LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF DOOR COUNTY

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE, JULY 30, 2023

P.O. Box 306, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235 <u>lwvdc@lwvdoorcounty.org</u> <u>LWV DC Facebook page</u> <u>LWV DC website</u>

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Message from the Chair

What things matter to League?

This summer a major effort is being made to launch our newly expanded Observer Corps – the group of members who monitor the meetings of local governments around the county. As we help new observers learn what to watch for, they are often asked to monitor the "things that matter to League."

What exactly does that mean?

- Since our mission is to promote active participation in government for all citizens, we care about the Open Meetings and Open Records Laws. We encourage Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) practices because we believe everyone should have a voice and the more people involved, the better quality government we will have. And we absolutely follow any changes in election law and policy because that's our bread and butter!
- Also, there are issues that are of particular interest to current members, so we are following government actions related to mental health, substance use, and natural resources just for starters.
- Finally, all those issues that League has positions on are of interest. And there are many, many positions on social issues, natural resources, international relations, and how government itself is run among others. League has been studying issues, developing positions on them, and paying

attention to those topics since it was organized in 1920. If any of them happen to be the subject of the work of a local government in Door County, then League will be interested – and they will be paying attention!

-Susie Kohout, LWVDC chair

Looking for Volunteers: Mental Health/Substance Use Project

The Door County League's project on mental health/substance use issues is looking for volunteers!

- Concerned about the need for more services for people with mental health challenges?
- Bothered that our jails have become de facto housing for people who would be better served by treatment?
- Want to eliminate the stigma that keeps people from reaching out for appropriate treatment?

You can make a difference!

The Education Committee of the Mental Health/Substance Use Project has worked with community leaders and agencies to plan educational programs sharing information on the Door County Treatment Court, the mental health program in our schools known as STRIVE, adult and youth diversion programs in our jail and many others. The group would like to do more, but to do that it needs to expand.

Bring your passion, your ideas, and your helping hands. The time commitment is not big – a 1 ½ hour meeting (hybrid) once a month and helping out in planning and holding an occasional program or activity.

Contact Chair@lwvdoorcounty.org to join us!

NAMI 101: Becoming a Local NAMI Affiliate

Members of the Door County Community can learn how a local NAMI chapter would help support individuals and families living with mental illness. They can also learn how to create a local NAMI chapter. Stacey Mohr-Johannsen, Associate Director at NAMI Wisconsin, the state chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness will explain the process on Wednesday, September 27 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM at JAKs Place, 1623 Rhode Island Street in Sturgeon Bay.

Mohr-Johannsen will provide information about NAMI and the support, services, and resources available in Wisconsin. Contact <u>Chair@lwvdoorcounty.org</u> with questions.

League & Door County Knock Host Community Forum on Rising Drug Use



A series of public forums hosted by *Door County Knock* and the <u>League of Women Voters Door County</u> to drive awareness and conversation around critical issues kicks off August 9 at a public forum with leaders from the frontlines of drug use and addiction in Door County.

The forum starts at 6:30 PM at Crossroads at Big Creek, Collins Learning Center, 2041 Michigan St., Sturgeon Bay. Speakers include:

- Lisa Barnaby, addiction/substance abuse counselor and member of the Door County Treatment Court Steering Committee
- Joe Krebsbach, Health and Human Services Director and Treatment Court Steering Committee member
- Timmie Sinclair, United Way of Door County, Community Impact Coordinator of Health and Basic Needs
- Colleen Nordin, Door County District Attorney and member of the Treatment Court steering committee

Individuals recovering from addiction will also participate in the discussion and share their stories.

The forum will broadcast live via Zoom and be recorded for future viewing. For more event information or to obtain the Zoom link, visit <u>https://doorcountyknock.org/events</u>.

Input from the forum will help inform a future article in the <u>Door County Knock series</u> on opioid and methamphetamine use.

LWVDC has a study group examining mental health issues in the county and, in 2020, issued the report, <u>Door County Community's Responses to Mental Health and Substance Use Issues.</u>

"Substance use and mental health issues affect not only the individual and the immediate family, but also impact the community in significant ways," said Susan Kohout, LWVDC chair. "It's time a broader segment of the public knows the facts and hears directly from people at the frontlines of this critical issue," she added. "We partnered with *Door County Knock* to elevate this important conversation and, hopefully, advance toward effective solutions."

National Voter Registration Day: September 19, 2023

We will soon be working on the schedule for registration assistance events with a goal to have at least one session somewhere in the county each month. These events not only help remind people to register and to help where needed, they also provide an opportunity to let the community know that the LWV Door County has an active presence in the community. It is not uncommon that discussion about League membership and volunteer opportunities happen. The more volunteers that are available the more events we can have \mathfrak{P}

Please, give some thought to volunteering to staff one of these (soon to be scheduled) events. If you think you would like a refresher class about voter registration, we can schedule a session with one of our clerks. Let me know if you're interested so I can get a training session on our calendar. If it will help, we can provide the training via Zoom.

Also, if you would like to suggest a venue, maybe another agency that you spend time with for a registration event let me know so they can be included in our schedule.

