

## LWVCC General Fund Program 2009-2010

### EDUCATION

**Goal: Support and influence the promotion of high standards for student achievement through adequate funding, well rounded curriculum and the highest levels of professionalism for teachers, administrators and school board members in the Collier County Schools.**

#### Education

- Organize educational programs relative to the goals for the committee and general membership.
- Conduct interviews/meetings with administrators and School Board members.

#### Action/Advocacy

- Promote civics education in public and private schools.
- Monitor Florida legislation relative to the education program and take appropriate action.

### GOVERNMENT

**Goal: Educate ourselves and the community about the workings of state and county government and important government issues and influence governmental decision-making through our informed and active participation.**

#### Education

- Meet monthly to select, research and discuss pressing local and regional government issues and decide which of these issues deserve further study. Report findings to the League board and membership for its consideration for advocacy.
- Hold Lunch with Leaders sessions with key county government officials to learn more about issues being addressed by government.
- Hold informal sessions periodically during the state Legislative Session to discuss ongoing legislative action with respect to League priorities and other matters of interest to members.
- Hold "Hot Topic" meetings to address current issues of importance.

#### Action/Advocacy

- Monitor Board of County Commissioners meetings and other governmental meetings of interest for information of importance to the League and the community/state and make recommendations for LWVCC action.
- Lobby legislators for League legislative priorities at pre-Legislative Session delegation meetings, the annual LWVFL Legislative Seminar in Tallahassee, and other appropriate opportunities.
- Issue and act upon email Action Alerts to influence governmental decisions.
- Participate in the work of the Collier County Non-Discrimination Coalition ([www.colliercoalition.org](http://www.colliercoalition.org)), provide updates to committee and/or Board, and enlist member support as needed.

## **HOUSING**

**Goal: Positively influence workforce housing decisions involving a role for Collier County government, by speaking out on proposed proposals utilizing criteria developed in the LWVCC 2006/2007 Workforce Housing Study.**

### **Education/Action**

- Monitor and evaluate county workforce housing proposals using local LWVCC positions.

## **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

- Monitor and evaluate how the United States is promoting peace in an interdependent world by strengthening international organizations and fostering long term development, with an emphasis on humanitarian policies as presented by LWVUS.
- Maintain a keen awareness of the major world events and stand prepared to respond to appropriate “Action Alerts.”

## **JUSTICE**

**Goal: Support and influence decisions to promote delinquency prevention and assure justice for all Collier citizens by reducing juvenile delinquency, reducing human trafficking and promoting restoration of rights to former felons.**

### **Education**

- Organize educational programs relative to the goals for the committee and general membership.
- Monitor the following programs, agencies and organizations in Collier County:
  - Juvenile criminal systems with emphasis on rehabilitation, alternatives to incarceration and diversion programs for youth,
  - Youth and Delinquency Services Division of the Collier County Sheriff's Office, and
  - PACE (Practical Academic Cultural Education) Center for Girls.

### **Action/Advocacy**

- Participate in the work of the following groups, provide committee updates and enlist member support as needed:
  - Juvenile Justice Council (CCJJC)
  - Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) Advisory Committee
  - Juvenile Detention Center Advisory Committee
  - Substance Abuse Coalition of Collier County (SACCC) -- (Drug Free Collier)
  - Collier County Coalition Against Human Trafficking
  - Florida Rights Restoration Coalition
- Monitor Florida legislation relative to the Justice Program and take appropriate action.

## **NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Goal: To influence growth management decisions of the Board of County Commissioners and other Collier County decision makers to protect the quality of life for Collier County citizens. Focus will be on those issues and decision makers, which will have the most significant impact in Collier County.**

### **Education**

- Participate in an information network with all area environmental organizations for the sharing of information.

### **Action/Advocacy**

- When appropriate, use LWVCC historical positions to advocate on behalf of natural resources and land use.

## **SOCIAL POLICY**

**Goal: Secure equal rights and opportunity for all. Promote social and economic justice and the health and safety of all Americans. (LWVUS, LWVF)**

- Monitor and support local efforts to provide basic health care to those in all age groups not otherwise covered.
- Monitor and promote programs for Collier County Schools that provide comprehensive health education, health services, and a safe, healthy environment.
- Support measures to provide adequate living and working conditions in Collier County.
- Monitor the privatization of the Department of Children and Families as it affects children in Collier County.

### **Education**

- Invite speakers who are experts in the designated areas to committee meetings and general meetings.

### **Action**

- Bring issues to the board when it would be appropriate for the League to speak.
- Submit letters and op-ed articles for President's signature.
- Send letters, emails, telephone calls as individuals on local, state or national issues that come under the umbrella of Social Policy in the League of Women Voters.
- Respond to action alerts on related issues.

### **Education/Action**

- Network with groups and agencies with similar interests/concerns, including:
  - Public Health Department
  - Collier Health Services (CHSI)
  - Medical Society of Collier County
  - Collier County Department of Housing and Human Services
  - Collier County Hunger and Homeless Coalition
  - Collier County Public Library Outreach Department
  - Department of Children and Families

- Naples Alliance For Children
- Citizens' Foster Care Review Board
- Collier County Public Schools (School Nurse Program, Health Education)
- Other local Leagues