2022

WOMEN4CHANGE INDIANA END OF YEAR REPORT

WOMEN4CHANGEINDIANA.ORG

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WHO ARE WE?

MISSION STATEMENT: TO EDUCATE, EQUIP, AND MOBILIZE HOOSIERS TO CREATE POSITIVE CHANGE FOR WOMEN.

VISION STATEMENT: WOMEN, REGARDLESS OF RACE, RELIGION, ETHNICITY, OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION, ACHIEVE EQUITY IN EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS; IN HEALTHCARE; AND IN POLITICAL, CIVIC, CULTURAL, AND CORPORATE LEADERSHIP.

W4C STAFF:

Rima Shahid, CEO
Haley Bougher, Vice President
Noelle Snider, Director of
Communications
Noah Johnson, Operations Specialist

BOARD MEMBERS:

Martha Lamkin (C4 Chair) Elcira Villarreal (C3 Chair) Deborah Hearn Smith (C4 Vice Chair) Jeannie Sager (C3 Vice Chair) Nicole Conrad (C3 & C4 Secretary) Karen Kennelly (C3 & C4 Treasurer) Sandy Sasso (Co-founder) Jennifer Nelson Williams (Cofounder) Patricia Castañeda Sara Hindi JoAnn Hoskins Becky Kendall Michael Leppert Kathy Marrs Edie Olson Chris Paulsen Katherine Tyler Scott Aishah Shamsi Cindy Simon Skjodt

2022 INTERNS:

Sam Barrett
Grace Brenner
Madison Guyse
Tyler LeMasters
Anne Manady
Miriam Martinez
Brooke Paganelli
Virginia Sever
Lily Taylor
Lilly Thumm
Anna White

VOLUNTEERS:

Andrea Richter-Garry
Qing Zhou
Paula Shepley
Jackie Garvey
Mary Redman
Carol Killen
Rita Venable
Jan Clark



THANK YOU TO OUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS, CIVIC EDUCATION CONFERENCE TASK FORCE MEMBERS, BOARD MEMBERS, INTERNS, VOLUNTEERS, AND #1 FANS.

LETTER FROM BOARD CHAIRS

Dear Women4Change Family,

This year, Women4Change achieved significant progress in its mission to educate, equip, and mobilize Hoosiers to create positive change for women. Notable accomplishments include the following:

- Passage of legislation defining *consent* in Indiana's rape law with the support of 70+ partners. After three years of statewide education and outreach, this legislation received only one opposing vote in the General Assembly.
- Listen, Connect & Participate educational programs on civic engagement, reproductive healthcare, and consent.
- Civics Education: The DNA of Democracy, a fully subscribed conference that provided rich resources, networking, and notable international, national, and state keynote speakers that inspired civic engagement.
- Publication of 2022 Nonpartisan Voter Guides and Get Out the Vote campaign that reached over 355,000 Hoosiers to combat Indiana's very low voter turnout.
- Education and active opposition to the passage of Indiana's restrictive reproductive healthcare legislation.
- Filing an *amicus* brief in *Moore v. Harper*, heard by the SCOTUS on December 7th, to support state supreme courts' crucial roles in securing fair Congressional districts.

The 2022 midterm elections and the overturning of Roe v. Wade provided dramatic opportunities for W4C to create a more civically engaged Hoosier community. Issues affecting the quality of life for Hoosier women are sure to be equally challenging in 2023, and local elections deserve strong civic engagement. Thank you for supporting W4C. Our success in six short years is due to your support. We hope you'll join us in 2023 as we continue this work, pressing onward toward a more equitable future for all Hoosiers.

Sincerely yours,
Elcira Villarreal (Chair, Women4Change Indiana) &
Martha Lamkin (Chair, Women4Change Indiana Action Fund)

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

EDUCATION

Our year-round programs provide educational opportunities for Hoosiers to become informed about women's economic stability, sexual assault & consent, fair voting & voter access, and women's health within our community.

Visit

women4changeindiana.org/comingup to learn more.

LISTEN, CONNECT, & PARTICIPATE

In 2022, we hosted three Listen, Connect, & Participate programs with panels of community leaders and content experts for nonpartisan discussions on consent, reproductive health, and civic engagement.

WE DID IT: NO MEANS NO

During Sexual Assault Awareness Month, we celebrated the passing of HB 1079: Elements of Rape at the Indiana Statehouse. Legislators and community members attended to show their support for the new legislation for the legal definition of consent and further protecting Hoosier survivors.



NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES ALWAYS

In collaboration with Kan-Kan Cinema and Brasserie, we presented a film screening of "Never Rarely Sometimes Always". Following the film, a panel of local community leaders and experts guided an engaged discussion regarding abortion access in Indiana.

