## LWVA Diversity Policy

The League of Women Voters of Amherst is an organization that is committed to promoting equitable, fair, and just treatment for all individuals and groups in our community.

The League recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making. The League subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the values it upholds and that this inclusiveness enhances the organization's ability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs in our community.

The League is committed to developing an inclusive membership that reflects the diversity of groups within our community.

In both its principles and practices, the League will promote inclusion and actively work towards eliminating barriers, both within our organization and within our community, based on race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, mental and physical ability, age, language, level of education, level of income, diversity of employment, philosophical differences, and/or any other characteristic that can be identified as recognizing or illustrating diversity.

Awareness and consideration of the diverse needs, perspectives and conditions in our community will play a central role in all that the LWV of Amherst undertakes.

The League is committed to taking action based on League positions; diversity is an important component in determining the focus of the action.

Diversity, equity and inclusion are central to the organization's current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

Adopted 2002

(See also <u>LWVMA</u> and <u>LWVUS</u> Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policies, 2018)