendations in her TMP Student Civic Engagement Survey and LWVSFC High School Recommendations survey report. Recommendation include:

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 Recommendation 2:

* + LWVSFC may wish to replicate the survey conducted by Delia Moon in other high schools with different demographic profiles
	+ LWV should conduct inquiry as to high schoolers’ civic interests and political desires, perhaps by survey or perhaps informally.
	+ LWV’s future high school involvement should be based on student interest—LWV is most effective there if it provides resources for students to get involved with issues they already cared about
* Continue to implement League’s HSCP at five pilot schools. Emphasize teacher/students as voter registrars and student identified and organized civic events.
* Support the inclusion of the Harvard Case Method of teaching history in pilot high schools and the community by recruiting history teachers to take the Harvard Case Study Workshop on line.
* Provide training for teacher and student voter registrars.
* Continue mentoring at least one Santa Fe high school student a year.
* Continue expansion of the League’s HSCP to other schools in Santa Fe.
* Explore feasibility of providing Voter Education/Information tabling as an on going activity throughout the year.
* Complete the Harvard Case Study Workshop requirement to conduct one Community Discussion Event.

Administration Proposed Activities

* Maintain League website-voter services page to assure information in current and accurate.
* Develop an on line system for announcing voter registration and education volunteer opportunities that includes a volunteer commitment component.
* Compile an instruction manual for the Voter Services Chair that includes site recruitment process with timelines, listing of voter registration sites, contact information, number of days at site and number of individuals served.