

2010 – 2011 GENERAL FUND PROGRAM

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.
- Participate in a national, state or local study, if available.

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

- Research and discuss pressing local, regional and or state 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 with respect to League priorities and other matters of interest to members.
- Hold “Hot Topic” meetings to address current issues of importance.
- Offer programs through a Speakers’ Bureau.

Action/Advocacy

- Monitor Board of County Commissioners meetings and other governmental meetings.
- Lobby legislators for League legislative priorities.
- Act upon email Action Alerts to influence governmental decisions.
- Participate in the work of the following groups, provide committee updates and enlist member support as needed:
 - Collier County Non Discrimination Coalition
 - FairDistrictsFlorida (www.FairDistrictsFlorida.org)
 - Project Innovation

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)
 - Youth Resources Center
 - 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.
- Study the experiences of Collier County female juveniles who have conflicts with the law.

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 Emergency Medical Services
 - 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
 - Healthy Teens Coalition of Collier County
 - Healthy Teens Coalition of Florida
 - Citizens' Foster Care Review Board
 - Collier County Public Schools (School Nurse Program, Health Education)
 - Other local Leagues