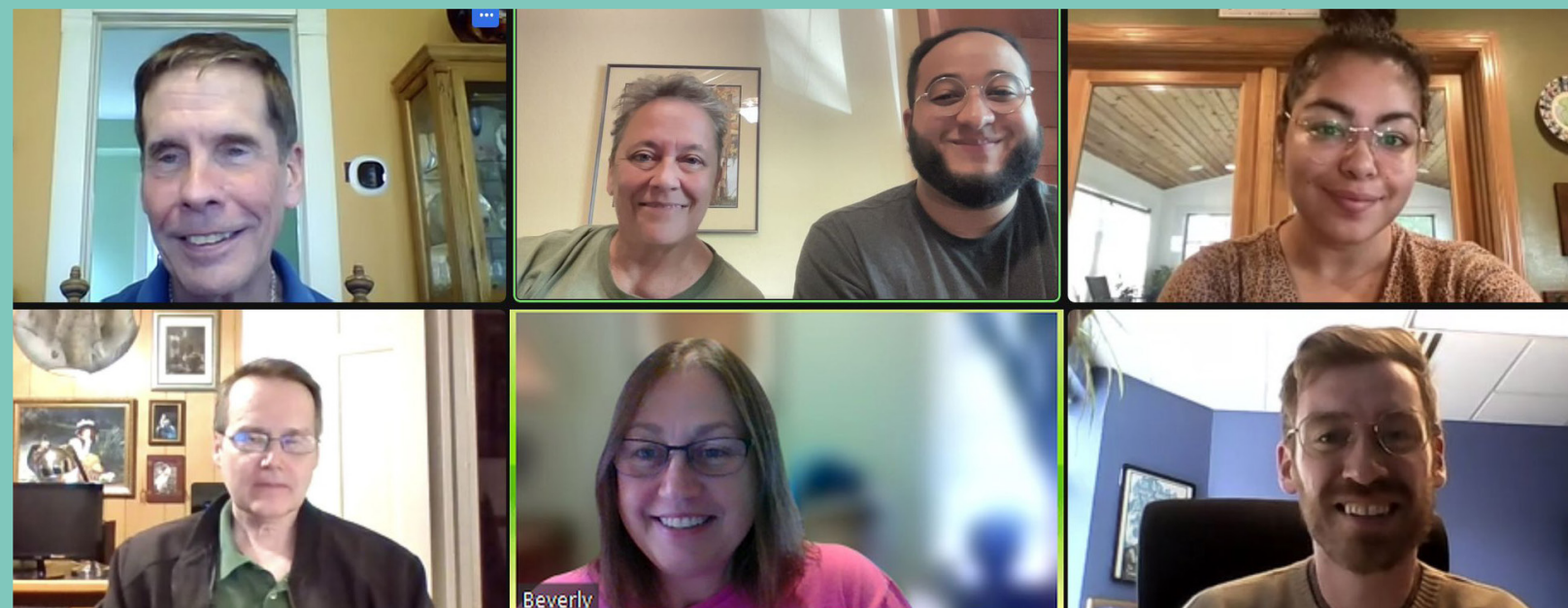




2023

Wisconsin Democracy Campaign **ANNUAL REPORT**



Dear Friend,

My first four months with the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign have been action-packed. But before I provide a closer look at our year together, I first give all the praise and thanks to my predecessor Matt Rothschild who built an absolute juggernaut of an organization. We would not be where we are today without Matt's fearless leadership. Matt retired at the end of June this year, and I hope he is enjoying all the rest, relaxation, and birdwatching that he so rightfully deserves.

In our Annual Report, we highlight some of the amazing accomplishments of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign in 2023. We tracked April's Wisconsin Supreme Court race which resulted in over \$51 million being spent to influence the election. We continue to see record spending every election cycle and the trend will continue until we win the fight for campaign finance reform in Wisconsin. We engaged voters across the state through direct mail, radio, and news articles to educate the public about the attacks on our democracy, the importance of voting in our elections, and uplifting the pro-democracy efforts that are underway in Wisconsin.

In September, we received the 2023 Change-Maker Collaboration award from Community Shares of Wisconsin – along with fellow CSW member organizations and Fair Maps Coalition partners the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Conservation Voices – for our fight to end partisan gerrymandering and bring fair voting maps to Wisconsin.

Month by month, we have been building momentum in the movement for fair maps. Right when I started at Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, we held a "Public Telling" in October after the State Assembly refused to hold a public hearing on their flawed redistricting bill introduced in mid-September. Within days of that event, the State Senate scheduled the first official public hearing for a redistricting bill in 13 years. We engaged the Fair Maps activists from around the state and filled that public hearing room with hours of testimony. Because Wisconsinites are fed up with business as usual.

