

## ABOUT THE LEAGUE

Welcome to the League of Women Voters of Greater Pittsburgh. (LWVPGH).

**MISSION STATEMENT:**  
**Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.**

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. It is affiliated with the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania and of the United States.

### MEMBERSHIP

Anyone aged 16 and older may become a voting member of the League.

LWVPGH yearly fees, which include membership at the local, state, and national levels, are:

- \$60.00 for one primary member
- \$90.00 for two members living in the same household
- \$30.00 for a full-time student

Membership also includes an electronic subscription to our weekly email blasts and our monthly *Voter* newsletter. Please follow LWVPGH on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube for timely updates.

LWVPGH is a 501(c)3 charitable organization, so fees and donations are tax deductible and eligible for employer matching funds. Most of the membership fees we collect must be paid to LWVUS and LWVPA to support their important activities, and we retain only about \$8.00 per member locally. We appreciate any additional donations from members to help us finance our local activities and expenses. Financial support for the League comes from dues, fundraising, and contributions from members and individuals in the community, as well as foundations, corporations, and businesses that are in alignment with our mission.

### LEAGUE PRINCIPLES

The League:

- is non-partisan in that it neither supports nor opposes any political party or candidate for public office;
- takes a stand on issues only after thorough study and member consensus;
- encourages its members to be active participants in their chosen political party;
- focuses on achieving solutions in the public interest on public policy issues;
- promotes citizen participation in the democratic process;
- respects individuals and values diversity, equity, and inclusion;
- believes in the empowerment of the grassroots, both within the League and in communities;
- trusts the power of collective decision making for the common good.

## **LEAGUE STRUCTURE**

The National League –LWVUS—maintains an office in Washington D.C. The National League Board and staff provide support for state and local Leagues, lobbies for League positions before Congress and holds a national members convention every two years. The LWVUS helps support over 700 state and local leagues.

There are 50 State Leagues as well as equivalent Leagues in Washington D.C., Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The Pennsylvania League—LWVPA—is headquartered in Harrisburg and provides support services to local Pennsylvania Leagues, lobbies on state positions before the PA State Legislature and holds a state members convention every two years.

There are 32 local Leagues in Pennsylvania. The LWVPGH serves all of Allegheny County and may lobby the Pittsburgh City Council and Allegheny County Council on local positions. There is an annual members meeting every May or June and more frequent LWVPGH and unit meetings around the county. During the covid-19 pandemic, LWV has adapted to holding many meetings and conventions virtually.

## **GETTING IN TOUCH**

### **League of Women Voters of the United States**

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