# League of Women Voters of Tennessee Education Fund



### **General Information**

Nonprofit League of Women Voters of Tennessee Education

Fund

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### Mission & Impact

#### Statements

#### Mission

The League of Women Voters of Nashville is a nonpartisan group that conducts voter service and citizen education activities including building citizen participation in the democratic process, studying key community issues, seeking positive solutions to public policy through education and conflict management.

#### **Background**

The League of Women Voters began as a national organization in 1920 in a burst of optimism that pre-dated the actual passage of the women's suffrage amendment by six months. Tennessee played a key role in women's suffrage by becoming the 36th and final state to ratify the 19th Amendment. The final dramatic chapter of that process occurred in Nashville over 100 years ago. Since then, the League of Women Voters of Tennessee and its affiliated local chapters, such as the League of Women Voters of Nashville, have played important roles as non-partisan advocates for sound governmental policies, such as sunshine laws. The momentous 'one man, one vote' Supreme Court ruling that dramatically changed the ways that states handled re-districting was spurred on, in large part, by LWV; Nashville's Molly Todd served as one of the plaintiffs for the case. In 1974, the organization split its dual roles by creating two entities in order to separate out its educational mission from its advocacy efforts. The League of Women Voters of Tennessee Education Fund (a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization) is dedicated solely to voter registration, voter information, and providing resources to support an informed electorate about a variety of issues of community interest. Separate funding streams for LWV Tennessee and LWV Nashville (501(c) (4) non-profit organization) give us the opportunity to lobby the state legislature for public policies that the membership has thoroughly studied and endorsed such as adequate health care resources for Tennesseans and elimination of voter suppression measures.

#### Impact

The LWV of Nashville has used funds during the past years to accomplish the following: • Provided voters with non-partisan information about upcoming elections and candidates through

www.Vote411.org • Hosted community-wide forums and events for candidates running for public office • Conducted voter registration and distributed voter education resources • Hosted community programs with local experts on topics impacting current public policies • Commissioned an original ballet choreographed by Gina Patterson and performed by the Nashville Ballet to tell the story of the passage of the 19th Amendment

#### Needs

• Translating voter materials into other languages •Resources to connect with and support reluctant voters • Marketing for Vote411 to reach underserved communities with election information

#### **Statement from CEO/Executive Director**

Not applicable

#### **Statement from Board Chair**

In the politically charged environment in which we live, the League of Women Voters has a unique non-partisan role. We have built a reputation by providing the public with accurate, unbiased information and creating opportunities for civic engagement. We are a group of committed volunteers doing work in the community including observing public meetings, voter registration, and voter outreach. We know that registering voters is the "easy" task. We want to connect with and support community members to help them understand that their voice in our democratic processes is important and encourage them to take the next important step to actually show up and vote. The next few years will be vitally important to the future of Nashville, and we must encourage voters to participate in local elections as well as federal and presidential elections. With your support, we can meet our goals!

### Service Categories

**Primary Category** Civil Rights, Social Action, Advocacy - Voter

Education/Registration

Secondary Category Community Improvement, Capacity Building - Community

Improvement, Capacity Building N.E.C.

**Tertiary Category** Public & Societal Benefit - Citizen Participation

#### **Areas Served**

LWV Nashville serves Davidson County and surrounding metropolitan area.

TN - Davidson

### **Programs**

### **Engaging First Time Voters**

#### Description

LWV will be exploring innovative ways to motivate high school students and community college students to be active participants in community life by registering to vote -- and then actually casting their first vote. Research shows that young adults who vote within the first year of registering to vote are more likely to make it a lifetime habit. Our new website, www.myfirstvoteTN.org, is intended to reach this audience.We are also conducting a major outreach to make sure that high school students and community college students have appropriate photo ID for voting. Many students need information about the process of acquiring a TN Identification License as an alternative identification document if they do not have a driver's license.

**Budget** \$1,400.00

## Voter registration & dissemination of non-partisan information **Description**

The core work of LWV is to promote informed and engaged citizens. LWV provides voting information and voter registration in a variety of venues including high schools, community fairs, and meetings of civic organizations. For many voters, www.Vote411.org is an important on-line voter resource that is activated prior to each election cycle. It will be heavily promoted. LWV is also exploring a variety of print and multi-media resources to help all registered voters feel confident that they have the resources they need in order to vote and feel motivated to do so.

