



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY  
INTER-LEAGUE ORGANIZATION

The ILO represents the Leagues  
of San Diego and North County

# Voter

May 2016



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY**

## **NOTIFICATION OF CONVENTION 2016**

**Saturday, May 21, 2016**

**10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

*Community Room*

*Scripps Miramar Ranch Library*

*10301 Scripps Lake Drive, San Diego*

**Biennial Convention Business\* Includes  
Approval of County League Program and Budget  
Election of Officers/Directors for 2016-2018  
Future of the ILO**

\*Please note that voting is limited to local League presidents, delegate members, and LWV of San Diego County Board members. Delegate members are appointed by their local Leagues. Other League members and guests are encouraged to attend.

Bring your own lunch and beverage. Water will be provided as well as morning treats.



## Behavioral Health Update

The Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) program is now open for referrals as of April 1. It is San Diego County's response to Laura's Law and provides outpatient services for adults with serious mental illness who are resistant to treatment. AOT Laws authorizes court-ordered outpatient treatment pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 5345-5349.5 for individuals who have a history of untreated mental illness and meet all nine of the following criteria stipulated in the Code:

1. The person is at least 18 years of age;
2. The person is mentally ill as defined in WIC;
3. The person is clinically determined to be unlikely to survive safely in the community without supervision;
4. The person has a history of treatment non-compliance as evidenced by one of the following: ~two occurrences of hospitalizations, or mental health treatment in prison or jail within the last 36 months or ~one occurrence of serious and violent behavior (including threats) within the last 48 months;
5. The person has been offered treatment and continues to fail to engage in treatment;
6. The person has a condition that is substantially deteriorating;
7. Assisted Outpatient Treatment must be the least restrictive placement to ensure the person's recovery and stability;
8. The treatment is needed to prevent a relapse or deterioration that would likely result in grave disability or serious harm to self or others as defined in WIC Sections 5150; and
9. The person is expected to benefit from AOT.

San Diego Telecare Corp's Assisted Outpatient Treatment program will provide recovery-oriented, evidence-based Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) services to adults with serious mental illness who have been recently identified and screened by one of San Diego County's IHOT (In Home Outreach Team) programs as needing AOT services. Once referred, the participant will be repeatedly engaged by the AOT Team to partici-

pate in treatment. All referrals for AOT will be made through one of the two IHOT programs in San Diego County:

- MHS, Inc. (North Inland, North Coastal, and North Central regions), 858-573-2600, 760-591-0100
- TeleCare (Central, East, and South regions), 619-961-2120

It has been helpful to many consumers who take to heart a judge's order to follow their treatment plan. Medication is still voluntary and will help some, as the results from Orange County proved, but not all.

The 7th START (Short Term Acute Residential Treatment) Program, a 16 bed crisis residence in Escondido, opposite the old Palomar Hospital, will open its doors July 1, 2016. Turning Point with 11 beds in Oceanside was the first one in San Diego County to open its doors as an alternative to hospitalization. It has taken 20 years to get a second crisis residential home north of I-8. Jack Farmer came to NAMI North Coastal's Education Meeting March 17 to give members the good news. He is a staff member of Community Research Foundation the proud non-profit in charge of all seven crisis residential programs in San Diego County. The usual stay is from 6-12 days, but can be longer depending on the patient. There will be a June Open House to introduce this second culturally bilingual program to North Inland San Diego County residents.

If you are seeing a lot of lime green ribbons around, it is because California's Mental Health Movement, Each Mind Matters, is alive and well. It is leading the way for national mental health reform by trying to break through the barriers of stigma and discrimination in CA communities often responsible for the isolation a person with a brain disease faces instead of finding the help needed for recovery.

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Budget will be ready for public input starting May 2, go for BH Board approval July 7 and to the Board of Supervisors July 17. The 3 Year Plan Budget will be ready for public input in August and be presented to the Behavioral Health Board in September and to the BOS later that month.

Liz Kruidenier

## Natural Resources Committee Report ~ April 2016

**Lilac Hills Ranch:** Accretive Investments, the developers of the proposed 1,700-home Lilac Hills Ranch in Valley Center, will try to qualify a ballot initiative for a countywide vote to approve Lilac Hills Ranch in the November 2016 election. This would bypass both a Board of Supervisors vote (after the California Fair Political Practices Commission ruled twice that Supervisor Horn must recuse himself) and a California Supreme Court ruling which now requires projects to account for their greenhouse gas emissions. They need to gather 70,000 signatures by May. The use of a ballot initiative to circumvent the California Environmental Quality Act, California's environmental law, recently backfired in the Caruso Affiliated retail development in Carlsbad. Let's hope the developers don't get the necessary 70,000 signatures! Please, make sure you understand what you are signing if you feel compelled to sign petitions.

**Gregory Canyon Landfill:** Sovereign Capital, the investment company that purchased the site of the proposed Gregory Canyon landfill on State Route 76, has installed fencing and a sign that reads, "Future Home - Gregory Canyon Landfill." The San Diego County Solid Waste Hearing Panel met on February 11, 2016 in response to recent debris removal and demolition of existing structures. They ruled that these activities were an effort "to abate a public nuisance and not the initiation of a construction project." This controversial project has plagued the County for the past 20 years.

