

# THIS IS WHAT A NEW WAVE LOOKS LIKE

## SUCCESSES REPORT 2017-2018



## Our members reflected on what they're most proud of:

Lala Wu, [Sister District Project](#)

The Sister District Project activates the power, passion, and creativity of volunteers to win elections and turn states blue.

- \$1.1 million in grassroots dollars raised for legislative candidates
- Average donation size of \$32
- 1.1 million voters reached through texts, postcards, and doorknocking
- Flipped senates in Colorado and Maine
- Breaking the the Republican senate supermajorities in Pennsylvania and Michigan
- 75 teams across the US (+40 teams from start of the year)
- Getting the word out about state races

"Since our founding in 2016, we've raised more than \$1.1 million in grassroots dollars, [and] reached out to 1.1 million voters through phones, texts, postcards, and doors. Among others, our successful candidates this year flipped the senates in Colorado and Maine blue, and broke Republican senate supermajorities in Pennsylvania and Michigan. We've got 75 active teams across the US. We're thrilled the word is getting out about the importance of state races, and are already moving forward with our [plans for] 2019-2020."  
- LaLa Wu, Sister District

Geoff Miles, [Collective Agency](#)

Collective Agency brings together distributed teams of creatives and project managers across the country to bring projects across the most important social and political issues to life from ideation through production through distribution.

- The Women's March Global Livestream
- Our incredible video teams

"Many people [on our video teams] worked through nights and weekends and were flexible with our early struggles. At times we were producing 90+ videos a month and so much of that is due to the great teams that we had."  
- Geoff Miles, Collective Agency

Susan Lerner, [Let NY Vote](#)

Let NY Vote is a statewide coalition of grassroots groups and legacy

organizations working together to modernize NY's voting laws. Our mission is to ensure that common-sense solutions are passed to protect and expand the freedom to vote for every eligible New Yorker.

- Effective messaging highlighting the need for voting reform
- Positioning voting reform to be among first measures to pass in new session
- The unique, diverse nature of Let NY Vote coalition
- Strong ties between our legacy organization and the emerging grassroots activists/networks

Jan Combopiano, [Brooklyn Voters Alliance](#)

We are Brooklyn residents working together to defend democracy and human dignity, shine a light on corruption, resist hate and injustice, and love and protect our neighbors from harm.

Founded by [Councilmember Brad Lander](#) and Rabbi Rachel Timoner of [Congregation Beth](#)

[Elohim](#), this group serves as common ground for diverse Brooklynites to build our power together.

- Making voting reform part of the public narrative
- Press coverage
- Statements from pols (lobbied Brooklyn Assembly members and Senators to push for voting reform)
- Partial restoration of voting rights through governor's executive order
- Building a statewide grassroots network [and a] coalition of grassroots and a diverse group of advocacy/reform organizations
- Registering voters, including high school students
- GOTV efforts - 10s of 1000s of texts, 500+ flyers posted
- Increased turnout for both primaries and general election.

Joe Sackman, [Wolf-PAC](#)

Wolf-PAC is a cross-partisan, non-profit political organization seeking to address the disproportionate influence of money in our political system with an Amendment to the U.S. Constitution using a proven, effective, necessary tool found in the Constitution itself.

- The [Unity Letter](#)
- Creating a strong volunteer force

**"We have volunteers that have become true citizen activists. They are able to meet and speak with legislators in a professional and civil manner, discuss the nuances of constitutional law, and [discuss] how we can make a difference by using the constitution to remediate our corrupted campaign finance system."  
- Joe Sackman, Wolf-PAC**

Sarah O'Neill, [Postcards to Voters](#)

Postcards to Voters are friendly, handwritten reminders from volunteers to targeted voters giving Democrats a winning edge in close, key races coast to coast.

- Organization being entirely volunteer run
- Growing from 5 people to more than 60,000 volunteers across the country in 2017
- Postcards written
  - > 1.9 million postcards to remind Democrats to get out to vote in about 30 specific midterm elections.
  - > 4 million postcards to date for over 130 elections
  - 283K for seven IDC challengers and Blake Morris for NY State Primary.
  - 70K for Alessandra Biaggi. Biaggi said she felt they made a big difference.
  - We made it onto WNYC four times the day before the primary, including on All Things Considered. The story was also linked to a story on primaries in the NY Times on Election Day
    - [Taping \(WNYC\)](#)
    - [Print \(Gothamist\)](#)
- [NY4US](#)
  - > \$300K raised for various candidates

Jeremy Sherber, [Grand Street Democrats](#)

Grand Street Democrats' mission is to: provide a progressive, inclusive, active and transparent Democratic organization in the 65th Assembly District, Part A, Manhattan; advocate for pro-immigrant; pro-LGBTQ; pro-choice, and pro-public school causes and candidates; participate actively in the community affairs of the Lower East Side and to attempt to further the concerns of all its residents; communicate with, and connect our community to, elected officials on the Federal, State, and local levels; encourage the participation of all Democrats in the affairs of their Party and to encourage the enrollment in the Democratic Party of persons who subscribe to its principles.

