

League of Women Voters of the Charleston Area  
Proposed Program Priorities for 2017-2018

Education

- Have a presence at school board meetings.
- Support/advocate for an excellent public education for all our children. Support efforts to recruit/retain excellent teachers.
- Oppose use of public tax funds to support private or religious education.
- Generate interest in the public schools and inform the public about timely issues.
- Research vocational education opportunities.

Health

- Focus on domestic violence and gun safety as public health issues. Collaborate with other organizations to raise public awareness of issues, and to mobilize community support for reform.
- Continue to advocate for evidence-based and up-to- date comprehensive health education in the Charleston County Schools.
- Support organizations that provide comprehensive health care services for women, including family planning.

Natural Resources

- Track City of Charleston progress towards achieving the goals of 2016 the *Sea Level Rise Strategy*;
- Track the growth and priorities of the Charleston Resilience Network.
- Advocate for policies that protect the environment through wise management of natural resources such as, clean energy, preserving and stabilizing the Conservation Bank, protecting water quality,

Criminal Justice

- Continue to advocate at the county level to reform criminal justice system, streamline intake and expedite movement of cases through the courts.
- Seek alternatives to incarceration for youthful offenders.
- Advocate for changes to policy and procedures that will eliminate the “school to prison pipeline.”

Citizen Education

Engage Charleston area citizens in our democracy by providing information about candidates and election issues. Offer training in democratic processes.

- Possible activities: workshops on legislative advocacy, how to run for office, connecting with media; candidate forums; online interviews with candidates; and voters guide.

- *Create action teams.* Focus on core issues as they impact our service area, starting with ethics reform/ dark money and. redistricting.
- Promote LWV positions by providing information and drawing public attention to the issues. Collaborate with like-minded partners to build substantial community support. Communicate effectively with local officials.

Members are invited to comment on these proposals. Please contact Peggy Huchet at [mghincharleston@gmail.com](mailto:mghincharleston@gmail.com).