

Act One: Hands on Civics in Cincinnati For 18 to 35 Year Olds

Act One was developed by League of Women Voters of Cincinnati Area and Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati. Between 2013-16, we have been able to engage 25 new members to join LWVCA and Woman's City Club.

Partnering with WCC was a key to the success of this project. The leadership of both organizations had a similar concern, "How do we ensure our work will be passed along to the next generation of leaders?"

The cost of the program included LWVCA paying for National and State PMP for up to two-years for each member and the cost of food and room rental, when needed.

Using information gathered for the LWVUS Young People's Task Force, **Act One was designed with these components to appeal to younger people:**

- (1) An application process
- (2) Intergenerational approach so as not to separate younger members from the rest of the organization
- (3) A focus on resume building skills and leadership training
- (4) Recognition at LWV events and in our publications.
- (5) Mentoring of each Act One mentor so she or he could ask questions and navigate the organization easier.

What did Act One Class Members contribute to LWVCA?

Act One members attend monthly meetings. They planned a March 2014 voter registration drive at Cincinnati State, registering and updating the addresses of 55 voters. With assistance from their mentors, these members are blending within our organization. Several members participating based on their individual interests: attending unit meetings, joining the Agricultural Study and Housing committees, attending national convention as a delegate, joining the social media and Vote411 teams, and volunteering at our signature fundraising event. An Act One member has served as Communication Committee chair and another member serves on the nominating committee. Two Act One members were part of the planning group for our Money In Politics Consensus. An Act One member moderated our 2015 Elections Issues Forum. Two Act One members joined the board of directors in 2015-16. Five Act One members are joining the board of directors for 2016-17.

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