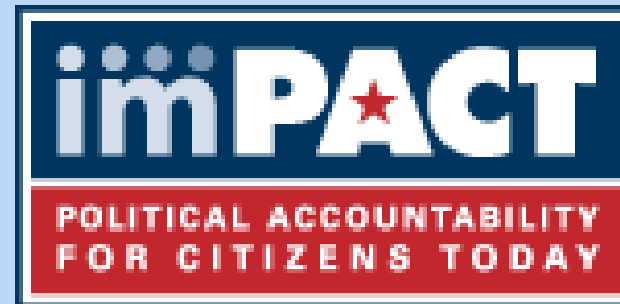
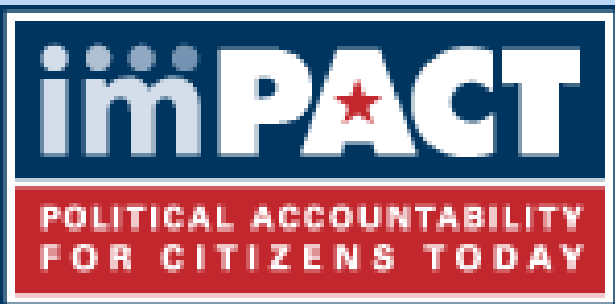


LWVOEF Accountability Project

Promoting Good Governance,
Transparency & Reform
Through Empowered, Active
Citizen Participation



What is the imPACT Accountability Project?

Designed to:

- Enhance Local Leagues' Capacity to Identify & Analyze Key Community Issues
- Educate & Mobilize Individuals
- Enable Sustainable Change



Why Accountability?



imPACT Advisory Committee 2011

- Rosanne Thomas (Chair)
- Nancy Brown
- Meg Flack
- Joanna Helon
- Ann Henkener
- Susan Hesselgesser
- Vivienne Himmell
- Donna Marie Lossing Jones
- Sara Miga
- Anne Nelson
- Jo Ann Radwin-Zimmerman
- Karen Rainey



Advisory Committee



Accountability Issues

- **Issue:** Water Safety
- **Concern:** How safe is the water in the Scioto River?
- **Who is Accountable:** The Ohio EPA monitors water quality
- **Action:** Request recent test results and see if the water quality really is up to standards and see if it is getting better or worse.

Proposed Implementation Framework



OBJECTIVE ONE:

Choosing a Role for Your League

- Assessing your League's Capacity for Action:
 - How many members will participate?
 - What type of issue could you address with "X" number of volunteers?
 - How much time are you willing to commit?
Each Week? Each Month? For how long?

OBJECTIVE TWO: Selecting an Accountability Issue

- Key Questions to Consider:
 - What issues are currently receiving attention in your community?
 - What issues exist, but are being ignored?
Why?
 - Can your League have an impact on this issue?

Accountability Issues

- **Issue:** Open Government
- **Concern:** Contracts in your town are being awarded to a favored few
- **Who is Accountable?** City Council & City Purchasing Department
- **Action:** Obtain copies of contract bids and award for the past 3 years; Attend City Counsel meetings

OBJECTIVE THREE:

Engaging Your Local Community

- Identifying Who Can Help Your Project
- Community & Volunteer Recruitment
- Town Hall Meetings
- Educational Events
- Creating Educational Materials
- Inspiring Action

OBJECTIVE FOUR:

Assessing Government Practices & Monitoring Progress

- A step-by-step guide to help you apply an accountability “lens” to your work
- Key Questions:
 - What office, agency, legislative body has jurisdiction over the issue at hand?
 - What meetings or events should our League be attending?

Benefits

- Assess Your League's Capacity for Accountability Action
- Select and Study a Local Governmental Issue
- Engage Your Local Community Strategically
- Assess the Practices of Government Agencies
- Monitor and Discuss the Issue with Various Community Members

More Benefits!

- Increase Local League Visibility & Reputation
 - To the public
 - To the media
 - To elected officials

More Benefits!

- Community Building & Networking Opportunity
 - Working with local citizens
- Partnership Opportunity
 - Working with local organizations who share your concerns

Resources & Support

- Regional Training Meetings
- Funding
- Information
- Guides, Toolkits & Templates
- Ongoing Assistance



Regional Training Meetings

- Who: Interested Local Leagues
- What: An informational training session about how to use and apply the Accountability Project Guide
- When: August/September (exact dates TBD)
- Where: Customized Regional Group Meetings

\$ Funding \$

- Grant Funds are available through the generous support of the Joyce Foundation
- Two Funding Streams are Available:
 1. Project Funds
 2. Capacity Building Funds

AND REMEMBER...

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

-Margaret Mead