

# IMPACT REPORT

NEW JERSEY LCV | NEW JERSEY LCV EDUCATION FUND | 2025



New Jersey **LCV**



## NEW JERSEY LCV

New Jersey LCV is the statewide political voice for the environment. We elect environmentally responsible candidates to state and local offices, advocate for strong environmental policies, and hold our elected officials accountable to safeguard the health of our communities, the beauty of our state, and the strength of our economy.

## NEW JERSEY LCV EDUCATION FUND

New Jersey LCV Education Fund protects our precious natural resources. We raise awareness of key environmental challenges and increase the efficacy of the entire environmental community. We work in coalition with allies to ensure that our children and grandchildren have the clean drinking water, air, and open spaces that they deserve.



# LETTERS



## FROM THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### DEAR CONSERVATION VOTER,

Washington D.C. has made one thing painfully clear in 2025: too often, it prioritizes the interests of big oil CEOs and billionaires over the health of our communities and the future of our planet. In the face of federal inaction, New Jersey LCV must stand in the gap. When Washington fails, it is up to us—and supporters like you—to protect our families, our communities, and our environment.

Here in New Jersey, we are proving that bold action is possible. Across the state, we are partnering with communities to advance a cleaner, more sustainable future, and 2025 brought major wins. A new law now ensures renters and homeowners receive information about potential lead in their water, giving families the knowledge they need to stay safe. We also passed legislation that

strengthens NJ Transit while cutting pollution through a 2.5% Corporate Transit Fee on large corporations. This smart step supports public transit, reduces emissions, and holds big business accountable for its role in our environmental challenges.

Looking ahead, we are acting with urgency to dramatically expand truly clean energy sources. This effort is about more than energy—it's about building a healthier, more affordable, and more equitable New Jersey for everyone. Clean energy reduces pollution, protects public health, and creates local, family-sustaining jobs that will strengthen our economy for decades.

Our work extends beyond policy. New Jersey LCV continues to harness the power of elections to elevate environmental champions. In 2025, our endorsements helped elect a pro-environment Governor and candidates committed to sustainability, clean energy, and environmental justice. These leaders will be critical partners in advancing policies that protect our communities and preserve our natural resources. By increasing our

influence and building coalitions with like-minded organizations, we are securing the political power needed to keep New Jersey moving forward—even when Washington fails to act.

The challenges ahead are significant. Losing federal allies makes the road steeper, but your support ensures we can rise to meet these challenges. With your continued partnership, New Jersey LCV will keep pushing for clean energy, strong environmental protections, and policies that create a healthier, more sustainable future for all residents.

Thank you for standing with us in this critical work. Together, we are proving that when Washington fails, New Jersey rises.

Yours in Conservation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allison McLeod".

Allison McLeod  
Interim Executive Director  
New Jersey  
League of Conservation Voters



## FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

### DEAR SUPPORTER,

I am thrilled to start with some incredible news: we got it right with Mikie Sherrill! She won the election for Governor, securing not only her constituents' trust but also a major victory for environmental progress in New Jersey. Your support ensured that a proven environmental champion would lead our state, strengthening our ability to push for policies that protect our communities and our climate.

But the wins didn't stop there. Across the state, New Jersey LCV successfully endorsed a slate of county and local candidates committed to clean air, safe water, and sustainable policies. I am proud to report that the majority—86%—of our endorsed candidates won office, bringing fresh energy and steadfast environmental leadership to their communities. These newly elected officials will prioritize sustainability and environmental justice in their decision-making for years to come.

These victories demonstrate the power of your support—through donations, volunteer efforts, and advocacy. By electing leaders who champion the environment, we are building the political power necessary to advance policies that protect our state's natural resources, strengthen public health, and promote sustainable growth.

Looking ahead to 2026 and beyond, we do so with optimism and determination. With your ongoing partnership, New Jersey LCV will continue to identify and support candidates who will fight for a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable New Jersey—one that will remain a thriving home for generations to come.

Thank you for being an integral part of this important work. Together, we are achieving remarkable victories and making a lasting impact.