CIVIC EDUCATION: THE DNA OF DEMOCRACY

In October, we hosted our 2022 Civic Education Conference to improve the quality and quantity of civic learning in Indiana. The conference hosted several speakers and workshops that provided in-depth discussions about democratic engagement.

EVENT SPONSORS:

- Herbert Simon Family Foundation
- The Lilly Endowment
- St. Paul's Indy
- Eli Lilly & Co.
- Indiana Commission for Women
- Browning Investments
- First Merchants Bank
- Indianapolis Office of Minority & Women Business Development
- Human Capital Concepts
- Indianapolis Jewish Relations Council

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

YOUTH ENGAGE!

Approximately one-third of all 6th-10th graders in the United States have been involved in bullying, whether as the bully, the target, or both, according to the Indiana Youth Institute. Research suggests that an underlying lack of social and communication skills may lead youth to act uncivilly. This year a team of Women4Change volunteers published the Youth Engage! curriculum.

Youth Engage! is an interactive process that fosters civil discourse among youth in grades 5-12.

Youth Engage! curriculum can be implemented in a variety of settings, including in-school and after-school, youth development programs, and faith-based groups. The curriculum goals are as follows:

LEARN AND ENGAGE IN BASIC CIVIL DISCOURSE

LEARN HOW TO BUILD CONSENSUS

DEVELOP SKILLS TO DISCUSS CONTROVERSIAL TOPICS

DEVELOP EMPATHY AND DEMONSTRATE KINDNESS

LEARN AND SHARE
DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES

DEVELOP SKILLS TO
POSITIVELY DEAL WITH
CONFRONTATION

While there are five units, the curriculum activities may expand to many hours and days of programming, depending on the group size and age of participants. Facilitators may decide on shorter or longer sessions.

Each unit also contains icebreakers and reflection activities to help participants process the content and provide feedback to the facilitators. Homework assignments for each unit are optional and at the discretion of facilitators.

GOTV

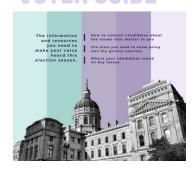
Educating and empowering voters continues to be the cornerstone of our Get Out the Vote strategy. When more of us vote, we are more accurately represented in government. True representation benefits us all, particularly women who are too often left behind in policy and law-making.

We reached voters with a multi-pronged strategy, including email, social media, postcards, radio, and television. We are confident that this approach helped us reach constituents across age groups, and we are grateful for our face-to-face interactions with voters at voting parties and community events. We targeted a diverse audience of pro-choice Hoosiers and reached over 355,000 voters.

Our 2022 Voter Guide approached voters about issues that matter, and each of our contact methods directed voters toward it. The guide walked constituents through the voting process from start to finish. The issues within the guide are particularly pressing for Hoosier women and consist of women's economic stability, sexual assault and consent, maternal health, and voting access. Each issue included links to contact candidates, and the final page of the guide featured additional resources, including pre-written letters. Our goal was to inform potential voters and offer a vehicle through which they could discuss issues with the candidates' campaigns.

During this election season, we enlisted the help of more than 335 dedicated volunteers to help contact voters through tabling voting events, writing postcards, and even hosting their own voter parties to engage with their communities. Together, volunteers sent over 10,000 postcards to Marion County registered voters. We couldn't have reached our goals without our dedicated volunteers.

YOUR 2022

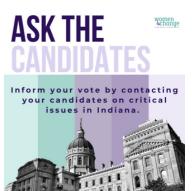


Tu guĺa de votación 2022



SCHOOL BOARD VOTER GUIDE 2022

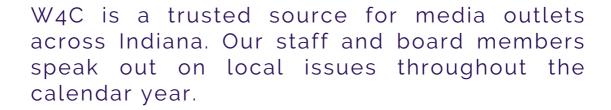




MEDIA HIGHLIGHT









The list of mediums ranges from radio, social media, television and everything in between.



15,000+ SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS







55,000+ ENGAGEMENTS













2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

FAIR VOTING & VOTER ACCESS

We support accessible, fair voting access for every citizen and ending the current process for establishing legislative districts that lead to non-competitive districts, lower voter turnout, and lack of representation.

- Indiana consistently ranks in the bottom 10 states for voter turnout.
- A primary barrier to high voter turnout is reduced polling places in communities of color.
- Counties with larger minority populations have fewer polling sites and workers per voter.

WOMEN'S HEALTH

We support policies that promote women's health, including birth control, expanded use of doulas, and increased public health funding. We oppose any policies that limit women's reproductive health freedom

- According to the State Health Department, Indiana has an average of 52 maternal deaths per 100,000 births, more than double the national average.
- More than 650,000 Hoosiers live in an obstetric desert.
- Women of color are more likely to face maternal health challenges than white women.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT, ASSAULT, & CONSENT

We support legislation that defines consent and closes loopholes in the state's sexual assault and harassment statute.

