



Dear Friend,

This year, *USA Today* [reported to a national audience](#) on Close the Gap's driving role in this recent history: between December 2017 and December 2019, [women in California's Legislature surged from a 20-year low of 21%, to an all-time high of 32%](#). And in our state house, women of color triple the national average. These numbers really should top *all* the year-end "best of" lists.



The "Year of the Woman" is not an accident or a magic trick. Results this substantial are something we've **proved we can build and deliver, year after year**.

Diverse, progressive women candidates were not magically in the right place at the right time. Rather, the remarkable progress achieved over the last 24 months is the result of **over a decade of hard work and strategic investment**. Activists, donors and organizations who knew what it would take to ensure progress got to work.

That's us, and that's you!

It is the happiest coincidence of my 20-year career in social justice work to be leading CTGCA at a time when the ecosystem of support for women candidates is positively flourishing. Today, the cultural winds of change are at our backs. But we can't be sure that will continue to be the case heading into the **biggest open seat opportunity of a generation**, and we need to keep driving the numbers towards equality.

[This year](#) CTGCA launched our "[Mine the Motherlode](#)" initiative—shouting from the mountaintops about the **scale of opportunity** that lies just ahead.

- In 2019 we **doubled the number of CTGCA Recruits who launched** competitive campaigns for 2020 races, for a total of eight.

- We **doubled our intrepid team of Recruiters** to started mining the Motherlode.
- We **boosted our public face** with upgrades to database, website and branding.
- We were honored to count on **established supporters**, earn the support of **new donors** and grow **the community of women** focused on helping women.

At CTGCA, our impact is far larger than our actual footprint as a mostly volunteer organization. In order to fulfill our ambition by 2028, we know exactly what we need to do: execute the successful program we've built, but bigger and bolder than ever before.

As 2018 and '19 have shown, **meaningful progress requires a whole lot more than a simple flick of the wrist—but it's actual, factual and historical.** Thanks sincerely, for all you've done and all you will do, to make magic with us.

Warmest Holiday Wishes,

Susannah Delano



Executive Director



"As a first generation CTGCA Recruit serving since 2016, I can assure you that **the need for more women in Sacramento is urgent, and CTGCA knows how to find and prepare them better than anyone.** *Join me in supporting CTGCA to 'Mine the Motherlode' of open seats ahead!"*

**– Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry
AD 4, CTGCA Class of 2016**

Help us #MinetheMotherlode - **DONATE TODAY!**

\$25



- \$50
- \$100
- \$500
- \$1000
- OTHER



Our mailing address is:
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WE RECRUIT

Achieving gender equality in the California Legislature by 2028.

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