**Budget** \$4,500.00 Candidate Forums

#### Description

Publicizing and convening community forums for candidates in local elections in collaboration with other community organizations as well as holding substantive forums on issues of public policy are important programmatic elements for LWV.

**Budget** \$2,500.00

Civics modules for high school classrooms

#### Description

18-24 year olds are the age demographic who are least likely to vote. Part of the reason is that they do not see how their vote impacts their own life. LWV has developed a civics module for high school classrooms that gives students an opportunity to reflect on how voting on local and states issues actually does affect them. Traditional high school civic curriculums tend to focus on the national level of government. This interactive module will balance the picture by presenting voting as just one of several activities that are part of local civic engagement.

**Budget** \$3,000.00

Population Served Adolescents

### CEO/Executive Director/Board Comments

In the past, LWV has relied on printed materials to communicate with the public. Our challenge is to utilize a wide-range of media resources to reach a public that is no longer so print-reliant. We also know that to reach our increasingly ethnically diverse community, we will need to increase our translated resources.

### **Governance**

Board Chair Company Affiliation Term Email

**Board of Directors** 

Name
Kathryn Anderson
June Bond
Russanne Buchi-Fotre
Carole Bucy

Constance Caldwell

Lara Webb community volunteer July 2021 to June 2025 lwvnash@gmail.com

Affiliation
Community Volunteer
Community Volunteer
Community volunteer
Volunteer State Community
College
Community Volunteer

Voting Voting NonVoting

**Status** 

Votina

Voting

Ethel Detch	State of Tennessee	Voting
Ophelia Doe	Community Volunteer	Voting
Debby Gould	Community Volunteer	Voting
Melissa Hanson	Community Volunteer	Voting
Karen Hernan	•	Voting
Reba Holmes	Comdata	Voting
Susan Mattson	community volunteer	Voting
Pat McCauley	Community volunteer	Voting
Jack McFadden	Community Volunteer	Voting
Sabina Mohyuddin	American Muslim Advisory	Voting
	Council	
Kalen Russell	Community Volunteer	Voting
Clare Sullivan	Community volunteer	Voting
Lara Webb	Belmont University	Voting
Karen Wieckert	Community Volunteer	Voting

### Board Demographics - Ethnicity

African American/Black	2
Asian American/Pacific Islander	2
Caucasian	17
Hispanic/Latino	0
Native American/American Indian	0
Other	0

### Board Demographics - Gender

Male	0
Female	21
Unspecified	0

### Governance

Board Term Lengths Board Term Limits Board Meeting Attendance Does the Organization have written Board Selection Criteria?	2.00 3 85% Yes
Does the Organization have a Written Conflict of Interest Policy?	Yes
Percentage Making Monetary	100%
Contributions Percentage Of Board Members	100%
Making In Kind Contributions  Does the Board include Client	
Representation?	
Number of Full Board Meetings Annually	11

### **Standing Committees**

Development / Fund Development / Fund Raising / Grant Writing / Major Gifts Education Finance Nominating Program / Program Planning

### **Risk Provisions**

Special Event Liability Special Event Liability

### CEO/Executive Director/Board Comments

The LWV Nashville Board determines which programs and projects further our mission of promoting civic engagement and which meet the guidelines for non-partisanship. Funding requests are then submitted to the Executive Committee of LWV Tennessee for Ed Funds.