**San Onofre Nuclear Waste:** At a recent public meeting, speakers insisted that Southern California Edison remove tons of nuclear waste from a beachside bluff at the shuttered San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, which is "as vulnerable a target as you could possibly have for terrorists." Federal regulations prohibit the utility from moving the waste without an authorized, licensed destination for the spent fuel. The Department of Energy is trying to establish temporary storage sites in West Texas and New Mexico which could accept nuclear waste until a permanent repository

is found. Public meetings on the new plan begin soon in Chicago. A meeting is also scheduled in Sacramento on April 26. Due to liability concerns, Congress needs to ensure the facilities are completed and can accept radioactive waste. Two bills in Congress address temporary storage: SB854 and HR3643. Interested individuals should ask their representatives to support this effort. The nuclear plant shut down in 2012.

**Forest Conservation Initiative Lands (FCI) General Plan Amendment:** The FCI, a voter-approved initiative, passed in 1993 and expired in 2010. It required that private lands within the Cleveland National Forest in San Diego County have a minimum lot size of 40 acres. Since FCI lands were NOT included in the General Plan Update, their land use designations are not consistent with those currently applied to the former FCI lands. The General Plan amendment includes Land Use Map revisions for 71,300 acres of private-owned lands within the Alpine, Central Mountain, Desert, Jamul/Dulzura, Julian, Mountain Empire, North Mountain, Pendleton-DeLuz, and Ramona planning areas and 400 acres of adjacent properties. Also included are proposed amendments to the Alpine, Central Mountain, Jamul/Dulzura, and North Mountain Community Plans. There are also zoning changes, when applicable, to ensure zoning consistency of the land use designations changes.

**SDG&E Rally:** On March 16, I participated in a rally along with the Sierra Club, San Diego 350.org, Climate Action Campaign and solar industry workers. San Diego County Supervisor Dianne Jacob spoke against SDG&E's appeal of the California Public Utilities Commission's January net metering decision. SDG&E proposes specific modifications to net metering 2.0, expected to take place this July, while Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) requested that the CPUC void the decision entirely.

The Natural Resources Committee always needs members. Please contact me and get involved!

Jösan Feathers, [josanita@cox.net](mailto:josanita@cox.net), 619.660.2915

# Ad Hoc Education and Public Relations Committee

## Recommendations

At its February 3, 2016 meeting, the ILO appointed an ad hoc committee to investigate the feasibility of developing and running spot ads to promote Smart Voter/Voter's Edge on local San Diego TV stations prior to the Fall 2016 elections. The committee met twice, in addition to email communications, and developed 19 activities to promote voter registration, voting, and the LWV. The proposals were organized into four categories, based on feasibility and ease of implementation. These were discussed by the ILO and will be presented to the May 21 Convention.

### Potential activities that could be sponsored and/or conducted by ILO:

- Local TV spot ads before the 2016 Fall election
- U-Tube-suitable cartoon encouraging registration and voting
- Special registration and voting information on local League websites
- Partnership with the Registrar of Voters
- Partnerships with libraries
- Grants to Local leagues for their election-related activities

### Potential activities subject to further ILO investigation:

- Partnership with Caltrans/Amber Alert signs
- Partnership with financial institutions
- 211-Reverse Call system for voting reminders
- Partnership with Rock-the-Vote organization
- College institutions' reverse call to students with voter reminders
- Use of college newspapers to promote voter registration and voting

Seven other proposals, in the two additional categories, will be referred to the state or to local Leagues, or deferred for later study because of complexity or need for in-depth evaluation.

## Discussion

**Costs.** In the Committee's discussion of the proposals above, the members noted that the first two items in the first category would cost \$35,000 and more. Other proposals would require minimal outlays of funds, if any. Implementation of many of the proposals would involve League members' time.

**Outreach to Young Voters.** Several members have recommended focused partnerships with educational institutions through use of student newspapers, electronic messaging, reverse phone calls, notices on institutions' sign boards, banners at the schools, etc. Mira-Costa College responded favorably.

**Partnership with ROV.** Joyce Joseph and Anne Omsted met with the Registrar of Voters. Following is a summary of their lengthy discussion of various activities in which the LWV could participate with the ROV, which would offer training if necessary.

- ROV videos regarding Voting could be included on the LWV's web sites
- Partner in ROV activities involving "millennial" outreach
- Join in ROV development of educational materials
- Partner in ROV efforts to register voters, prior to the fall election
- Partner in staging mock elections, with requests and training through ROV office
- Special Project being tested for June: Some County Libraries will have deposit boxes for "mail-in" ballots from May 31-June 6. ROV needs "box guardians" at these libraries
- The "confusing rules" regarding the Primary are explained on the ROV website, [www.sdvotes.gov](http://www.sdvotes.gov)

**Partner with County Library System.** The County Library sends an email notice when an item is due, or a reserved item is available. At the committee's request, the County Library will investigate adding to the notice: "Register and Vote. [www.sdvotes.org](http://www.sdvotes.org)"

**Additional Matters.** (1) Committee members expressed concern needing to remind voters to re-register if they have moved, changed their name, etc. (2) The Leagues might want to include on their web site the page from the Secretary of State explaining the confusing rules for voting in the Primary.

### Ad-hoc Committee Membership

Nan Valerio, Chair, SD City, ILO

Anne Omsted, Secretary, North County

North County: Suzanne Carneiro, Nancy Hand. ILO, Joyce Joseph, ILO, Trish Halsey, Hank Williams

SD City: Amanda Berg, Sylvia Hampton, ILO; Rachael McDonald, Lori Theil