



Texas Democratic Women

March 2021 Newsletter

TDP Executive Director Job Opening

The Texas Democratic Party is seeking highly qualified, seriously motivated candidates for the position of Executive Director. Executive Director of the TDP is one of the most challenging and exciting political opportunities in the nation today. The Party is casting a wide net to bring in a diverse and well prepared field of candidates for the job, and TDW is doing our part to aid in the effort. Both Mary Terry, TDW President Elect and Sue Barrick, TDW President, serve on the Executive Director Search Advisory Committee. In keeping with our TDW mission, we would especially like to maximize the number of qualified women in the applicant pool.

Applications will be accepted until March 31. Please go to [this link](#) to find out more (and check out the other opportunities as well), and share with anyone you know who is qualified and could be interested in taking on this important work.

2021 Dues are Due

Hundreds of people receiving this newsletter have not yet updated their 2021 TDW dues! You know who you are, and your chapter needs to hear from you. If you have fallen out of the loop, find your chapter's contact at <https://tdw.org/join/>. In person activities are slowly starting already in some chapters. There promises to be a big field of Democrats for the 2022 primary gathering this year. Don't miss out on the action - renew today.

Redistricting Workshops for Chapters

Genevieve Van Cleve, All On the Line (AOTL) Texas State Director is offering online redistricting workshops for TDW chapters. Redistricting is one of the least understood but farthest reaching acts of the state legislature, and it only (usually) comes every 10 years. Gen will de-mystify some of the finer points and help direct TDW energy where we can do the most good. Schedule with her soon by email at vancleve@redistrictingaction.org.

TDW 2020 - 2021 Officers

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President-Elect:
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VP: Kassandra Elejarza
Secretary: Vicki Moore
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At-Large Board Members:
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Carol Jablonski
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TDW Convention Registration Will Close at 5 p.m. March 31

Click the image at right to register. Cost: \$30
Saturday April 10 - Sunday April 11 Online

- Annual Meeting Saturday morning
- Special Presentations Saturday afternoon
- 1st Quarterly State Board meeting, Sunday afternoon.



Chapter News

Please send Chapter news items to texasdemwomen@gmail.com
Subject line: Newsletter Article plus your Chapter's name

Steinwender Encourages HLDW to Confront Racism

"If you can't name it you can't do anything about it."

With this statement Cherry Steinwender, Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Center for the Healing of Racism, opened her thought provoking remarks to the Highland Lakes Democratic Women at their monthly meeting on February 25.

Ms. Steinwender urged her audience to get comfortable using the term 'racism'. She said it's not a 'diversity' issue, and that she isn't hurting from 'diversity', but from racism. She referenced a task force report commissioned by President Clinton in 1997, titled 'One America for the 21st Century'. The report addressed the white privilege, both knowing and unconscious, that is inherent in this country. Stereotypes about race remain ingrained because Americans believe it is best not to talk about race. She spoke about the systemic racism that is ingrained in policies that are still on the books, policies that exclude entire populations of people, and that the government is still enforcing. She noted the 1997 report could just as accurately and easily have been written today, and that nothing has changed appreciably since the report came out almost 24 years ago.

She challenged her audience to "show up", telling them it is not enough simply to believe racist policies and behaviors are wrong. They must speak loud and clear against racism, must commit to being in it for the long haul, if they truly love their country. She encouraged them to look within at ways they have been conditioned all their lives, and to gather together to examine racial conditioning. She concluded by challenging the group to hold themselves responsible for perpetuating the status quo. "I'm not here to look good," she said, "though I can. I am showing up to be real." For further information and resources visit the organization's website: www.centerhealingracism.org.

HLDW continues to meet virtually, in compliance with CDC and State of Texas guidelines, on the fourth Thursday of each month at 11:30am. The group will next meet on Thursday, March 25. Contact Linda Burling at lburling@gmail.com for meeting details and link.

- Susan O'Brien

