

Our Earth Is Worth Mobilizing For

## 2021 IMPACT REPORT

The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) Education Fund is deeply grateful for your partnership in 2021. Your investment in our work helped us to make new progress towards our goals that support the long-term advancement of our movement, while also running powerful grassroots organizing, mobilizing, and education programs to push for urgently needed action on climate and democracy at the federal and state levels.

The threats to our environment and democracy are interlinked, and our nation's biggest environmental challenges and the attacks on our democracy require greater civic participation to advance solutions. To address these interconnected challenges, in 2021, LCV Education Fund ratified a new four-year (2021-2024) strategic plan with goals to:



Build more powerful, active, inclusive, and anti-racist campaigns, programs, and Conservation Voter Movement (CVM), our network of 30+ state affiliates.



Advance and elevate just and equitable climate change action at all levels of government.



Strengthen and defend our democracy through just and equitable voter access and representation at all levels of government.

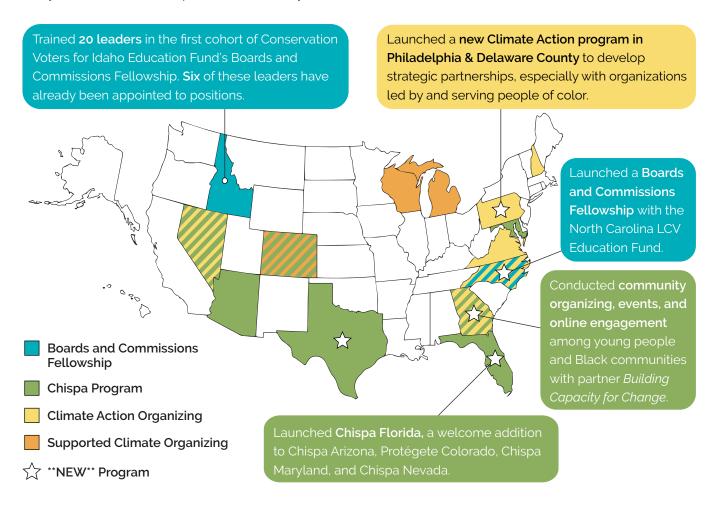


Increase participation in the democratic process by registering new voters and turning more people out to vote.

Thanks to you, in 2021, LCV Education Fund — in partnership with our sister organization, LCV, and the CVM — was able to invest heavily in the infrastructure, strategies, and tools that bolster our ability to organize and mobilize for a healthier, safer, and more just future for all. Below, we highlight the significant progress our movement was able to make last year because of your generous support.

## **Long-Term Power Building**

A stronger, more powerful, active, inclusive, and anti-racist environmental movement is one that is more ready and able to address systemic problems, including the climate crisis, a democracy under attack, and the toxic legacy of environmental injustice. In 2021, LCV Education Fund continued to build our movement through generous grants that your investment made possible. Thanks to you, we:



To bolster our organizing and engagement capacity, we:

- ✓ **Grew our base of Climate Action youth activists** through social media campaigns, campus organizing, and workshops focused on equipping youth advocates with tools to voice their support for climate action.
- ✓ Increased staffing levels and invested in infrastructure of our Democracy teams at both the national and state levels in support of critical efforts to protect voting rights.
- ✓ Deepened partnerships between our state affiliates and low-wealth communities and communities of color in order to shape community-driven equitable and just policy solutions.

To expand our Chispa program's reach, we:

- ✓ Increased our base of grassroots supporters and leaders working to address environmental racism to nearly 100 partner organizations and 11,000 volunteers.
- ✓ Laid the groundwork to formally launch Chispa Texas by hiring staff and creating an online presence.
- ✓ Grew Chispa's digital presence by creating culturally relevant content that engages communities online, especially youth and communities of color.



