



## **Healthcare Action Group Annual Report 2025-26**

### **Summary:**

Healthcare Action Group strives to inform, educate and support health issues that directly affect the citizens of Hillsborough and Pasco Counties, while uniting with LWVFL and LWVUS' health care reform priorities. We work to ensure health equity, which includes access to affordable quality healthcare, expansion of Medicaid, MentaHealth, Vaccines, Oral Health and Substance Abuse services as well as the protection of the 2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act (ACA). We stand behind and support Reproductive choices and services, including abortion and the right for women to have health care privacy. We offer information and collaborate with educational events focusing on health care issues and legislative initiatives. We support use of federal, state and local resources that support development of programs emphasizing equitable access to comprehensive health care with controlled costs.

### **Goals:**

Healthcare Action Group will continue to focus on individual freedom for reproductive rights, which continues to be a struggle. We will work with Planned Parenthood to further educate with this effort. Medicaid Expansion is once again another endeavor. Florida Decides Healthcare is coordinating the work to gather the needed petitions to be placed on the 2028 ballot and provide needed materials. Petitions are being gathered, but obtaining and sending signed petitions by community members has challenges that have to be carefully followed. In addition, we will continue to support dental care and dental therapist program to better serve the underserved population in rural locations as well as educating the importance of vaccines. We support Navigators and will develop health care resource information for our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Winkles

Health Care Action Group Chair