With sincere appreciation,



Randy Jones  
Board Chair  
New Jersey  
League of Conservation Voters



# PROGRAMS

## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Every legislative session, New Jersey LCV, with the input of our staff, board, partners, and members create a common legislative agenda that reflects the shared priorities of the environmental community in New Jersey. Last year, our Common Legislative Agenda for the Environment, included the following five priorities:

- **Securing a 100% clean energy future**
- **Preserving parks and open spaces**
- **Reducing transportation pollution**
- **Safeguarding clean drinking water**
- **Enhancing voting rights**



## SECURING A 100% CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE

Moving New Jersey to a just and equitable 100% clean energy future continued to be a top priority for the organization this year, and we made significant progress to enshrine our goal of 100% clean electricity by 2035 into law this year. Throughout the year, we made more than 40,000 constituent contacts, connected dozens of constituents directly with their legislators in a Trenton lobby day with the New Jersey Sierra Club, and held more than 100 meetings with administrative, legislative, and executive officials. We deployed a grassroots canvassing campaign, bringing the message that clean energy is faster to interconnect, cheaper to operate and maintain, cleaner for our

climate and communities, and creates local jobs for New Jersey's working families. That message resonated, and more than 1,000 households displayed lawn signs in support of clean energy. In total, we knocked more than 36,000 doors in over 500 canvassing shifts.

This year, we also focused on improvements to our regional grid operator, PJM, working with legislators and decision makers to demonstrate how an overdependence on fossil fuels has been raising our electric rates in an education campaign and coordinated briefings. This year, we helped pass legislation to direct utility regulators to study the effect of data centers on energy prices and ordered data center operators to

publicly report their annual electricity and water usage. The legislature also passed a law requiring utilities to publicly disclose their votes on clean energy interconnection, as the public has been left in the dark for too long on decisions around clean energy—a major win for transparency and accountability in energy decisions.

But we didn't stop there. This year, in coordination with partners, we advocated for legislation to streamline solar permitting while keeping environmental protections, helping advance the fastest and cheapest version of energy we have available in New Jersey. We also lobbied for successful legislation to expand the community solar program and create a new Garden State Energy Storage Program for battery storage, ensuring that the clean energy future is reliable, affordable, and accessible to all New Jerseyans—regardless of income or zip code.

## **REDUCING TRANSPORTATION POLLUTION + PRESERVING PARKS AND OPEN SPACES**

This year, we built on our work in 2024 to successfully include the Corporate Transit Fee, the first-ever dedicated source of funding for New Jersey Transit, into the state budget. We fought back against attacks on Advanced Clean Cars 2 and Advanced Clean Trucks, policies that will help electrify the transportation sector. Transportation is the largest contributor to New Jersey's greenhouse emissions, accounting for nearly 42%. Ensuring the cars and heavy duty trucks on our roads are emissions free at the tailpipe will not only mitigate climate impacts, but it will improve air quality



for our most vulnerable populations, including children and seniors. We are proud that we fought back and the legislation attacking the clean cars and trucks programs did not move forward.

In the most densely populated state in the nation, we also continue to advocate for equitable access to open space. We successfully advocated for funding for the Capital Park Project in this year's state budget, allowing for the construction of an urban park in Trenton, while elevating state parks and open space funding across coalition work as well.

## **SAFEGUARDING CLEAN DRINKING WATER**

This year, we were proud to stand beside partners and Acting Governor Tahesha Way as she signed the Lead Disclosure Bill, A2929/S1034, into law in September. More than one third of New Jerseyans are renters. This law closes a dangerous loophole and requires landlords to report information about the known or potential presence of lead in their water



to tenants—previously, notification stopped with the homeowner. This bill is a critical step to provide renters with information and allow them to make important decisions about the health of their families.

## ENHANCING VOTING RIGHTS

Now more than ever, it is critical that we protect our right to vote—a foundation of our democracy. For the first time, New Jersey LCV included a voting bill as part of our key common agenda of legislative priorities this session. We are proud to have advanced the John R. Lewis New Jersey Voter Empowerment Act (S3009/A4083) through the Assembly committee and are working to make sure this bill, which would enshrine into law protections of the federal Voting Rights Act here in New Jersey, becomes law. We also celebrated the passing of Secure Automatic Voter Registration into law! This legislation will effectively change voter registration from “opt in” to “opt out” when registering at Motor Vehicles and will have a significant impact on voter registration. New Jersey LCV remains committed to increasing voter education, registration and participation to all eligible voters across the Garden State. That is why we worked with our partners at National LCV to oppose the SAVE Act, legislation that would require voters to register to vote and prove their citizenship status in person with specific, onerous documentation. This would disproportionately impact voters whose names do not match their birth certificates, rural voters who live far from the voter registration site, and those living, serving, or working abroad. Despite this harmful bill having passed in the federal House of Representatives, we will continue protecting the right to vote for millions of not only New Jerseyans but Americans nationwide.