D.C. Statehood Mural by César Maxit

#### **CULTURAL STRATEGIES**

Since 2020, LCV Education Fund, alongside our sister organization LCV, has been investing in cultural strategies that drive local and social media conversations, bolster traditional organizing tactics, and generate action on the issues our communities care about most. In 2021, we collaborated with more than 50 artists, filmmakers, and influencers to host 31 public art activations on climate, democracy, and environmental justice in 17 states and Washington, D.C. We also sponsored artists across the country to create localized, authentic, and issue-driven digital content (GIFS, memes, and stickers) that people can share and use online, including in advocacy work. Our peer-to-peer digital content strategy has generated over 12 billion views across social platforms since 2020.

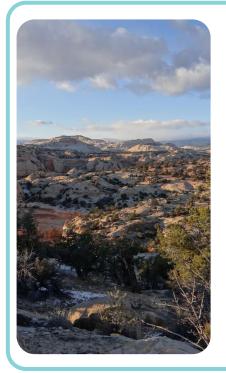
## **Just and Equitable Climate Action**

LCV Education Fund's power-building work has been and will continue to be critical to our movement's ability to organize and mobilize for ongoing progress on the issues we care about most, including climate change. In 2021, LCV Education Fund, in conjunction with LCV and the CVM, successfully organized, mobilized, and educated the public on climate action at all levels of government. Because of your investment in our work, we:

✓ Amplified the Biden-Harris administration's whole-of-government approach to climate and environmental justice and educated the public on administrative progress, including:



- Appointing the most diverse and climate-focused Cabinet in our nation's history
- Re-entering the U.S. in the Paris Climate Agreement
- Committing to cut economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions 50-52% by 2030
- Unveiling the Justice40 Initiative to direct 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy federal investments to environmental justice communities
- Stopping the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline
- Halting lease activities in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
- Stopping construction of the xenophobic and environmentally destructive border wall
- Establishing a National Climate Task Force spanning more than 20 federal agencies
- Reversing more than 100 environmental regulation rollbacks pursued by the Trump administration
- Elevating environmental justice to a top White House priority with the establishment of two key advisory councils
- Launching a plan to increase access to electric vehicle charging stations across the country
- Taking dozens more actions to commit the federal government to address the climate crisis, catalyze the clean energy industry, and advance environmental justice



## CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRESS

- 30x30: In January, President Biden signed an executive order committing the U.S. to protect 30% of its lands and waters by 2030, a key conservation commitment that LCV Education Fund has worked to secure.
- Public Lands: We partnered with tribal leaders and other environmental groups on a campaign that led to the restoration of protections for Bears Ears, Grand Staircase-Escalante (seen left), and the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monuments in October.
- Environmental Health: In August, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a ban on use of the harmful pesticide chlorpyrifos on food. In December, President Biden issued an executive order directing federal agencies to prioritize purchasing PFAS-free products, mobilizing the purchasing power of the government to push the market towards safer alternatives. Additionally, the Biden-Harris administration announced a government-wide plan to reduce lead pipe and paint exposure across the nation.
- ✓ Advanced critical clean energy progress in 28 states across the country through our *Clean Energy for All* campaign, including:



The **Colorado** Air Quality Control Commission unanimously approved new rules to reduce greenhouse gas emissions emissions from the oil and gas sector, one of the largest sources of methane emissions in Colorado.



The **Nebraska** Public Power District Board of Directors voted 9-2 to adopt the goal of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, making Nebraska the first "red state" to commit to 100% clean electricity. Our state affiliate, Nebraska Conservation Voters, has worked to support clean energy champion board members for six years leading up to this win.



**Oregon's** Department of Environmental Quality adopted a Climate Protection Plan requiring fuel suppliers to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2035 and 90% by 2050.



**Washington** established the strongest carbon pricing program in the nation, which will meet state emissions reduction targets with landmark environmental justice components and direct benefits to communities most impacted by pollution and climate change.



Our **New England** state affiliates — including the Environmental League of Massachusetts, Maine LCV, Connecticut LCV, and the Vermont Natural Resources Council — helped secure Biden administration approval of the Vineyard Wind project as part of a major push by a coalition of more than 50 groups to secure offshore wind procurement commitments from governors across the Northeast.

