

NOMINATED FROM THE FLOOR OF CONVENTION FOR THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM

KATHY CORTEZ (LWV of PALATINE)

DIRECTOR

Kathy Cortez lives in Palatine with Ralph, her husband of 41 years. She is Mom to two grown children and Grandma to three beautiful grandkids. After a long career in healthcare and health insurance operations with early stage and start-up companies, Kathy retired in 2019 when she began to pursue her long-time interests in civic participation and addressing the housing shortage.

Kathy has been a member of the LWV of the Palatine Area for five years, and she currently serves as the League President. Kathy is a voter registrar and former Chair of Candidate Forums for her local League. She participated as Fair and Affordable Housing Specialist on the LWWIL Issues and Advocacy Committee for the past three years prior to joining the LWWIL Board and chairing its Issues and Advocacy Committee.

Outside the League, Kathy is a Vice President on the board of directors at Housing Opportunity Development Corporation, a nonprofit developer of affordable housing in the Chicago suburbs. She also works part time in accounting at Northwest Compass, Inc., a social services organization based in Mt Prospect, and is involved in community advocacy for housing affordability around the Palatine area.

WHAT I HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH AS AN LWWIL BOARD MEMBER

Kathy joined the LWWIL Board to ensure that advocacy and lobbying efforts remain a strong focus of the League for issues of importance to our members. During her tenure, Kathy hopes to increase the visibility of the League through thoughtful external communications to the general public, and regain our leadership role in crafting legislation to secure voter access, eliminate gerrymandering, and other actions that improve a people-powered democracy in the state of Illinois.