## ADDITIONAL KEY POLICIES

In addition to our legislative work, we advocated for key priorities in this year's Fiscal Year 2026 budget. We successfully obtained full funding for the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission for the 5th year in a row as well as funding for the creation of Capital Park in Trenton. In the Board of Public Utilities budget, together with partners, we advocated for the restoration of funding to the Whole Home Pilot Program, which addresses health and safety concerns in low and moderate income households while also introducing energy efficiency upgrades. We also obtained funding for clean water infrastructure as members of the Clean Water Healthy Families Good Jobs campaign, and saw funding for the critical programming of the New Jersey School of Conservation.

## ELECTIONS

New Jersey LCV was the first environmental organization to endorse then-Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill for governor in the primary election, helping power her to victory in both the primary and general election. We also supported and uplifted legislative and local candidates down ballot, with an 86% success rate across all our endorsed environmental champions. We successfully defended incumbent champions in 100% of our priority districts and picked up an additional seat. Through targeted digital advertising, mailing, and embedding canvassers in key districts to knock doors, our combined Independent Expenditure and coordinated election programs made New Jersey LCV the number one issue based affiliated spender in the 2025 general election. We worked to make sure that clean energy affordability was a top issue for voters this cycle, and it resonated up and down the ballot.



## FEDERAL WORK TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

This year was challenging for environmental and climate policy, with many rollbacks on environmental protections from Washington. We used our Activists Lead program to establish a “Stand Up for New Jersey” webinar with a member of Congress to show our members the power of their impact and what actions they can take to protect our precious natural resources from federal overreach. The good news is the collective voices are working. In the federal reconciliation bill, proposed sales of public land were eliminated through widespread advocacy from the public. An additional excise tax on clean energy was also eliminated.

When New Jersey learned that funding for the Solar for All program was being taken back, which was meant to help low income families access the benefits of community solar, we urged the Attorney General to take action—and he joined 22 other states to fight back against the program’s illegal termination. Together with solar, community, and environmental justice partners, we hosted the Attorney General for a press conference and tour on the roof of our own building to visit a community solar installation and educate the public on the benefits of clean solar energy.



# New Jersey LCV

## EDUCATION FUND

# LETTER

## FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

### DEAR SUPPORTER,

I want to start by thanking you for your steadfast support of the New Jersey LCV Education Fund. Your commitment empowers us to educate the public, advocate for bold environmental policies, and ensure a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future for every New Jerseyan—no matter their zip code.

This year, the New Jersey LCV Education Fund led the way with our C3 efforts, keeping environmental issues front and center during state, county, and local elections through our nonpartisan campaign, “Fix in ’26.” The campaign included three environmental tours across the state, highlighting overburdened communities and showing voters what’s at stake in these elections. By bringing these challenges directly to the public, we made sure environmental sustainability and equity remained top priorities on every ballot.

Our work underscores that access to a healthy environment is a right, not a privilege. By educating communities, spotlighting environmental challenges, and empowering citizens with information, we are helping ensure that decision-makers prioritize policies that benefit everyone.

Looking ahead, our focus is clear: New Jersey must achieve 100% clean electricity by 2035. This goal is not only essential to protecting public health and the environment but also to building a sustainable and resilient future for every community in the state.

With your continued support, New Jersey LCV will keep leading the way—advocating for policies that protect our communities, amplify public awareness, and ensure environmental sustainability remains a priority for generations to come.



Thank you for standing with us. Your dedication makes our work possible, and together, we will continue to fight for the healthy, equitable, and sustainable New Jersey we all deserve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Conley". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Bob Conley  
Board Chair  
New Jersey LCV Education Fund

