# CANDIDATE RECRUITMENT & TRAINING

## Program Update
### Fall 2024



*Participants in our 2024 Candidate Academy putting together the timeline for a winning campaign*

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Our Earth Is Worth Fighting For

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## Celebrating our Candidate Academy Alumni



LCV is proud to share that in March 2024, Kate Daniels, an alumna of our 2020 Candidate Academy, won her race for the Monterey County Board of Supervisors in California. Kate has served on the Monterey County Planning Commission for several years, guiding land use policy and growth in the county. She ran on a platform of addressing housing and homelessness, as well as water policy, which are issues statewide.

We are also proud of the campaign of Nikson Mathews, an alum of our 2023 candidate training with Conservation Voters for Idaho (**CVI**), who ran for the Idaho state legislature. Although he didn't win his race this time, he is planning to run again, and is already getting involved in rebuilding the LGBTQ+ Caucus for the Idaho Democratic Party, which is a gap he noticed through his campaign. Nikson also joined the training team for our 2024 candidate training with CVI, sharing what he learned from his campaign.

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## Check out our Class of 2024 Candidate Academy Grads

This year we trained 40 prospective candidates at in-person trainings in Corpus Christi, Texas, New Orleans, Louisiana, and Boise, Idaho.



Corpus Christi



New Orleans



Boise

In Louisiana, we have a group of candidates who will be running in the Baton Rouge area in 2025, many for school board seats. We wish them luck as they move forward with their campaigns.



**DID YOU KNOW?** You can view the recordings from our online candidate training webinars. Watch the webinars at: https://www.lcv.org/programs/developing-future-leaders/

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

**LCV's Candidate Recruitment and Training program exists to provide both short- and long-term candidate development opportunities to leaders across the 30+ states in the Conservation Voters Movement (CVM). In particular, it helps to grow a diverse and better-prepared pool of local and state candidates and provide them with the tools and resources they need to effectively represent their communities.**

Since 2020, this program has worked to recruit diverse environmental champions to run for office and provided training that is welcoming and inclusive to candidates of color, young people, LGBTQ+ people, and women. By bringing high-quality leadership training to dozens of leaders of color each year, we continue to change who is serving in local elected office and influence environmental policy in more communities.

LCV has two main strategies for training prospective candidates. Our annual **Candidate Academy** brings together environmental candidates from all over the U.S. for intensive sessions with trainers from the **Electoral Collective**, some of the best trainers in the country. In this way, we are serving leaders in more parts of the country and developing training capacity across the CVM.

We also train candidates and potential candidates all year long via our **webinar series**. This allows us to raise the idea of running for office with our large membership base, and to bring in experts from all sectors of the movement to share expertise on messaging, voter contact, fundraising, and more. In 2024, we worked with partners including Disability Victory, Run for Something, Climate Cabinet Action, NextGen, and Climate Emergency Advocates, as well as numerous state affiliates. In 2025, we'll be increasing our focus on candidates in rural areas and delivering more online and in-person programming to address topics relevant to rural candidates.



WEBINAR

## HOW TO TALK ABOUT CLIMATE ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2024
10 AM PT/1 PM ET
60 MINUTE WEBINAR

**ADRIAN ARELLANO**
Manager for Climate Initiatives,
NextGen America

**KELSEY HECK WOOD**
Michigan State Director,
Run for Something

**MARKEYA THOMAS**
Communications Director,
Climate Cabinet Action

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LCV Candidate Academy alums continue to run for office across the country.