The Wisconsin Democracy Campaign ran radio ads statewide to urge Wisconsinites to contact their State Senator in opposition to the redistricting bills the Senate was poised to vote on. With your help, the State Senate has chosen not to vote on Speaker Vos' disingenuous proposal. Following our radio ads, we held rallies across the state in Madison, Milwaukee, Green Bay, and Eau Claire to kick off oral arguments for the redistricting lawsuit now before the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Brothers and sisters, we are closing in on generational change for Wisconsin. We are on the doorstep of ending gerrymandering and creating a more equitable state where every Wisconsin voter has an equal voice. I see victory in the distance and I'm thankful for the opportunity to be in this fight because of all your love and support.

Looking ahead to next year, we will raise awareness about the legislative elections in the fall which will be particularly significant if the current legislative maps get thrown out by the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Assembly members and all State Senators, not just half, may be up for election in 2024.

That's a lot of money to track in one election, but we are clear in our mission. While we continue working with our coalition partners to promote a broad range of pro-democracy reforms, we will continue to lead in exposing the corrupting influences of how election campaigns are financed and fight for reforms and fixes including efforts to overturn Citizens United and related court rulings – a U.S. Constitution amendment to declare, once and for all, that corporations aren't persons and money isn't speech.

Working together, we can make it happen.

Nick

Nick Ramos
Executive Director



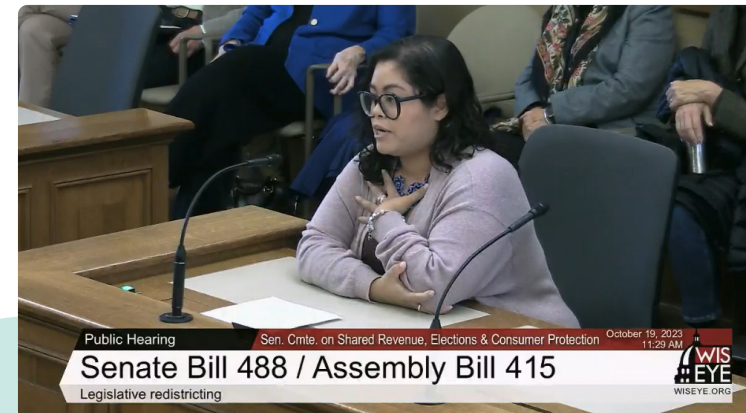
AN ACTION-PACKED 2023

1 Tallying The Record Spending

We tallied all the money in the record-shattering Wisconsin Supreme Court election and provided that information to the media. We also reported on special legislative elections to fill a vacancy and finalized figures for the big money that poured into the 2022 Wisconsin elections.

2 Testifying On Bills

We made public statements in opposition to the "shared revenue" bill with its unconstitutional provision that eliminates most uses of local advisory referenda, the "Riot" bill attempting to silence peaceful protests, and the flawed redistricting bill Speaker Vos passed in the Assembly with zero public input. In addition to supporting legislative proposals that include an Economic Justice Bill of Rights, a bipartisan bill to make it easier to expunge a criminal record, and a bill to strike SLAPP suits that threaten media, we were happy to end the year on a positive note. We again aided Senator Larson in reintroduction of the Campaign Integrity Package which would go a long way to address the disastrous rewrite of our campaign finance law in 2015. Moving into 2024 we look forward to continued movement on a bipartisan bill to require disclosures on political ads generated by artificial intelligence.



3 Denouncing Racism

We denounced Robert Spindell, the Wisconsin Elections Commissioner who bragged about the disgusting racist voter suppression campaign that the GOP waged in the Milwaukee area in 2020. We even told him to his face that he should resign because of it.

4 Demanding Accountability

We demanded that the leaders of the criminal conspiracy to overturn the 2020 election, including Donald Trump, be held accountable. And we urged Wisconsin prosecutors, including Attorney General Josh Kaul and Dane County DA Ismael Ozanne, to investigate and hold accountable Wisconsin's own False Electors.



5 Engaging Voters

We printed and distributed 15,000 postcards to grassroots activists on the importance of the spring election for the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Our Racial Equity and Economic Justice Advocate, Iuscely Flores, produced a version of the Mexican bingo game, "Loteria," tailored to the Court.

Speaking Across The State And The Country

We gave public talks all over the state, from Washburn to Racine and parts in between, on gerrymandering, money in politics, voting rights, and how to counter the anti-democracy movement. Nick spoke by invitation on the main stage at the American Democracy Summit in Los Angeles.

Speaking In Schools

Our Racial Equity and Economic Justice Advocate, Iuscely Flores, spoke several times at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and high schools in the Milwaukee area.

Speaking On Radio

We appeared on many radio programs in Wisconsin, including on the Civic Media statewide network as well as on WCLO, WFDL, WIZM, WOJB, WORT, and WPR.



