

Tuesday's Vote Swing Shows Healthcare Professionals Engaged in Elections

Written by Citizen Action of Wisconsin, Robert Kraig
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Healthcare professionals see elections as a necessary part of their work.

STATEWIDE - Healthcare professionals are getting involved in the 2018 Wisconsin elections. "I'm tired of the attacks on BadgerCare and I'm tired of the government not putting any regulations on pharmaceutical companies jacking up prices," said Lynn Carey, a retired nurse who helped in Dennis Degenhardt's race in Assembly District 58, "I volunteered for Dennis because of his stance on healthcare." The seat swung 25% in the direction of the Democrat candidate.

Dawn Garcia, a healthcare consultant, volunteered for Patty Schachtner in her Senate District 10 win. Senate District 10 is a traditionally Republican district, but Schachtner won on the message of fully expanding BadgerCare and increasing mental health resources. Garcia states, "I think healthcare professionals are realizing that they have the power and responsibility to change the US healthcare system, and part of that is getting involved in elections."

Garcia and Carey are part of Citizen Action of Wisconsin's organizing co-ops network forming across the state, including the Western Wisconsin Co-op which includes Senate District 10 and Healthcare for All co-op in Southeast Wisconsin and which is made up of doctors, nurses, and other health professionals.

"We are only just beginning," said Carey. The group is putting on a "Healthcare Jeopardy" governor candidate forum on Saturday, January 27 at 9:30am at MATC Milwaukee. They expect for the room to be full of newly politically-engaged healthcare professionals looking to get

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involved.

In addition to the health professionals involved, Citizen Action of Wisconsin Western and North Central Wisconsin Organizing Co-ops members also volunteered the Senate District 10 election.