



Member Bulletin

March 2024

The Illinois primaries are behind us, and LWVIL is now moving full speed ahead to the November elections. We are focusing on how the League of Women Voters of Illinois can empower voters and defend democracy.

The [Illinois Voter Guide](#) is up and running, and the [LWVIL Misinformation and Disinformation Task Force](#) is working steadily—be sure to check them both out!



[Becky Simon](#)

President

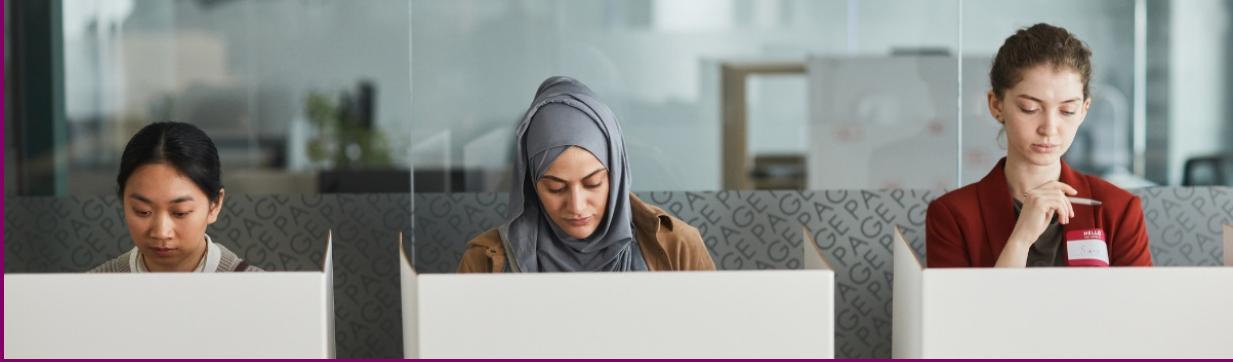
League of Women Voters of Illinois



Post-Election Debrief

HUGE thanks to everyone who worked hard to make this election happen, from the Election Day poll workers to the League members who spent months registering and educating voters. You make democracy work!

Join our voter service team via Zoom on Thursday, March 21, at 7:00 pm to share election successes, tips and issues. [Register to attend.](#)



Protecting Democracy in the Age of Social Media and AI

Join us Wednesday, April 17 at 7:00 pm via Zoom to discuss the effect of social media and AI on elections—how can we protect democracy from the spread of misinformation and disinformation?

Our featured speaker is Diane Chang, Entrepreneur-in-Residence at the Brown Institute for Media Innovation at Columbia Journalism School and the former head of Election Integrity Product Strategy at Meta.

Register to attend.

Presented by LWVIL's [Misinformation and Disinformation Task Force](#), this event is part of a series where noted authorities provide tools and resources that educate voters in advance of the November 5 General Election.



Did you miss the first event of this series?

On March 6, we were joined by Matt Dietrich, public information officer of the Illinois State Board of Elections (ISBE), to discuss how Illinois keeps its elections secure. [Watch the recording.](#)

Opportunity Knocks! Join the Issues and Advocacy Team

The LWVIL Issues and Advocacy Committee has an immediate need for someone to serve as Issue Specialist for Healthcare and Women and Family Issues.

No prior experience with lobbying or advocacy is required. All you need is:

- Passion for advancing League priorities through state-level advocacy
- Interest in the legislative process
- Interest in the subject matter
- Willingness to learn

[Learn more about what an Issue Specialist does.](#)

These are some of topics that the Issue Specialist will cover:

Healthcare

- Reproductive rights
- Cost and access to healthcare (including prescription drugs, Medicaid, rural provider networks, etc.)
- Work with our Mental Health Issue Specialist on matters of mental health
- Maternal health

Women and Family Issues

- Child care costs
- Child tax credit
- Addiction and overdose
- Child/Newborn mortality rates
- Domestic violence

Please contact Issues and Advocacy Co-Chair Kathy Cortez at kcortez@lwwil.com for more information.



It's Time for Legislative Interviews

You voted in the election. Now it's time to get to know the people we elected!

What are Legislative Interviews?

Every year, the LWVIL Issues and Advocacy Committee encourages local Leagues to develop and solidify relationships with their state senators and representatives by holding Legislative Interviews.

The goal of the interview is to strengthen the lines of communication between your local League and your legislators and to build goodwill rather than lobby for specific bills. The emphasis should be on a respectful exchange of views and information, setting the stage for future action in the state and your community.

Please remember to coordinate your interviews with overlapping Leagues to avoid duplication. If you do not know which other Leagues share your legislators, please contact issues@lwwil.org.

When should they be held?

The General Assembly will be on a break during the week of April 22, 2024. Please reference the [General Assembly calendar](#) to schedule a time that works for you.

The Issues and Advocacy Committee will provide priority questions for your interviews no later than April 5 along with a standard form on which to provide information about interview responses. This will help LWVIL engage in targeted advocacy.

We recommend face-to-face interviews, but a conference call or Zoom meeting is also acceptable.

How should a Legislative Interview be conducted?

We recommend forming a team of no more than five members, some with experience meeting legislators and some new to the process. Contact your local League's president if you are interested in participating. This is an opportunity to get engaged. Prepare, listen, respect time limits, and enjoy engaging in this important part of our political process.

[Read on for detailed information about how to conduct interviews >>](#)



Mock Election Training

Saturday, April 27, 10:00 am

Learn how to run a mock election at local high schools or community venues.

[Register to attend.](#)



Local League Events

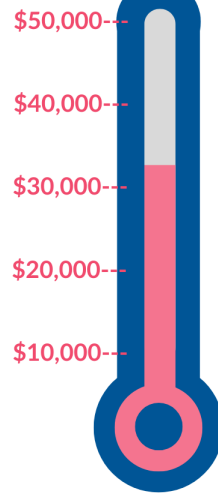
Find more events (and share your local League's events!) on the [LWVIL website event calendar.](#)

Support Our Get Out the Vote Efforts in 2024!

The goal of LWVIL's [Campaign to Safeguard Democracy](#) is to raise \$50,000 for our GOTV efforts, statewide online voter guide, candidate forums, and campaigns to fight misinformation and disinformation.

We're 66% of the way there! Thank you to the generous donors who have given over \$33,000 so far. [See participation by League.](#)

DONATE TODAY



Submit Your League's Photos

We love to see the smiling faces of League members! Help LWVIL elevate and share the hard work of our members by [submitting photos of your local League's activities](#).

All photo submissions will be added to our photo library. They may be used in LWVIL marketing and communications materials, including possible placement on the LWVIL website and social media platforms.

Members power the League! Thank you for your time and donations.



Support the League today

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