

The League of Women Voters of Dane County, Inc.
2019 CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT AWARD RECIPIENT
☞ Kathleen Fullin ☞

Our 2019 Carrie Chapman Catt award winner became a member of the League of Women Voters of Dane County in January of 1974. Early in her tenure, she became the Vice President for Action.

In the 1980s, Kathleen Fullin worked in the Office of the Governor under Tony Earl, was a stalwart in the offices of the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families (now known as Kids Forward), and was an important policy analyst in the Wisconsin Bureau of Child Support, where she was named the 2004 State Employee of the Year by the Wisconsin Child Support Enforcement Association.

In about 2012, when laws relating to registration and absentee voting were changing and a strict voter photo ID requirement was signed into law, Kathy was in the thick of the League's effort to help people overcome these new barriers to voting. She served as co-president of the Dane County League for four years, from 2013 to 2018. As a member of the Voter Service Committee, she organized voter registration at Madison College and the UW–Madison; helped register UW students during bus pass distribution; helped register Epic employees; worked closely with multiple city clerks in Dane County to promote registration and assistance to obtain a voter ID; worked to help make public libraries a key resource for voters; wrote numerous letters to the editor about voting rights; and appeared at rallies, public presentations, and organizational gatherings too numerous to identify in support of helping people exercise their right to vote. She continues to organize the League's efforts to help provisional voters in Madison get an ID to the Clerk's office so their vote can be counted.

In addition, she hasn't forgotten that people need to be well-informed in order to vote; for years she has worked tirelessly, even while wintering in Tucson, gathering candidate information from clerks and school districts for *Candidates' Answers*, and helping to proof the online edition.

A key aspect of Kathy's advocacy is that along the way she identifies highly competent people who can take over the organizing that she has started, so that she can move on to the next area that requires attention.

It is entirely fitting that Kathleen Fullin should be this year's Carrie Chapman Catt award winner.