



LWV of Lee County Program 2012-2013
Approved April 7, 2012

Education

Quality Schools in Lee County

Support a free high quality public school system for Lee County:

- a. That sets high standards for student achievement;*
- b. That provides equality of educational opportunity for all;*
- c. That recruits and retains faculty and staff of high quality;*
- d. That is financed adequately through an equitable funding formula;*
- e. That monitors expenditures in the operating budget;*
- f. That promotes civics and environmental education; and*
- g. That ends disparity among individual schools in the Lee County School District.*

Work cooperatively with the school board and superintendent.

Early Language and Literacy Project, (ELLP)

Promote Early Language and Literacy Project using LWV Lee County produced video to instruct parents and caregivers with skills to enhance the language development of children from birth to 24 months and improve their educational outcomes. This video is appropriate for parents, older siblings, early childhood workers, social service, prenatal and pediatric professionals. View video; <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fArQ97uliWw> Seek new funding to promote ELLP. Develop internship programs with local colleges and universities to assist in program expansion and review.

Work cooperatively with Lee Memorial Health System, Healthy Start, Family Health Center, Lee County Board of Education, Lee County Dept of Health, and other agencies to promote reading and literacy through the Early Language and Literacy Project, (ELLP), a LWV Lee County initiative to help parents teach their infants and toddlers skills that will aid reading ability.

Student Privacy

Support safeguards for the privacy concerns of local high school students and parents, and the integrity of local high school classrooms by restricting military recruiters from access to classes and lunchrooms, except Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp (JROTC).

Seek concurrence from local Leagues on Lee LWV position regarding military recruitment in high schools.

Social Policy

Promote essential human services delivery to people living in Lee County by supporting programs that enhance the well being of individuals, recognize the special needs of children and families, and provide adequate shelter.

Support resources available for children at risk in Lee County, through education, advocacy, and implementation.

Health

Promote the well being of our citizens by ensuring that they have sufficient opportunities to obtain needed health services within an economically viable system. To that end, the League will advocate for the delivery of affordable health care, dental, vision and mental health services, including transportation so that citizens may avail themselves of those services. The League recommends that infant hearing testing be mandated in Florida. The League will support the retention of family planning services as an essential component of health care services.

Promote a universal health care system with a view to the establishment of a single payer health care system. In the present climate of political conflict about health care reform, the League will work towards the inclusion in health care reform of programs and services which are considered vital for our citizens, including education about end of life directives.

Support for the Lee Memorial Health Care System Trauma Center including initiatives for funding deemed appropriate by the League.

Natural Resources

Promote an environment beneficial to life through the protection and wise management of natural resources in the public interest.

Initiate and support local efforts by our cities and county to improve the environmental quality of our county.

Support environmentally sound policies that reduce energy growth rates, emphasize energy conservation and encourage the use of renewable resources.

Support efforts to eliminate tobacco use and to promote smoke free environments.

Voter Education

Educate voters on single member districts and issues related to redistricting and fair representative government in Lee County.

Educate voters on proposed government consolidation efforts.

Expand effort to submit op ed and letters to the editors. Encourage members to draft letters on behalf of LWV Lee, to be submitted by President.

Continue monthly educational programs from Oct to May.

Identify and reach out to other community organizations, and the general public to expand member base.