

2018 Annual Report

Year of the Woman? Check. Next up, the decade.

Dear Supporters,

2018 was a year of record-setting results for Close the Gap CA, and righteous rebound for women in the California State Legislature.

Now that CTGCA has recruited through three full election cycles, the fruits of our labor are clear: **Nine sitting legislators, progressive and 89% women of color, whom we recruited directly or gave instrumental early guidance.** *You helped us build this—and we are just getting started.*

Multiple waves of resistance and sheer determination, including the #MeToo movement, reached a crescendo in 2018's midterm elections.

California rebounded from a 20-year low of 21.5% women members in December 2017, to a tie with its all-time high of 30%, just a year later. **After a decade of decline in representation, women are now charging decisively towards equality,** with progressive CTGCA recruits and allies leading the way.



*Boardmember Kariann Farrell Hinds,
Senator Maria Elena Durazo &
Susannah Delano at Los Angeles LLL*

The energy on the ground was tremendous, but results like these do not happen on their own.

CTGCA's targeted recruitment ensured that progressive women were identified, guided, and positioned to launch successful campaigns. We couldn't have done it without YOU, our committed supporters and tireless volunteers. *On to 50% (or more) by 2028!*

With Sincere Appreciation,

Susannah Delano
Executive Director, Close the Gap CA

WOMEN WON IN RECORD-BREAKING NUMBERS

CTGCA cheered as voters elected an **unprecedentedly large and diverse group of women to serve in the State Legislature.**

Against this historic backdrop, 2018 was a year of accomplishment and growth for Close the Gap CA.

Of the 12 progressive women who won 2018 races:

- ▶ 11 replaced men
- ▶ 10 won in CTGCA target districts
- ▶ 7 are women of color
- ▶ 6 replaced GOP

MORE WOMEN in the RECRUITING PIPELINE

2018 Districts:

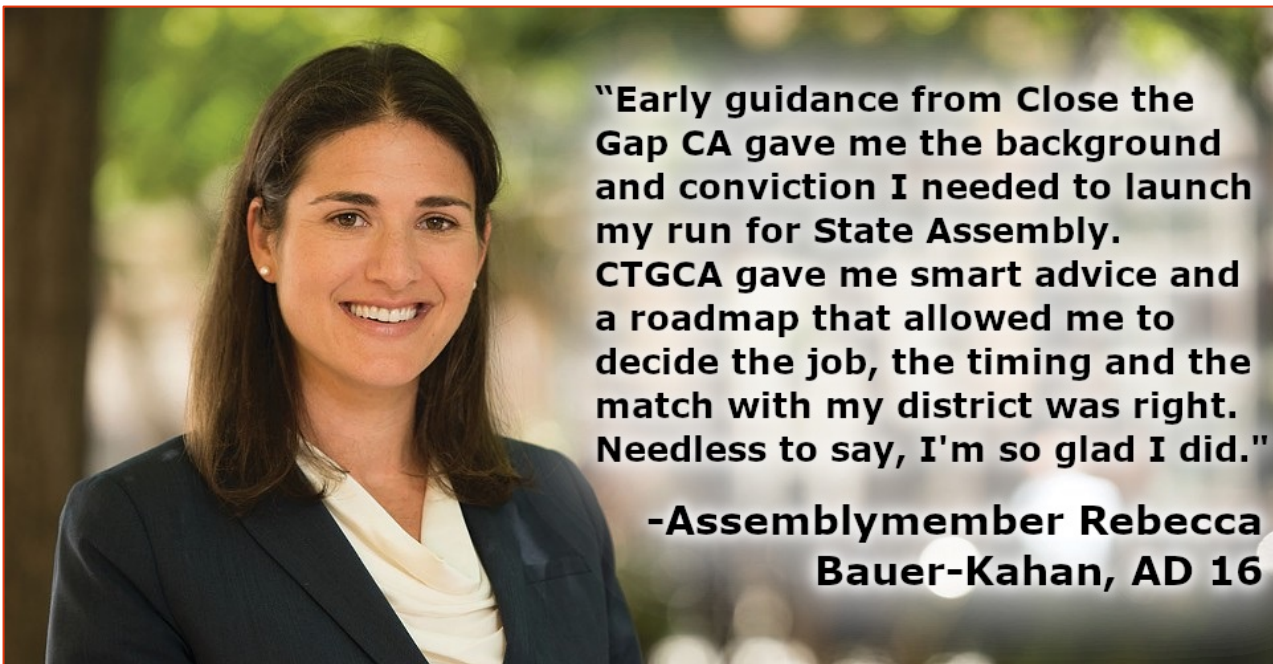
- Concluded exploration process with recruits for original 2018 target districts: SD 12, SD 22, SD 24, AD 30
- Targeted and recruited in districts unexpectedly made open or winnable by #MeToo, resignations, or Blue Wave: SD 14, SD 32, AD 15, AD 16, AD 39, AD 45, AD 76
- Played an instrumental role in increasing the number of women serving in the State Legislature to 36, a 38% increase over 2017 and a tie for the most ever in California history

