

**TACOMA (WA) CHAPTER OF THE LINKS, INC
LEGISLATIVE ISSUES AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**VOTER EDUCATION AND EMPOWERMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT
Provided for October 27, 2018 Chapter Meeting**

The Tacoma (WA) Chapter of The Links, Inc., opted to start its 2018 voter education and empowerment outreach in early summer, knowing it would be the first best opportunity to interact with large groups of people. Under the leadership of the chapter's Legislative Issues and Public Policy committee, the chapter organized two events, heavily focused on registering voters. When the chapter was not organizing events, it was busy supporting other community voter education/registration events.

Link Kirsten submitted a version of this report to the Western Area Legislative Issues and Public Affairs committee on October 22, 2018.

JUNE 15, 2018

Event and Location: Community Movie Night hosted by Allen AME Church, Tacoma, Washington,

Audience and Attendance: general public, about 100 church neighbors of various ethnicities, about 50/50 gender split, age range was toddlers to octogenarians

Chapter's Participating Community Partners: Tacoma Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Egyptian Lodge #44 of the Masonic Order, and Black Panther Party of Tacoma

Materials Used and Information Disseminated: Voter registration forms, pamphlets outlining the steps citizens with felonies can take to have their voting rights restored, deadlines for registering and voting, ways for homeless to receive ballots and voting guides

Outcome: Collected 8 completed registration forms

Pictures: Added to the Programs page of chapter website

JULY 28-29, 2018

Event and Location: 2018 Ethnic Fest, in Wright Park, Tacoma, Washington

Audience and Attendance: general public, about 2,000+ of various ethnicities, about 50/50 gender split, all ages

Chapter's Participating Community Partners: Tacoma Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Alpha Phi Alpha

Fraternity Alpha Phi Alpha, Egyptian Lodge #44 of the Masonic Order, and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity

Materials Used and Information Disseminated: Voter registration forms, pamphlets outlining the steps citizens with felonies can take to have their voting rights restored, deadlines for registering and voting, ways for homeless to receive ballots and voting guides

Outcome: Collected 55 completed registration forms; approached by local chapter of League of Women Voters about future collaboration

Pictures: Added to the Programs page of chapter website

OCTOBER 6

Event and Location: 2018 Political Forum on the Hilltop, hosted by Allen AME Church, Tacoma, Washington

Audience and Attendance: supported by eight (8) chapter members and the general public--about 150 total of various ethnicities, about 50/50 gender split, age range was teenagers to octogenarians

Outcome: Members heard platforms of 16 candidates and had their questions answered, gathered campaign materials, and learned more about an affirmative action-based measure structured to favor traditionally underrepresented groups, Initiative 1000, that needs a little over 259,000 signatures by January 4, 2019 to appear on the November 5, 2019 statewide ballot.

Pictures: Added to the Programs page of chapter website

FUTURE EVENT PLANNING- 2019

The chapter is planning to collaborate with the Tacoma Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., on planning and executing a community forum on the Electoral College.

Prepared and Respectfully Submitted by Link R. Kirsten Watts
Chair, Legislative Issues and Public Affairs Committee
Tacoma (WA) Chapter