- 1 in every 5 Hoosier females has experienced sexual assault, according to ICESAHT.
- Indiana ranks 4th highest in the nation for number of reported rapes amongst high school girls.
- State sexual harassment code governs employers with 5 to 15 employees and requires the employer to agree to a lawsuit before the victim can file. This makes these cases nearly impossible to pursue.

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC STABILITY

We support women's economic stability by advocating for paid family leave, childcare accessibility, eliminating the period tax, and closing the wage gap.

- Indiana ranks 44th out of 50 states and DC for the gender pay gap, according to business.org.
- Indiana is 1 of 27 states that still taxes period products. 1 in 4 Hoosier menstruators significantly struggles to pay the costs.
- Only 8% of workers in the lowest wage quartile have access to paid family leave, according to the National Compensation Survey.

2022 WINS

Our long fight to ensure that consent is defined in Indiana's sexual assault policy came to an exciting close during the first week of March with the passage of House Bill 1079 with near unanimous support. In addition, we advocated for House Bill 1294, which restricts the use of restraints on pregnant incarcerated Hoosiers, and House Bill 1140, which expanded Medicaid coverage for pregnant Hoosiers.

House Bill 1079 - Elements of Rape

Expanded the legal definition of rape by adding the concept of consent to Indiana's sexual assault policy, making it easier for survivors to pursue justice. This bill protects the future safety of all Hoosiers.

House Bill 1140 - Medicaid Coverage for Pregnant Women

Extended eligible mothers to receive Medicaid coverage from 60 days to twelve months postpartum and includes broad healthcare coverage, such as dental and vision, and not just pregnancy-related healthcare. The bill is expected to decrease maternal mortality rates.

House Bill 1294 - Restraint of Pregnant Inmates

Prohibits restraining pregnant inmates experiencing a medical emergency related to pregnancy, in labor and delivery, or in the immediate aftermath of giving birth. It also requires that pregnant inmates in the second and third trimesters are restrained in the most minimal way possible.

REDISTRICTING

Amicus Brief - Moore v. Harper

We filed an amicus curiae brief with the United States Supreme Court that offers an Indiana perspective on a North Carolina case – Moore v. Harper – that will determine who has authority over federal elections.

SPECIAL SESSION

We encourage Hoosiers to take a stand and advocate for women's freedom to make decisions about their healthcare. We will continue to advocate for women's maternal health, k-12 students to receive scientifically accurate sex education, and access to reproductive health care.

Senate Bill 1 - Abortion

During the 2022 Special Session, Indiana debated abortion access for Hoosiers. SB 1 unfortunately passed, despite our best efforts. However, the bill has been temporarily blocked, and Indiana continues to provide safe and legal abortions to Hoosiers. In her injunction order, Judge Kelsey Hanlon of Owen County stated, "... the public has demonstrated an interest in Hoosiers being able to make deeply private and personal decisions without undue governmental intrusion."

We partnered with key allies to mobilize thousands of Hoosiers to pack the Statehouse throughout the two-week session. Many Hoosiers used our advocacy forms and attended letter-writing events to have their voice heard. The results are as follows:



585 ADVOCACY MESSAGES SENT 850 EMAILS TO LEGISLATORS 80+ HOOSIERS HAND WROTE LETTERS

OUR VISION FOR 2023

ACTIVATE Hoosiers to take action during the legislative session and raise Indiana's civic engagement. ADVOCATE during the 2023 legislative session for women's health, economic stability, voter access, and amendments to consent legislation. EDUCATE Hoosiers through our diverse speakers at programming and networking events. COLLABORATE with local organizations and partners to further our reach across Indiana and increase knowledge on our core topic areas.



Thank you for your dedication over the last year!

Throughout 2022, we focused on creating a more informed and civically active community through our civic education conference, testifying at the Statehouse, postcard writing parties, and university outreach. Your tireless advocacy work has helped us to continue laying the foundations for future work to make Indiana a more equitable place for us all.

During a midterm election year like 2022, Indiana needed to get people to the polls. Statistics have shown that Hoosiers don't show up, but you made change happen and proved that is no longer the case.

This year, we were faced with a challenge no one saw coming: the overturning of Roe v. Wade. We rose to meet that challenge with you by our side. You got out and voted to see the change you desire in Indiana, and we will continue to make these changes with your support.



FROM THE W4C STAFF

THANK YOU

HERBERT SIMON FAMILY FOUNDATION



Lilly Endowment Inc.

A Private Philanthropic Foundation















FOR SPONSORING!