Please contact <u>vsregistration@lwvdoorcounty.org</u>. Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing from you!

Kathi Braswell Voter Services Coordinator, LWV Door County

Community DEI

Have you ever watched a County Board meeting? Well, here's the link, <u>07-25-23 Door County Board</u>. If you just want to see the report on the Community DEI committee, check out minutes 0:16-0:41.

Save the Date! Volunteer and Join the Car Parade Committee

August 26 is Women's Equality Day and the 103rd anniversary of the enactment of the 19th Amendment recognizing women's right to vote. Breaking: Lipstick Optional will be performing at our Martin Park program. This group includes Molly Rhode, Lachrisa Grandberry, Karen Mal on vocals, and Alyssa Rhode on keyboards. They are headlining the late summer season on the Northern Sky stage in Pen Park and said they are thrilled to be performing for Women's Equality Day. Quoting- "we all believe deeply in the work that the League is doing". This is a super fun and meaningful event, so join the fun!

And as they chanted more than a hundred years ago – Votes for Women!

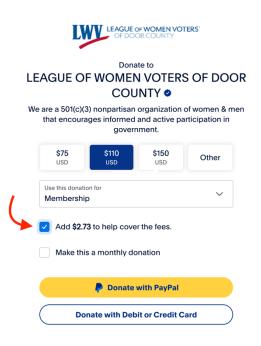
Contact Heidi Ling at 714-271-8528.

Website & Member Dues

Get involved, engage with our community, and make a local impact! **We invite our LWVDC Friends** to join us by completing our <u>Membership Form</u> and paying dues. **Current LWVDC Members**, if you have not already, please complete our <u>Membership Form</u> at this time. Thank you! If you have questions about your dues contact: <u>memberadmin@lwvdoorcounty.org</u>

If you haven't explored our website recently, check it out! <u>https://www.lwvdoorcounty.org/</u>

Donate - Note the dropdown for type of donation (Membership, Membership + Additional Donation, General Donation) and also the <u>box you can check to help us cover credit card processing fees</u>.



We are continuing to add information to our website. One page in progress is **Volunteer Opportunities** under the Our Work navigation link <u>https://www.lwvdoorcounty.org/volunteer-opportunities</u>. Stay tuned for more ways to get involved!

If you have any comments or suggestions, please send them to: tech@lwvdoorcounty.org

Communicate with Your Representatives!

Tip: Post the updated attached list on your refrigerator to have it handy!

PRESIDENT

Joseph Biden

https://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/executive-office-of-the-president/

U.S. SENATORS

- Ron Johnson <u>www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/public</u>; (202) 224-5323; Madison office: (608) 240-9629; <u>ron_johnson@ronjohnson.senate.gov</u>
- Tammy Baldwin <u>www.baldwin.senate.gov</u>; (202) 224-5653; 1 (800) 247-5645; Madison office: (608) 264-5338

U.S. CONGRESSMAN (8th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT)

Mike Gallagher http://gallagher.house.gov/; (202) 225-5665; Green Bay office: (920) 301-4500

WISCONSIN GOVERNOR

Tony Evers govinfo@wisconsin.gov; (608) 266-1212

WI SENATOR (DISTRICT 1)

Andre Jacque <u>Sen.Jacque@legis.wisconsin.gov;</u> (608)266-3512

WI ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVE (DISTRICT 1)

Joel Kitchens <u>Rep.Kitchens@legis.wisconsin.gov</u>; (608) 266-5350 or (888) 482-0001

Legislative Hotline 1 (800) 362-9472

New 2023-2024 Official County Directories

One complimentary copy of the 2023-2024 Official Directory of Door County (a listing of contact information for county, city, village, and town officials) can be picked up at the County Clerk's office at the Door County government building. Additional directories are available for \$4 each.

This directory is also online at the Door County government website: <u>https://www.co.door.wi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/967/Official-County-Directory--2023-</u> <u>2024?bidId=.</u>

If you would like the directory mailed, please submit \$6.00 each. Remit to: Door County Clerk 421 Nebraska St., Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235



NAMI 101: Becoming a Local NAMI Affiliate

Join the League of Women Voters of Door County Education Committee in a presentation on who is NAMI, support, services and resources available in Wisconsin, and how to start the process of becoming a local NAMI affiliate in your community.

> **When:** Wednesday, September 27 5:30-7:00 PM

Where: JAKs Place 1623 Rhode Island Street Sturgeon Bay

Questions? Contact: lwvdc@lwvdoorcounty.org



About the Presenter

Stacey Mohr-Johannsen is the Associate Director at NAMI Wisconsin, the state chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Stacey has a background in nonprofit leadership and consultation, program development, event planning, volunteer management, fundraising, strategic planning and workplace wellness initiatives. She enjoys creatively helping others while developing and expanding community-based programs, implementing knowledge, change, and overall improving the quality of life for all. She believes that mental health is just as important as physical health and works to support the state of Wisconsin to improve the quality of life of those affected by mental illness, promote and provide recovery, and end the stigma.