✓ **Sped the transition to clean, electric school buses** and helped clean up the air our children breathe through the *Clean Buses For Healthy Niños* campaign, including:



**Chispa Maryland** helped secure the country's largest contract for school bus electrification in Montgomery County, where more than 300 school buses were modified in February 2021.



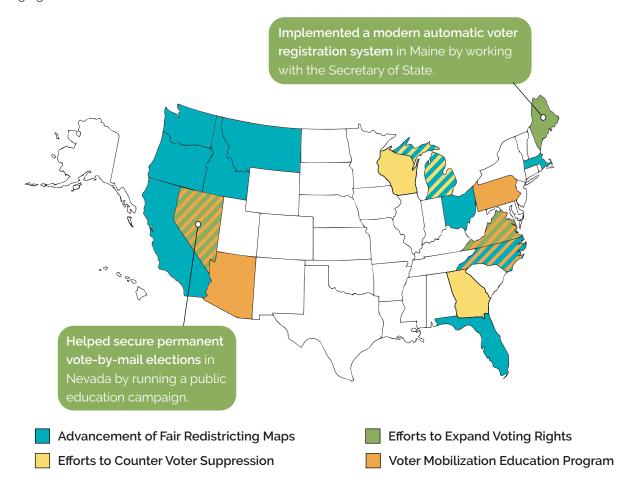
**New York LCV** established the NYC Clean Bus Coalition to ensure that New York City commits to completing its school bus electrification pilot and was successful in getting the city to commit to transition its diesel school buses to electric by 2035.



**Chispa Arizona**, after years of deep community organizing, celebrated the launch of the Cartwright School District's first 84-passenger electric school bus.

## **Strengthened and Defended Democracy**

Over the last two decades, LCV Education Fund, our state affiliates, and our sister organization, LCV, have become recognized leaders in nonpartisan voter registration and civic engagement. Now, as we witness increasingly dangerous efforts to chip away at the foundation of our democracy — from anti-voter bills already signed into law in 19 states in 2021 to partisan takeovers of local election boards and administrative positions — LCV Education Fund has made an even deeper commitment to our work to increase civic participation and protect and strengthen voting rights.



In 2021, through LCV Education Fund's innovative Democracy for All program and with your support, we:

- ✓ Collected more than 30,000 voter registration forms online and via mail as part of our nonpartisan voter engagement programs.
- ▼ Built the capacity of our 30+ state affiliates with staff expansion and training focused on developing strong relationships with local election officials and engaging and recruiting volunteers.
- ✓ Supported state grassroots movements for democracy by working more closely with our affiliates on statespecific voting rights and ballot access issues and voter registration needs.
- ✓ Helped increase civic participation among low voting propensity populations including Black, Indigenous, immigrant, and other communities of color through more than 500,000 nonpartisan get-out-the-vote outreach attempts.
- ▼ Began building the infrastructure for a major nonpartisan voter registration push in 2022 by cultivating relationships with businesses, partner organizations, and members of the community in Arizona, Nevada, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania.
- ✓ Continued effective digital field programs launched during the COVID-19 pandemic including phone calls, online organizing, and leadership development.

#### SINCE 2012, LCV EDUCATION FUND HAS

# Collected 1.5 MILLION VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS

through mail, site-based, and online registration

#### Mobilized

## **MILLIONS OF VOTERS**

with door-knocks, phone calls, and text messages

Won

## DOZENS OF VOTING REFORMS And VOTER SUPPRESSION

with our sister organization LCV and our 30+ state affiliates

### Thank You

The victories LCV Education Fund and our 30+ state affiliates secured in 2021 would not have been possible without your investment in our work. This progress laid the foundation for the urgent climate and democracy progress we hope to achieve in 2022 and beyond. With so much work still to be done to secure a healthier, safer, and more just and equitable future for all communities, we are immensely grateful for your support and hope we can count on your continued support in the year ahead.