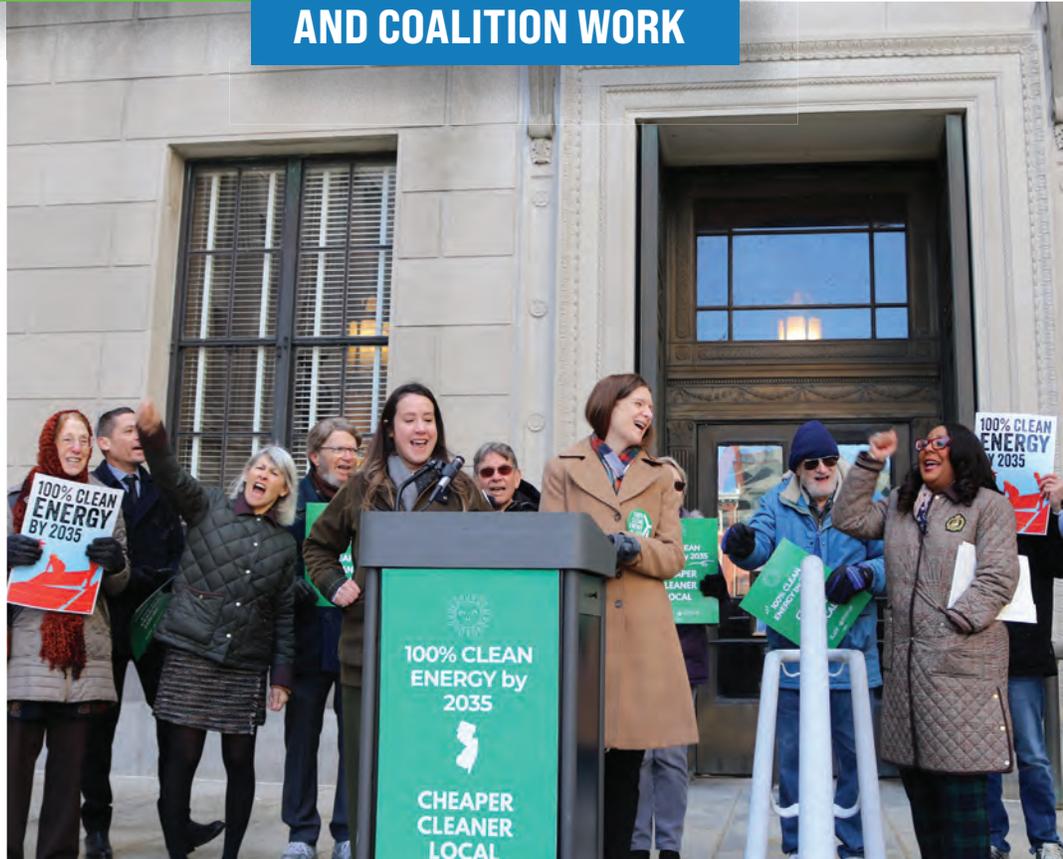
# PARTNERS

## AND COALITION WORK

### ENVIRO' FIX IN '26

New Jersey LCV Education Fund's 'Enviro Fix in 2026' is a nonpartisan policy and public education initiative dedicated to elevating the environment as a top issue in the gubernatorial and legislative elections. Capitalizing upon previous, successful iterations of the program, Green in '17 and Green in '21, Enviro Fix in '26 aimed to set the stage for bold climate, conservation, and justice actions at the state level as we have in the past two gubernatorial cycles. In 2025, New Jersey LCV Education Fund capitalized on this opportunity with robust public education, paid and earned media, and on-the-ground organizing.

This year, we hosted a bipartisan gubernatorial panel featuring five candidates, including Mikie Sherrill, where we asked a series of environmental questions covering topics from energy to transportation. Before the primary, we organized two "Clean NJ" rallies outside the final primary debates to share information about our digital policy guide and call for strong environmental leadership from the next governor. Throughout the cycle, we attended candidate events to ask key environmental questions, helping raise public awareness of their positions and advocate for greater candidate education.



Following the launch of our policy guide over the summer, we conducted a series of environmental tours in Newark, Trenton, and Camden to highlight the connection between environmental issues and the communities most affected by them. These events drew participation from elected officials at every level of government and generated more than ten press hits that were widely shared with campaigns. We also distributed the policy guide to a mailing list of more than 800 elected officials across local, state, and federal offices, including both gubernatorial candidates.

This year, in the fall, one of our partners asked an environmental justice question during the first televised general election debate. We also launched a micro-grant program that provided grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000 to elevate environmental issues through work with the press, community members, and gubernatorial campaigns. Supported activities included publishing op-eds, sharing social media toolkits, and hosting educational webinars with residents and candidates.

