

Local advocate role description for Municipal Clerk Engagement Project

Description:

The Municipal Advocacy Working Group as part of the Wisconsin Voting Rights Coalition launched the Clerk Engagement Project from the positive work with municipal clerks in 2020. In 2022 and beyond, the group is working to create, maintain, and build relationships between the coalition organizations, local partners, and municipal clerks. The project will enable the coalition to help assist local partners and clerks to support voters through improving election administration. Each municipality and clerk have their own unique challenges, strengths, and weaknesses that will require local connections through our organizational partnerships.

The coalition is looking for individuals within their communities to work directly with their own municipal clerks. This might include simply talking with your clerk on the phone, stopping by their office, or scheduling a time to meet.

Tasks:

You don't need to know the ins and outs of election law or how to run an election. You just need to be friendly to help the coalition collect information about clerk processes and then if there are areas where a clerk needs support, the coalition will work with you to help out the clerk. The WVRC coalition will work with local advocates to provide trainings and support.

Here are some areas and examples that we have already identified as being possible areas for your clerk to improve:

- Curbside voting needs improvement
- Early voting has limited weekend and evening hours
- Consolidation of polling places
- Limited outreach to the polls efforts

Every municipality is different and there are over 1,850 of them! Your role is to work with your clerk and the coalition to provide the best voting experience in your community.

The point of the local role is to help voters in your community by identifying ways the coalition can support and assist your clerk through your communications with your clerk. For example, if the clerk needs help recruiting poll workers, the coalition can help. Another example may be that if the street signs outside of polling locations on Election Day are nonexistent or hard to read, the coalition could help get your community needed signs. Your job is relaying to the coalition that the clerk is looking for this assistance.

Contact:

If you or a local organization are interested in working with your municipal clerk in your community, contact Joe Waldman, joe@allvotingislocal.org.