LEADING TOGETHER

“The Founders’ model of complementary leadership influenced us when we formed the Indiana Statewide Leadership Council. Now in its first year, our Council brings telltale Policy Circle conversational approaches to the new circle formation efforts. Leading together for us has meant blending our Council members’ passions, networks and talents in such a way that we’ve actually enhanced each others’ qualities—while introducing TPC to more women in our state.”

- Lacey Willard, Indiana State Leadership Council Co-Chair

WWW.THEPOLICYCIRCLE.ORG
Dear Policy Circle Supporters,

**Leading Together.** What started just four short years ago in 2015 in two states has grown into a burgeoning women’s grassroots network in over 37 states with 216 circles. We founded The Policy Circle because we met so many intelligent, concerned women looking for a way to engage in a dialogue about policy.

**Leading Together.** The Policy Circle inspires women to engage in conversations about public policies and their impact on creativity, free-enterprise, self-responsibility, and prosperity. Over the years we are broadening our geographic reach, growing membership and furthering policy education through our ever-growing library of Policy Circle briefs. 2018 was a year of extraordinary growth for The Policy Circle as we more than doubled the number of circles, expanded into 11 more states and doubled our membership to over 2,500 women.

The Policy Circle hosted its Third Annual Policy Circle Leadership Summit in Chicago bringing together over 200 Policy Circle leaders and members to experience the intersection of leadership and policy. Based on the success of past programs, an even bigger turnout is expected for the Fourth Annual Policy Circle Leadership Summit to be held November 14th and 15th in Chicago. We hope you will join us.

**Leading Together,** we thank you for your support and are pleased to share with you the 2018 Annual Report for The Policy Circle. Sincerely,

Kathy Hubbard  
Co-Founder, Treasurer  

Sylvie Légère  
Co-Founder, President  

Angela Braly  
Co-Founder, Secretary

---

### Introducing the First State Leadership Council

The Policy Circle working with Circle Leaders in Indiana created the first State Leadership Council. Katie Thomas and Lacey Willard stepped up to the challenge to engage more women, create more Circles that discuss issues specific to Indiana and build relationships with local and statewide leading organizations. These efforts empower more women to learn fact-based policy making, connect, speak up and become more engaged in their communities. The Policy Circle now has a framework to establish State Leadership Councils in more states. Next up, Illinois, Wisconsin and Colorado followed by states hosting 10 or more active circles.

### 2018 Engagement: Members Make a Difference in Their Communities

**Virginia, McLean Circle & Squeak’s McLean Circle plus Colorado, Lamar Circle:** three generations of women -- a mother, daughter, and grandmother -- demonstrating how women of all ages share the desire to learn, grow and be engaged. They all started a circle. After discussing the Immigration Brief, the Lamar Circle decided to engage with their Congressman.

**Wisconsin, El Circulo Circle:** chose to use the Policy Circle as way to mentor young hispanic girls letting them choose the issues to discuss.

**Illinois, Laurel Circle:** focuses on property taxes in Illinois that impact all families. Additionally, the Circle prepared meals for over 55 families whose children are hospitalized at Lurie Children’s Hospital.

**Michigan, Friends of Pam Circle:** three incredible members, all from the same Circle, stepped up to run for office.

Indiana Circle Leaders created the **Indiana State Leadership Council**, setting the stage for more states to follow. Their first all Circle event was a bipartisan summit on the Opioid Crisis.

---

### Financial Overview

January 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018

- **Total Revenue:** $1,123,018
- **Total Expenses:** $944,500
- **Total Assets:** $361,342
Leading Together

Annual Growth of Policy Circles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Circles</th>
<th>States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>34</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Library of Briefs

At the heart of The Policy Circle are national level policy briefs that Circles use as the basis for their discussions. In 2018, the library grew to 26 briefs with the publication of Creating Career Pathways, Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs), The Opioid Epidemic, Housing, and an Election Integrity series that also included topics such as assessing candidates, campaign financing and polling. The Policy Circle Framework organizes the briefs into 5 conversation themes: U.S. and the World; Economic Growth; Creating Opportunities; Civics and Democracy; and Building Blocks of the American Dream. The briefs are constructed to provide historical background on the issues and outline ways Policy Circle members can engage, which can be viewed by visiting www.thepolicycircle.org/selecting-discussion-topic/.

