



July 15, 2026

Dear Community Members:

We are living in unprecedented times. In preparation for the mid-terms on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and the possibility that ICE, Border Control Agents or other Homeland Security personnel will be present near or at the polls (as has been threatened on and off all year), the League of Women Voters of Vermont (LWVVT) is searching for volunteers to serve as community election observer coordinators and election poll observers across the state. The election observer coordinators would schedule observers for polling sites in their communities, with at least two poll observers for each scheduled time. They will also coordinate safety measures with poll observers who would be volunteering to take a shift at the polling site (2 to 4 hours). Our program is outside the polls in parking lots and near entrances for voting. Both observers and coordinators need to attend a free training on Zoom, either on Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> or Sept 9<sup>th</sup> (info below). You do not need specific qualifications for either position, but you should be comfortable with texting. We will cover your safety and legal rights during the training.

While we know that non-US citizen voting is extremely rare, it is part of a larger federal strategy to make people fearful of voting, especially people of color. LWVVT will be encouraging individuals to vote early by mail, drop their ballots in a secure drop box, or take their ballot to the City Clerk's office before November 3<sup>rd</sup>. However, many citizens prefer to vote in person and at the polls, and that's their right. This program will help ensure safety of those voting in person from the federal agents and/or hecklers.

In March, the League successfully piloted an election site observer program in three Vermont communities. We now want to expand that program to all communities in the state. Our goal for this endeavor is to remove fear and normalize voting by serving as observers and witnesses outside of the polls. The polling officials are trained in security inside the polling places. Our strategy as election observers outside the polls is to keep everyone safe and remain non escalatory. We will be recording what we see happening and reporting any incidents quickly.

If you are willing to donate a couple of hours as an election poll observer outside of the polling site or to coordinate election site observers in your community, please attend one of two Zoom training sessions that we have scheduled. The trainings are run by an experienced individual and will help prepare you for your role and responsibilities at the polling site. After the training, we'll provide you with our guidelines for election observers (a quick sheet with everything you need to know and do on November 3<sup>rd</sup>). Here are the training dates:

- Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6:30 to 8:00 pm
- Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Please use this form to sign up for this valuable training: <https://forms.gle/Dvg5Kn5rSLCNviDG6>. If you have any questions, please email Marguerite at [madel51353@gmail.com](mailto:madel51353@gmail.com) or Sherri at [healthyfusion20@gmail.com](mailto:healthyfusion20@gmail.com).

Share this ONLY with trusted individuals that you know are NOT police or federal agents. Do not publicize on social media.

Sincerely,

*Marguerite Adelman, Vice President*

*Sherri Wormser*, Voter Access Committee