### **Management**

Executive DirectorMs. Lara WebbEmaillwvnash@gmail.comTerm StartJuly 2020

Lara's Experience:

Staff

Number of Full Time Staff0Number of Part Time Staff0Volunteers65Contractors1Staff Retention Rate100%

Plans & Policies

**Fundraising Plan?** Yes Strategic Plan? Yes **Years Strategic Plan Considers** N/A When Strategic Plan Adopted? June 2020 **Management Succession Plan?** Yes **Policy and Procedures Plan?** Yes **Nondiscrimination Policy?** Yes **Whistle Blower Policy?** Yes **Document Destruction Policy?** Yes

Formal Evaluations

Is there a formal evaluation for... Frequency CEO/Executive Director N/A N/A Senior Management N/A N/A

**Non-Management** 

**Affiliations** 

**Affiliation** Year Virginia Kase, CEO 1920

### CEO/Executive Director/Board Comments

We are affiliated with the League of Women Voters US, as well as the League of Women Voters of Tennessee. The 501(c)(3) status of the the League of Women Voters of Tennessee Education Fund is an umbrella status for all local leagues in Tennessee who chose to use it. The account at the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee earmarks funds specifically for the League of Women Voters of Nashville. We are a volunteer organization with a part-time staff and we do amazing things with our limited resources. Living within our current funding stream means that, as an organization, we are very strategic in how we prioritize which unmet needs in our community we can address through the education fund. Additional funds for staff time and programmatic resources would increase our efficacy.

### **Financials**

**Financials** 

**Fiscal Year Start** 

**Fiscal Year End** 

**Projected Revenue** 

**Projected Expenses** 

### **Detailed Financials**

### **Revenue and Expenses**

Fiscal Year	2024	2023	2022
Total Revenue		\$129,760.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses		\$42,888.00	\$0.00
Revenue Less Expense	(\$-0.00)	\$86,872.00	(\$-0.00)

#### **Revenue Sources**

Fiscal Year	2024	2023	2022
Foundation and Corporation Contribution s		\$0.00	\$0.00
Government - Federal		\$0.00	\$0.00
Government - State		\$0.00	\$0.00
Government - Local		\$0.00	\$0.00
Government - Unspecified		\$0.00	\$0.00
Individual Contribution s		\$128,599.00	\$0.00
Indirect Public Support		\$0.00	\$0.00
Earned Revenue		\$0.00	\$0.00
Investment Income, Net of Losses		\$1,161.00	\$0.00
Membership Dues		\$0.00	\$0.00

Special Events	\$0.00	\$0.00
Revenue In- Kind	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00

#### **Expense Allocation**

Expense Anocación			
Fiscal Year	2024	2023	2022
Program Expense		\$41,441.00	\$0.00
Administrativ e Expense		\$1,447.00	\$0.00
Fundraising Expense		\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Revenue/Tot al Expenses		303%	
Program Expense/Tot al Expenses		97%	
Fundraising Expense/Con tributed Revenue		0%	

### **Top Funding Sources**

Fiscal Year	2024	2023	2022
Top Funding Source & Dollar Amount	\$0.00	Contributions, Gifts, and Grants - \$128,599.00	\$0.00
Second Highest Funding Source & Dollar Amount	\$0.00	Investment Income - \$1,161.00	\$0.00
Third Highest Funding Source & Dollar Amount	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

### **Assets and Liabilities**

Fiscal Year	2024	2023	2022
Total Assets		\$173,567.00	\$0.00
Current Assets		\$173,567.00	\$0.00
Long-Term Liabilities		\$0.00	\$0.00
Current Liabilities		\$0.00	\$0.00

Total Net	\$173,567.00	\$0.00
Assets		

#### **Endowment Info**

Do you have an endowment?

No

Capital Campaign Info

**Currently in a Capital Campaign?** 

No

Solicitation Permit Info

State Charitable Solicitations Permit

Yes

#### CEO/Executive Director/Board Comments

Under the umbrella of the LWVTN Education Fund are both the state organization's education funds (for statewide projects) and the education funds of individual league chapters in the state. The board of an individual chapter must first approve educational programs in their own community and then make their request to LWVTN Education Fund for use of their earmarked amounts that are held in the account. Local LWV chapters rely almost exclusively on their volunteer membership to develop and implement programs. The LWVTN Ed Fund provides limited reimbursement for local administrative expenses to support these volunteer-led efforts.By using the Ed Fund as our 'savings bank', LWV Nashville can respond quickly to educational needs in the Davidson County area. For example, education funds have been used to promote the use of our non-partisan on-line voter guide, www.vote411.org. The LWV Tennessee treasurer provide periodic balance statements to local leagues of the amounts in the Education Fund that are available for local use upon request.