What Makes The Policy Circle Unique

Self-directed Circles in communities  
Framework for discussion  
Online library of multimedia Policy Briefs  
Policy Influencer Education  
Customizable Circle activity webpage  
Connector app  
Policy Advisor portal

2018 Policy Circle Leadership Summit

The Policy Circle hosted its Third Annual Policy Circle Leadership Summit in Chicago bringing over 200 Circle leaders and members together to experience the intersection of leadership and policy. Policy Circle leaders played an integral role interviewing speakers and moderating panels. The first Policy Circle Leadership Awards were presented to Circle Leaders who carried forth The Policy Circle mission of connection and engagement. (The Policy Circle Leadership Summit video recordings can be found on our website, thepolicycircle.org.)

Save the Date - Nov. 14-15, 2019 in Chicago

2019 Policy Circle Leadership Summit

Gather with hundreds of Policy Circle leaders, members and supporters for the Fourth Annual Policy Circle Leadership Summit where policy and leadership intersect. In “Leading and Living in a Connected World”, the Summit will explore how privacy and security are being redefined, in favor of the conveniences to live, buy and interact. To register or learn about sponsorship opportunities, visit www.thepolicycircle.org.

Where You Come In

Recommend a Circle Leader: The Policy Circle expands through recommendations of women ready for a new way to grow as leaders. Policy Circle conversations build connections and confidence in tackling complex issues.

Invest: Financial support fuels the reach and impact of The Policy Circle.

Spread the Word: Follow us on social media (Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram) and share The Policy Circle story with your family, friends, colleagues and networks, so more women can take part in the public policy dialogue.
### 2019 Kicks-Off with Continued Growth and Engagement

- Expansion of Circles in Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Wisconsin; establishing 20 circles in each of the states where we currently have Circles.
- Conversation calls on timely topics such as Venezuela and Socialism.
- Newly created virtual circle experiences and regional training events for Circle Leaders.
- Following the launch of Indiana’s State Leadership Council, Councils will be formed in Illinois and Wisconsin, and in states with at least 10 active circles.
- Policy Circle Briefs on podcasts.
- Engagement Guides for circles to interact with elected officials, volunteer on campaigns, get appointed on boards and commissions and build coalitions.
- Four new briefs will be added to library.
- Policy Circle Leadership Video Series on Udemy.com for supporting members and for the public at large (www.udemy.com/thepolicycircle).

---

**Supporters of The Policy Circle** were invited to participate in the inaugural Conversation Call series. 2018 calls provided unique access to policy experts and leaders on:

- Entitlements
- Janus vs. AFSCME
- Education Savings Accounts

---

**A Year of Engagement**

**Highlights of The Policy Circle Collaborations and Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colorado launch with Leadership Program of the Rockies and Independence Institute.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kemp Forum on Expanding Opportunity, in Chicago.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackinac Center Virtual InternNet nationwide program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy Circle Leaders from Indiana, Illinois and Colorado attend State Policy Network Annual Meeting in Utah.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sylvie Légère moderates panel for RightNow and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in D.C.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Policy Circle Members Share:**

"What I love about Policy Circle meetings is that they are topical. While the specific content might be outside our everyday work and life experiences, we always learn insights that inform our daily decisions as professionals and community members. We may not all come in with the same perspective, but because the policy briefs are data driven, our discussions remain evidence-based and avoid ideology that could divide us.”

- Catherine, Policy Circle Member, Texas

"...thank you for introducing me to The Policy Circle. Not only have I built new friendships, but I’ve also built up my confidence to engage in conversations ... at business dinners and other events... recently, Cincinnati Mayor John Cranley appointed me to the Cincinnati Board of Elections... I’m looking forward to the learning opportunity as I continue to find ways to engage in government... Thank you for your inspiration.”

- Liz, Policy Circle Member, Ohio

---

**Spreading the word:** Visit www.thepolicycircle.org and recommend a circle leader

**Follow us:** The Policy Circle www.facebook.com/thepolicycircle Twitter @thepolicycircle

**Support the movement:** Donate at www.thepolicycircle.org/donate

**The Policy Circle**

1189 Wilmette Avenue, #210
Wilmette, IL 60091