In the final weeks leading up to the election, we held two major events that generated strong media coverage across multiple platforms. The first was a Next Gen Advocacy Forum at Rowan University, where youth advocates from across the political spectrum discussed environmental policy, the political landscape, and the importance of strong leadership and new voices. The second was a Superstorm Sandy commemoration event in Seaside Heights, featuring activists and elected officials who emphasized the need for comprehensive resiliency planning from the next governor. Occurring as Hurricane Melissa impacted the Caribbean, the event's message resonated strongly, given the growing frequency of climate-related disasters, and resulted in numerous articles, interviews, and televised segments at both local and state levels.

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE WORK

The New Jersey LCV Education Fund spoke at several community events about the importance of energy efficiency in affordability. Residents in environmental justice communities are more likely to be energy burdened, meaning they pay a disproportionate amount of their income to energy bills—and with the rising costs of electricity this year, this continues to be top of mind for many of our community partners. We elevated issues of environmental justice in written publications and rallies against proposed fossil fuels and have worked to strengthen relationships with environmental justice leaders at events throughout this year.



## KEEP IT GREEN

This year, Keep it Green—the largest and longest-standing open space advocacy organization in the state—celebrated ten years of the Corporate Business Tax dedication to open space funding. Since that time, the CBT has raised more than \$2.5 billion for open space and historic preservation and maintenance. We celebrated with an Earth Day event at the Cherry Blossom Center in partnership with Essex County and at Prallsville Mills at D&R Canal State Park. We also elevated the “Fix Our Parks” campaign, highlighting the need for not only acquisition, but resources dedicated to park maintenance. Despite legislative pressure, Keep it Green maintained its strong opposition to any reallocation of constitutionally dedicated funds for open space, supporting the original intent of the enabling legislation.



## STORMWATER PROGRESS

This year, New Jersey LCV Education Fund and partners strongly advocated for the implementation of the New Jersey Protecting Against Climate Threats (NJPACT) rules, a series of climate regulations that change where and how we build to protect people and property from the threats of rising seas and climate change. We faced strong opposition to rule adoption, both inland and at the coast, and partnered with colleagues to host education sessions and outreach to fight back against misinformation. We are proud to say NJPACT rules for the coast were adopted by the in January 2026, protecting generations of New Jerseyans to come.

In our stormwater management work with communities, we not only continued our work with priority towns in the Delaware River watershed, but we expanded outreach on stormwater management and utilities to four additional towns. This included briefing elected officials, attending environmental commission meetings, and hosting community and public outreach at local events. When we started this work, there were zero towns in New Jersey with a stormwater utility—now there are three, with one of our partner communities well on the way and making significant progress this year. We have worked with place-based community partners to continue to build authentic relationships in communities impacted by flooding.

## STOPPING DIRTY FOSSIL FUELS

While we work to advance our 100% clean energy future forward, we must also fight back against the proliferation of the dirty, expensive fossil fuels that pollute our air and water, raise our bills, and cause the devastating impacts of climate change. When the New Jersey LCV Education Fund learned that the zombie Northeast Supply Enhancement (NESE) pipeline project was being proposed again, after having been denied twice previously for failure to meet water quality standards, we immediately launched into action.

Earlier this year we coordinated a large coalition of homeowners, environmental activists, scholars, and local officials opposed to the construction of a dirty pipeline under the Raritan Bay and a compressor station in Franklin. Through our united organizing efforts, we have secured bipartisan resolutions opposing the projects from two dozen towns and counties. We have done residential education and outreach and worked with partners on outreach to communities that would be impacted by the project. We coordinated press conferences and multiple days of action surrounding administrative permit decisions, and New Jersey LCV alone generated nearly half of the entire body of comments in the docket on the pipeline. In more than four hours of testimony at a public hearing, there was not a single speaker in support of the pipeline project, and we will continue to fight with our partners against this dangerous, unneeded project which has no benefit to New Jersey.



## OFFSHORE WIND PROGRESS

In spite of federal headwinds in the offshore wind industry, the New Jersey LCV Education Fund continued to forge ahead with our commitment to offshore wind this year, leading the New Jersey Wind Works coalition. We elevated a Government Accountability Office report on offshore wind that reiterated what we already knew—that offshore wind is a responsibly developed clean energy resource. We have pivoted our messaging to include energy affordability and worked to ensure that offshore wind is included in the definition of clean energy for the 100% clean energy by 2035 legislation. We continue to work with our partners in other states and nationally to monitor federal actions while still providing updates to our constituents in New Jersey and fighting back against misinformation about the offshore wind industry.



