



THE BADASS GRANDMAS MOVEMENT

The mission of the BadAss Grandmas* is to engage citizens in restoring trustworthy government for generations to come.

"BadAss Grandma" is a state of mind, not biological. If you identify with our mission, declare yourself and get to work. We are a non-partisan issue-based movement, not an organization. We encourage local action and participation in existing organizations. This is an occasional newsletter to offer encouragement, resources, and networking.

We meet virtually on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm, Central. Regardless of where you live, we invite you to join us. Our link for the virtual meeting can be found on our website – <https://badassgrandmasfordemocracy.com>, and our Facebook page, which we invite you to request to join. Your Democracy needs YOU.

Grandchildren not required!

NEWS FROM AROUND NORTH DAKOTA, THE RED RIVER VALLEY AND ELSEWHERE



In 2018, the hard work of our founding four (pictured on our masthead – from left to right, Sarah, Kathy, Ellen and Dina) resulted in the passage of an initiated measure, resulting in the North Dakota Ethics Commission, proof that one or two people can make a difference. The same board members have sat on the Commission since its inception, but that is about to change. Please see the story attached to this link:

Subject: Ethics Commission recruiting new member after chair announces retirement • North Dakota Monitor

<https://northdakotamonitor.com/briefs/ethics-commission-recruiting-new-member-after-chair-announces-retirement/>

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS NEEDS YOU

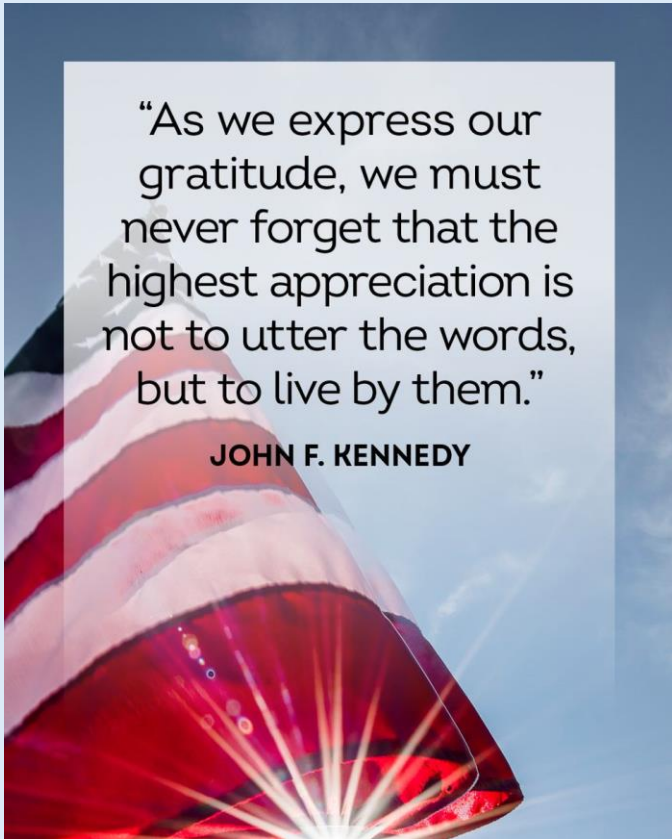
Wherever you live, there is an opportunity to join the League of Women Voters. If there is not a local league, you can still be an at-large member of your state. Learn more at <https://www.lwv.org>

The League is a great way to get involved with promoting the foundational tenets of our democracy. For example, the League of Women Voters of North Dakota is coordinating a nonpartisan statewide election observation program for the June 11, 2024 election! To learn more or sign up to volunteer, contact us at nodakLWV@gmail.com.



MEMORIAL DAY REFLECTIONS

As we honor those who never made it home, let us put action into deed. Please check out the resources we have listed, and get involved, locally or nationally. There's no better way to honor all those made the ultimate sacrifice for our democracy.



DEMOCRACY ACTION NATIONALLY

If you have a passion for national reform or a specific change, below are just a few of the hundreds of organizations that would love your support.

[ReclaimtheAmericanDream.org](https://reclaimtheamericandream.org) lists dozens of resources for how to get involved.

[BridgeAlliance.org](https://bridgealliance.org) is a good friend of the BG4D and its site lists dozens of democracy reform organizations.

