

## LWVWA EDUCATION FUND CIVIC EDUCATION OUTREACH GRANTS FOR LOCAL LEAGUES

All local Leagues are invited to apply for grant money from the LWVWA Education Fund as part of our Civic Engagement Initiative.

The goal of this initiative is to inspire local Leagues to develop new and effective ways to engage citizens in the democratic process and to provide funding for those projects. Through this initiative we are challenging local Leagues to try a new approach to connect with their communities. Leagues with great ideas and not much money can receive funds to implement their outreach ideas. Successful ideas will be shared with all local Leagues throughout the state.

We are especially interested in funding civic education projects that target

- Groups not typically reached by the League;
- Groups representing areas of diversity, including race, language, ethnicity, or age;
- Non-traditional methods of reaching voters such as mock elections, student projects, or using technology like text messaging, blogs, web sites, MySpace, or other alternative forms of communication;
- Projects that develop new coalition partners;
- Projects that increase League visibility in the community and attract new members.

### Grant Guidelines

- Each fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) for a period of 5 years, \$500 in Civic Engagement Initiative Grant money is available to each local League. (Ending June 30, 2012).
- Grants will be awarded as one grant of \$500 or two separate grants of \$250 each.
- For extraordinary outreach projects a special grant of \$750 may be requested. That amount would be awarded to a League instead of the \$500 cap that fiscal year.

### Grant Process

In order for your outreach activity to qualify for a Civic Education Initiative Grant, a *Grant Approval Request Form* must be submitted and approved before the activity takes place.

- Apply for each grant (\$500 or \$250) by submitting a completed *Grant Approval Request Form*. Please note this form is different from the *Project Approval Request Form*. The form can be found online at [www.lwvwa.org](http://www.lwvwa.org).
- Print, complete and mail it to the address on the form, or you may email the completed request to the state office.
- After consideration of your request, you will be notified, via either email or phone, if it has been approved or denied.
- A check for the requested and approved amount of the grant will be mailed to the local League according to the instructions given on the Request Form.
- After your project, please send pictures, a brief synopsis, and other information about your activity to the state office so your ideas and successes can be shared with other Leagues.

It is imperative that the *Grant Approval Request Form* be submitted and approval of it be received prior to holding the event, implementing your idea, or spending not-yet authorized grant money.

January, 2010