## COALITION FOR THE DELAWARE RIVER WATERSHED

As State Lead for the Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed, we continued to work with CDRW partners to keep members apprised of issues affecting our clean water. We helped coordinate and lead a “Hill Day” for congressional lobbying in Washington in March, meeting with a bipartisan group of Congressional members to advocate for funding and protection in the watershed. We organized key speakers to coordinate with advocates, including members of the Murphy administration and Senator Andy Kim’s office. We successfully advocated for state budget funding for priorities as well, and we will continue to work with our coalition partners in 2026 to ensure watershed protection remains a priority.

## C3 DEMOCRACY WORK

This year, we worked closely with partners on the We the People coalition, revising the mission statement to include our collective ongoing commitment to racial, economic, and social justice. We represented the New Jersey LCV Education Fund and our democracy priorities at events throughout the state elevating democracy and voting rights, including speaking at the Youth Civic Summit for the NJ NAACP State Conference and multiple “Hands Off” and “No Kings” democracy rallies held nationwide. As part of our strategic plan, we worked to identify upcoming democracy priorities, including ballot curing.

## BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

New Jersey LCV Education Fund launched its inaugural Boards and Commissions fellowship program in October this year. Several years in the making, this program will support diverse environmental champions in securing positions on public boards and commissions at the state and local level. Our goal is to increase the diversity of boards and commissions so that our government is more reflective of the communities that it serves, and so today's climate and environmental leaders are shaping the policies of tomorrow. This year, we carefully designed the application process, curriculum for the free six-month program, and mentorship opportunities

for incoming fellows. We were proud to accept an impressive slate of 15 candidates from a competitive applicant pool, who will begin the fellowship program in January 2026.

## EQUITY WORK

Our staff continues to strengthen our focus on equity and inclusion. Our DEIJ goals are incorporated throughout our 2024-2027 Strategic Plans. Our staff Justice and Equity Committee leads and supports our efforts to ensure that we actively bring an equity lens to our internal initiatives and to our organizational culture. Through periodic experiential learning programs and discussions for staff we educate ourselves and strive to ensure that staff are able to incorporate new learnings into work plans for concrete

action so that our DEIJ efforts continue to grow. Our staff-led Sunshine Committee contributes to a positive and inclusive culture that recognizes staff contributions and milestones. The committee also affords ways to celebrate successes and foster an atmosphere of being valued. As we move forward, we will continue to work to advance our own learning and hold ourselves accountable to our equity goals and objectives.



# BY THE NUMBERS



**NEW JERSEY LCV MEMBERS:** 26,981

**ONLINE ACTIONS TAKEN:** 20,723

**SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS:** 18,518

**SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS PUBLISHED:** 2,053

**SOCIAL MEDIA POST IMPRESSIONS:** 35,040,675

**SOCIAL MEDIA POST ENGAGEMENT:** 97,254

**ATTENDEES AT VIRTUAL EDUCATION AND NETWORKING EVENTS:** 26,981

**EMAILS SENT:** 205

# FINANCIALS

FISCAL YEAR 2025 AS PER FORM 990 FILING

	NEW JERSEY LCV EDUCATION FUND	NEW JERSEY LCV
<b>INCOME</b>		
Contributions	\$192,200	\$278,700
Program Grants	\$1,936,400	\$1,056,000
Event & Other Income	\$295,200	\$107,700
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$2,423,800</b>	<b>\$1,442,400</b>
<b>PROGRAMS</b>		
Stormwater Mitigation	\$303,200	0
Delaware River Watershed	0	\$228,000
100% Clean Energy	\$419,600	\$748,000
Environmental Justice Education	\$416,700	0
Policy	0	\$244,000
Other Programs	\$124,000	\$300
Fundraising	\$113,000	\$155,000
Administration & Overhead	\$202,900	\$252,600
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,579,400</b>	<b>\$1,627,900</b>

**WE ASK YOU TO INVEST IN PROTECTING NEW JERSEY'S ENVIRONMENTAL FUTURE BY MAKING A GIFT TO NEW JERSEY LCV OR NEW JERSEY LCV EDUCATION FUND TODAY.**

Please visit [njlc.org/give](https://njlc.org/give) or [njlcvef.org/give](https://njlcvef.org/give) to donate, or mail a check to New Jersey LCV, PO Box 1237, Trenton NJ 08607. Contributions to New Jersey League of Conservation Voters are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal income tax purposes, while contributions to New Jersey LCV Education Fund are tax-deductible.





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