Appearing In The News

We were quoted regularly in the leading statewide news outlets, including AP, The Cap Times, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Urban Milwaukee, Wisconsin Examiner, Wisconsin State Journal, and WisPolitics. We also were quoted in The New Yorker and cited by the New York Times.

Leading On Fair Maps

We've played a primary role on the Wisconsin Fair Maps Coalition's lead team. With the exceptional leadership of

grassroots organizing directors Carlene Bechen, now "retired," and Iuscely Flores, we kept grassroots activists informed and engaged on the issue of fair maps. We've hit the airwaves to encourage Wisconsinites to take action in opposition to Speaker Vos's disingenuous redistricting legislation and provided several opportunities for our fair maps volunteers to engage statewide both in opposition to the bad redistricting bills and support of the legislative maps litigation before the State Supreme Court. Our radio ads ran from October 30th through November 3rd across 19 different radio stations in Wisconsin. We also texted 40,000 voters in Madison, Milwaukee, Green Bay, and Eau Claire to crowd-build for Fair Maps rallies across Wisconsin.



Use this QR code to view our 2023 fair maps highlights video.

Leading on Voting Rights

We've also played a prominent role in the Wisconsin Voting Rights Coalition, both on the steering committee and in sub-groups covering communications and legislation.

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WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU

As you can see, we're doing all we can to stand up for good government and a democracy where everyone has an equal voice.

Help us promote a pro-democracy agenda for Wisconsin!

Fair maps, the freedom to vote, a ban on corporate donations to political parties, racial equity, economic justice. Please send us a generous gift today so we can advance this urgent pro-democracy agenda.



WAYS TO GIVE

Traditional Giving

The Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, accepts cash, checks, PayPal, and credit card donations as well as bequests. Automatic monthly or quarterly donations can be made by credit card or PayPal. Secure online donations can be made at www.wisdc.org. If you have any questions, or if you'd prefer to call in your donation, please give us a ring at (608) 255-4260. All donations to the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Workplace Giving

The Wisconsin Democracy Campaign is a member of Community Shares of Wisconsin. Workplace giving with Community Shares allows businesses and member nonprofits to work together to build fair, just and sustainable communities. We receive 100% of all designated donations through Community Shares of Wisconsin's workplace giving programs.



Digital Donations

Twice a year we participate in online days of giving. The first week in March we are part of Community Shares of Wisconsin's The Big Share, a friendly online community platform to raise funds and visibility for 70 nonprofit organizations advancing social and environmental justice in Wisconsin. Giving Tuesday is a nationwide day of giving the Tuesday following Thanksgiving. This digital presence allows us to reach a new and more diversified pool of donor supporters.

Thanks to all the individual donors, like you, who generously supported us this past year!

And special thanks to the following funders: All Voting is Local, Brico Foundation, Brookby Foundation, Joyce Foundation, League of Women Voters, Movement Voter Project, Proteus Fund, State Voices, Tides Foundation



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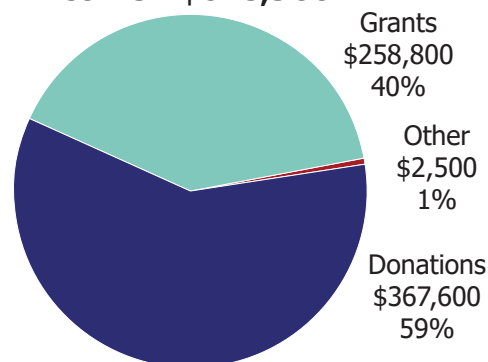
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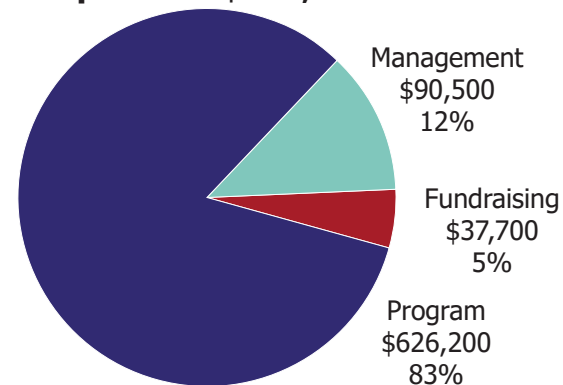
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Michael Buelow, Research Director
Iuscely Flores, Racial Equity & Economic Justice Advocate
David Julseth, Data Analyst
Barb Kneer, Financial Manager
Nick Ramos, Executive Director
Beverly Speer, Outreach & Advocacy Director

Wisconsin Democracy Campaign July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

Income - \$618,900



Expenses - \$754,400



In addition to the income shown above, \$300,000 carried over from the prior year is available for current and future year expenses.