The League of Women Votes of Howard County has had a challenging but successful year. The resignation of our president and several board members due to family emergencies and other external factors forced us to regroup and restructure mid-year. Although we were operating with a significantly reduced board, we still managed to accomplish most of our goals for the year.

In January, we hosted our annual legislative forum, which drew a large number of attendees and fostered a wonderful conversation with our local delegation. Our unit meetings featured a number of speakers, including Dr. Maura Rossman, HoCo Director of public health, who presented on the impact COVID19 has had on our community; Prince George’s County Delegate Jazz Lewis who joined us to discuss the legalization of marijuana; and Nina Beth Cardin, who presented on the proposed MD Environmental Human Rights Amendment.

We completely overhauled our website, making it more relevant, easier to navigate, and more attractive. There’s more to do, but we’re excited by the direction it’s taking. We’ve continued our advocacy for fair housing and educational equity in Howard County and have added environmental justice to our program priorities.

As we embark on a new fiscal year, we continue to balance our goals to broaden our reach, become more diverse and inclusive, and meet the growing need for voter engagement with the challenge of filling our board and recruiting new members. We’ve been working hard to form new partnerships in the community and participate in more community events, so we’re hopeful that these strategies will help.

As always, we’re grateful for the support we receive from LWVNCA and the opportunity to collaborate.