- Well-attended, regular meetings with elected officials and candidates running for office
- Strong contingents sent to the Women's March and The March for Our Lives
- Campaigning together for local civil court, red-to-blue state senate campaign in Brooklyn, and blue wave targets in Pennsylvania

Kim Russell, [The Women's March](#)

Women's March is a women-led movement providing intersectional education on a diverse range of issues and creating entry points for new grassroots activists & organizers to engage in their local communities through trainings, outreach programs and events. Women's March is committed to dismantling systems of oppression through nonviolent resistance and building inclusive structures guided by self-determination, dignity and respect.

- Launching #PowerToThePolls event and tour in Las Vegas.
- Women's March Youth Empower #ENOUGH National School Walkouts
- #EndFamilyDetention Mass Civil Disobedience Action in D.C.
- #CancelKavanaugh mass civil disobedience in D.C. for 4 weeks with CPD Action + Housing Works
- #PowerToThePolls Florida Bus Tour
- #WomensWave 3rd Anniversary March scheduled for Jan 19, 2019 in D.C.

Moira Muntz, [Independent Drivers Guild](#)

The Independent Drivers Guild is a Machinists Union affiliate that represents over 65,000 For-Hire Vehicle drivers in New York City. The IDG is the first nonprofit labor organization to negotiate a seat at the table with a rideshare company and the first to offer crucial new protections and essential benefits while building worker power.

- Won the nation's first law requiring apps like Uber and Lyft to pay drivers a livable, minimum wage
- Won free telemedicine benefits for app based and black car drivers
- Won free vision benefits for app based drivers so that drivers can get the glasses they need to drive safely

**"2018 has been an incredible year for the Independent Drivers Guild."  
- Moira Muntz, Independent Drivers Guild**

David Neustadt, [GetOrganizedBK](#)

We are Brooklyn residents working together to defend democracy and human dignity, shine a light on corruption, resist hate and injustice, and love our neighbors.

- [Check out what groups did related to the midterms](#)
- [Check the results of main races GOBK groups worked on](#)

Barbara Ettington, [League of Women Voters](#)

The League of Women Voters of the United States encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

- [Report](#) on the League of Women Voters of the City of New York's voter registration efforts in 2018.

**"We are quite proud of the tremendous work that our volunteers did this year. The numbers tell one story, [but] behind those numbers is another story of the challenge we took on to reach into low turnout districts in each of the boroughs to try to engage voters. While the numbers were lower in those districts, we felt very proud of the numbers of conversations we had with neighborhood residents about the importance of voting."**

**- Barbara Ettington, League of Women Voters**

Nick Guthman, [Blue Future](#)

Blue Future is a youth-led civic engagement startup focused on organizing young people around progressive electoral campaigns.

- [Report on student organizers' successes](#)

Sophie Oberstein, The PerSisters

- Strong contingents sent to national marches and demonstrations on short notice.
- Bowl-A-Thon brings in > \$6K for the NY Abortion Access Fund
- 2 year anniversary of The PerSisters

Ginger Albertson, [Indivisible Brooklyn](#)

Indivisible Brooklyn is part of the nationwide Indivisible grassroots movement and is open to all people dedicated to inclusion, tolerance and fairness. We are organizing to take political action in three areas: federal, state, and city governments. Our aim is to promote progressive policy through civic engagement, build strength in our community, and block the regressive policies of the Trump administration.

- Protecting the ACA in spring 2017
- Our work to vote out IDC and Republican candidates
- Working together with New Sanctuary Coalition to escort I.C.E. detainees to their regular check-ins

Jenn Castelhana, [Code Blue](#)

Code Blue's mission is to create a progressive voting majority in federal, state, and local government.

- We were successful assisting Alessandra Biaggi and Jessica Ramos in the Primary and Pete Harckham, Pat Strong, Jen Metzger and James Skoufis in the General.
- 2 years of organizing and coalition building
- Flipping the New York state senate
- Canvassing