[American Promise](https://americanpromise.org) exists to empower, inspire and organize Americans to win the 28th Amendment to the Constitution. This lasting reform will re-balance our politics and government by putting the right of individual citizens before the privileges of concentrated money, corporations, unions, political parties and superPACs. [Join American Promise Here.](https://americanpromise.org)

[Issue One](https://issueone.org) is bringing Republicans, Democrats, and independents together to win game-changing political reform. Sign-up today for email updates on how you can make your voice heard and demand political reforms that put the voices of everyday people over the big money special interests. [Join Issue One to Fix Our Democracy First.](https://issueone.org)

[The National Vote at Home Institute](https://thenationalvoteathome.org) is a nonpartisan organization dedicated to ensuring the security of our elections and putting voters' needs first and both improve voter engagement and reduce election costs. To join our email list and stay informed as this voting model increases in popularity, sign up to [join Vote at Home Here.](https://thenationalvoteathome.org)

[Represent Us](https://representus.org) is the nation's leading right-left anti-corruption group, bringing together conservatives, progressives and everyone in between to pass anti-corruption laws in cities and states around the country. Keep the momentum going from Unrig and [Join RepresentUs to take action here.](https://representus.org)

[Unite America](https://uniteamerica.org) is a national movement of Democrats, Republicans, and independents who are committed to bridging the growing partisan divide in order to tackle our largest challenges and leave a better country for future generations. [Join Unite America Here.](https://uniteamerica.org)

[Red Wine and Blue](https://redwineandblue.org) [https://redwine.blue/](https://redwineandblue.org) is a sisterhood working to change the world together, one suburb at a time. Red Wine & Blue provides everything women need to successfully organize in their communities and beyond. Want to get stuff done and have fun along the way? Join them.

[Buffalo Fire](https://buffalofire.org) is an indigenous people's news source in North Dakota. In 2024 Buffalo's Fire became a part of the nationwide Documenters Network, reinforcing our dedication to community-focused journalism. Documenters are community members, and a collective of civic contributors trained to cover local government meetings and events, who focus on accountability, transparency and civic coverage in the Bismarck/Mandan area. The Bismarck Documenters are the first Indigenous-led and first-rural cohort of the Documenters Network. The goal of Bismarck Documenters is simple: to put people in the rooms where decisions are made that impact us

all. <https://www.buffalofire.com/bismarck-documenters/>

Democracy Forward <https://democracyforward.org/>

Democracy Forward provides legal representation and expert counsel to people and communities who make up the very fabric of American democracy — free of charge. Their strategic pillars incorporate immediate defensive needs and a longer-term, proactive view in this fight for our democracy, our present, and our future

Voter Action Project <https://voteractionproject.org/>

Integrity First Voter Action Project is dedicated to expanding ballot access and increasing voter participation across the country. It's our goal to bring awareness to these laws wherever they may crop up and organize voters to take action to ensure the right to vote is available to everyone in their states and communities. Voter Action Project believes that our democracy works best when all our voices are heard in our elections and fights for voters to participate in the way that is easiest for them, from early voting to mail-in voting and more.

Starts with Us Builders Project

<https://startswith.us/> Starts With Us empowers the 87% of Americans frustrated with extreme political and cultural divisions with the skills to engage across our differences and move our country forward. Our movement is founded on the beliefs that diversity of thought is a strength that leads to our most innovative ideas and that we must cooperate across our differences to solve the most pressing societal challenges of our time. <https://startswith.us/join/>

Braver Angels <https://braverangels.org/> Braver Angels is leading the nation's largest cross-partisan, volunteer led movement to bridge the partisan divide. Become a member here

<https://braverangels.org/support-us/#join>

<https://www.grandmothercollective.org/> BG4D is a member of the Grandmother Collective. The Grandmother Collective is raising the profile of grandmothers as unique and essential contributors to social change. The Grandmother Collective works to equip grandmothers and older women so they can leverage their wisdom, experience, insights, and contributions to make impact around the world.

<https://americanfuture.us/> Our good friend, Debilyn Molineux, is the catalyst for American Future and writes about BadAss Grandmas here - <https://americanfuture.us/f/being-lovingly-accountable> American Future is all about adding everyday people's voices to the future narrative.

A recent speaker for BG4D was from the Redistricting Data Hub - <https://redistrictingdatahub.org/>

The nonpartisan Redistricting Data Hub provides individuals, good government organizations, and community groups the [data](#), [resources](#), and [knowledge](#) to participate effectively in the redistricting process.

Other resources or initiatives to investigate:

- National Week of Conversation – provides a central annual event that promotes healthy engagement instead of toxic division.
- Living Room Conversations – provides a do-it-yourself conversation guide for understanding how to relate to those around us, with differing opinions.
- Inter-Movement Impact Project – connects several aspects of democracy.
- The Fulcrum – is a news platform that covers democracy reform efforts at state and national levels.
- Bridging Movement Alignment Council – a network of more than 500 organizations trying to bridge the divide.
- JEDI Fellows (DEI Initiative)- attempting to assist the pro-democracy ecosystem by using a four-fold diversity model of the United States.



Upcoming BadAss Grandmas for Democracy Meetings

All meetings are the 3rd Weds of the month at 6:30 pm Central

June 19 - Amy Dalrymple, Editor, North Dakota Monitor

July 17 - Jill Derby, Author of *When you Dare to Say Yes: Jill Derby and Nevada Activism*

August 21 - Debilyn Molineaux, American Future & Fulcrum contributor - "*What we need is more Bad Ass Grandmothers*"