2019 Special Elections:

- Recruited for SD 1 and SD 33 in anticipation of 2019 Special Elections, now set for March 26th, 2019

2020 Districts

- Identified prospects and launched explorations in target districts: SD 1, SD 5, SD 13, SD 15, SD 17, SD 19, SD 33
- Monitored additional potential target districts for 2020
- Conducted Central Valley Tour & SD 5 search party
- Added three new Recruiters in LA, San Diego & East Bay



"Early guidance from Close the Gap CA gave me the background and conviction I needed to launch my run for State Assembly. CTGCA gave me smart advice and a roadmap that allowed me to decide the job, the timing and the match with my district was right. Needless to say, I'm so glad I did."

-Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, AD 16

Preparing for 2020 & Beyond: Close the Gap CA's Sacramento Symposium



Faculty & Prospective Candidates at the December 2018 Sacramento Symposium

- The Sacramento Symposium is a key component of CTGCA's recruitment process for races in 2020 and beyond
- 23 prospective candidates from 15 districts and 40 distinguished faculty attended
- Full day of guidance, networking and speed dating with Legislators & PAC Directors

LAI D OPERATIONAL FOUNDATION for EXPANDED RECRUITING

- Added COO & Controller who built out new, cost efficient accounting system
- Elected Officers of the Executive Board for the first time
- Built a financial reserve
- Sourced and increased volunteer staff from 8 to 17 up and down the state



200+ attend Silicon Valley LLL in March

INCREASED RESOURCES to RECRUIT WOMEN

Raised a record \$390K, a 63% increase over 2017, through fundraising events and initiatives, thanks to generous donors.

- *Large events:* "Literature, Leadership, and Lunch" in Silicon Valley and LA; Sacramento Symposium Reception
- *Mid-size events:* Napa in partnership with Progressive Women of Napa Valley;



CTGCA Board Chair Sonya Logman welcomes Lt. Governor Eleni Kounalakis at 2018 Sacramento Symposium Reception



“Literature, Leadership & Libations” in East Bay and SF; San Diego with Asm. Laura Friedman & Run Women Run

- *House Parties & Roundtables:* Portola Valley, Palo Alto, San Francisco with Rep. Annie Custer, Santa Cruz, Fresno, Merced, Stockton
- Initiatives: \$20 for 2020, 5th Anniversary Challenge, #WomenWednesday

CTGCA RECRUITING FRONT AND CENTER

- Conducted outreach or presented at more than 20 gatherings throughout the state, from San Diego to El Dorado
- Led joint SCOTUS statement on Kavanaugh confirmation hearings with allied women’s groups
- Hosted two webinars attended by 100+: Independent Expenditures in April and Post-Election Analysis in November
- Received media coverage on KQED, SF Chronicle & CALMatters on historic results of November elections for women in California

Closing the Gap from 30% women to 50% will be the toughest push yet.

With your continued support, our recruiting strategy can sustain the wave!