

## **Voter Services**

### **Annual Report 2019-2020**

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Co-Chairs

Voter Services is taking on a seemingly ever-increasing workload as LWVSNM has been trying to assuming wider responsibility for voter literacy and getting people to register and vote (as reflected in our name change to League of Women Voters of Southern New Mexico).

**Voter registration and engagement** has expanded from a Voter Services function to other LWVGLC committees which are working with various community groups. The emphasis this last year and likely into future years has been collaboration with other nonprofit groups which share our goals in order to strengthen and multiply our influence.

A **Voters Guide** was published this year for the 2019 Municipal election. It can still be found online at <https://www.lascrucesbulletin.com/stories/2019-voters-guide,2271?> Publication of the Voters Guide has been a traditional function of the League and it seems as important today as ever. It lets us get information to those who do not have access to technology and who otherwise may be forgotten in the process. CAFé again collaborated with us and provided a Spanish translation of the 2019 Voters Guide, published it and distributed it to dense Spanish speaking areas of the County. As is customary, all candidates for offices which impact Dona Ana County were included in the Voters Guide.

**Forums** were held in collaboration with KRWG (Public Media) and hosted by Fred Martino, Director of Content, on his program called Newsmakers. Participation by candidates was very high as it was also in the Voters Guide. Our KRWG Candidate Forums included the Mayor, School Board and City Council Districts 1, 2, and 4. We also have tried to encourage and be involved in topical forums such as Immigration and Education.

**Who's Who Guide to Elected Officials** was published in its paper version twice: once in the spring and once after the fall elections which featured the new and much-discussed rank choice voting and election consolidation. Who's Who lives on the LWVSNM website so that it can be updated on a regular basis. It is published in paper form so that it will be available to those who have little or no access to technology. Paper copies can be found in the Branigan Library.

The **Legislative Dinner** was held after the election. This has been a time that we discuss our legislative priorities with our New Mexico Senators and Representatives and they share some of theirs with us. Only three were able to attend and a fourth replied to us by email. Although this was disappointing, we did have a good discussion with Senators Joseph Cervantes and Bill Soules and Representative Willie Madrid. Representative Angelica Rubio responded to our priorities by email. We are planning in the future to hold this event earlier so that perhaps more legislators may be able to attend.

**This coming year of 2020 is expected to be a very busy and significant one for Voter Services.**

