

AAUW MEMBERSHIP DIVERSITY STATEMENT & RESOURCES

American Association of University Women – Diversity Statement

In principle and in practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.

Diversity can be the most frustrating of initiatives. Either your eligible community is not very diverse or your group is content just as they are. You can:

- 1) Decide which populations you've not worked with much or at all in the past, but that you want to establish a partnership with to strengthen your advocacy.
- 2) With the help of members who have personal contacts in the community that you've targeted, identify two or three key leaders in the community you want to work with first.
- 3) Send written invitations to these persons over the names of your contacts.

Guiding questions for planning:

- 1) What is there about this issue (community need) that will attract support of diverse allies?
- 2) Who/What groups do we need/want to be involved?
- 3) How do we make connections/contact with potential partners?
- 4) What are the barriers to gaining their participation? What snags are we likely to encounter?
- 5) What resources do we have? What do we need?
- 6) What do we know about and can adopt from successful strategies employed by our potential diverse partners?
- 7) How do we change our normal planning cycle or monthly meeting schedule to facilitate developing this new partnership?
- 8) What are the elements that will be most critical to our success in convening the group to explore the collaboration?

People (Community Resources)

ABC Programs
American Association of Retired Persons
Associations for the Physically Challenged
Black Business Women's Association
Business and Professional Women's Assoc.
College and Professional Sororities
Council on Aging
Émigré Groups
Ethnic Cultural Associations
Gay and Lesbian Groups
Indian Councils
International Colleges and Universities

League of Women Voters
Literacy Volunteers
Multicultural Associations
Professional Associations
Refugee Support Organizations
Religious Social & Service Orgs.
Retarded Citizens Groups
Rotary International
State Agencies
Theatre Groups
World Affairs Council
YWCA/YMCA