

May is  
Mental Health  
Awareness Month

End the stigma. Make it **OK**

THE EUCLID  
DEMOCRAT

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 5

May 2021

Mental Health Month.....2  
Statehouse Dems..... 5  
American Rescue Plan.....6  
Young Person's  
Perspective.....6  
CCPC.....7  
Meeting Agenda.....9  
April Minutes.....10

[eucliddems.org](http://eucliddems.org)

**SPREAD THE WORD, NOT THE VIRUS!**

**VACCINATION SITE IN EUCLID**

**June 5, 2021 10:00AM-1:00PM**

**Church Cathedral Worship Center**

**21601 Euclid Avenue, Euclid OH**

**Walk In-NO Registration Required**



**BRING FAMILY AND FRIENDS (16+)**

**NEED A FREE RIDE, CALL:**

**UBER OR LYFT**

**Vaccination site sponsored by the Ohio Department of Health**

**Questions, Call (216)232-2992**

**Get vaccinated!!**



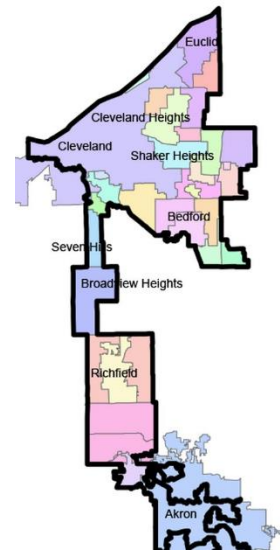
**[EucliddemsOH@gmail.com](mailto:EucliddemsOH@gmail.com)**

**Email us for any questions,  
requests or for  
information on the Club**

Zoom Meetings will be held on the third Thursday every month at 7PM, watch your email for the login info. If we don't have your email address or for registration, email us here- [eucliddemsOH@gmail.com](mailto:eucliddemsOH@gmail.com)

**Be sure to join us for the last  
Q&A sessions with our  
candidates from the 11<sup>th</sup>  
Congressional District!**

Tariq Shabazz will be joining us in May



**May is Mental Health Month –  
#MHM**



**Mental Health Fast Facts**

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Please know that if you or a loved one is experiencing mental health challenges, #Youarenotalone. Below are some facts that help to paint a picture of the prevalence of this issue in our nation. We are fortunate to live in a region with excellent mental health care. Do what you can to be a stigma-buster; reluctance to seek help leaves many people suffering many years longer than needed. In fact, the average delay between onset of mental illness symptoms and treatment is 11 years. ~Betsey Kamm

- 20.6% of U.S. adults (51.5 million people) experienced mental illness in 2019, but only 43.8% of them received treatment.
- 5.2% of U.S. adults (13.1 million people) experienced serious mental illness in 2019, but only 65.5% of them received treatment.
- 16.5% of U.S. youth aged 6–17 (7.7 million people) experienced a mental health disorder in 2016, but only 50.6% of them received treatment.
- 50% of all lifetime mental illness begins by age 14, and 75% by age 24.

- Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death among people aged 10–34 and the 10th leading cause of death overall in the U.S.
- The overall suicide rate in the U.S. has increased by 35% since 1999.

#### Community Impact

- Lesbian, gay and bisexual youth are 4x more likely to attempt suicide than straight youth.
- Transgender adults are nearly 12x more likely to attempt suicide than the general population.
- 55% of U.S. counties do not have a single practicing psychiatrist.
- 3.8% of U.S. adults experienced both mental illness and a substance use disorder in 2019 (9.5 million people).
- Mental illness and substance use disorders are involved in 1 out of every 8 emergency department visits by a U.S. adult (estimated 12 million visits).
- 20.5% of people experiencing homelessness in the U.S. have a serious mental health condition.
- 37% of adults incarcerated in the state and federal prison system have a diagnosed mental illness.
- 70.4% of youth in the juvenile justice system have a diagnosed mental illness.
- 41% of Veteran’s Health Administration patients have a diagnosed mental illness or substance use disorder

*Courtesy of NAMI, the National Alliance for Mental Illness*



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**For information on workplace benefits related to mental health, please visit the U.S. Department of Labor’s Blog-**

**blog.dol.gov**

(Editor’s note, it is not a hyper link, you’ll have to search it. Originally posted in their blog on 5/12/21).

*Chris, 5/14/21*



## *Dems in the Ohio Statehouse*

Rep. Kent Smith (D-OH8)



### **Ohio Republicans Bing Resolution to Oppose the For the People Act**

On May 6, Ohio House Republicans brought a resolution (HCR 5) to the House floor to formally oppose HR 1, the For the People Act, federal pro-voter legislation that would protect the freedom to vote, prevent billionaires from buying influence in elections, and make sure voting options are equally accessible across all 50 states.

It is important to remember what a House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) is as we look at today's vote on HCR 5. An HCR is essentially just an exercise of opinion. It's not legislation, it's the nonbinding, personal view of the Ohio House of Representatives. What we saw today was the Republicans in the Ohio House saying that voting rights should be eroded, not protected.

The major goals of HR 1 are to expand voting rights, change campaign finance laws to reduce the influence of money in politics, limit partisan gerrymandering and create new ethics rules for federal officeholders. HR 1 requires that Presidential candidates release their tax returns, just like HB 475, legislation I introduced in the prior General Assembly.



In addition, the For the People Act contain several pro-voter measures already working in states across the country, like same-day registration, automatic voter registration unless the voter opts out, expanded vote by mail, and accessible online voter registration. Ohio Democrats believe these options would deliver safe and accessible elections and include more of us in making our voices heard.

Me and my House Democratic colleagues have introduced a number of pro-voter bills in recent years, including legislation to expand access to secure ballot drop boxes, urge passage of the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, create true automated voter registration, provide voters with paid return postage for mail ballots, and create a safe and accessible online system to request mail ballots, allow more than one early vote center per county and allow ballots postmarked by Election Day to be counted.

In contrast, Republicans across the country have introduced over 350 bills restricting the right to vote this year, including in Ohio, where Republicans have pushed back against pro-voter policies and just recently introduced

House Bill 294, an anti-voter bill that would roll back ballot access and intentionally make the process more confusing for voters.



### Common Sense Gun Legislation

The worst thing about the Dayton mass shooting of August 4, 2019 was the human carnage - nine people killed and another 17 wounded. The second worst thing was the State of Ohio has done nothing to prevent that tragedy from happening again. Not one thing.

Last month, Ohio House Democrats renewed their fight for commonsense gun safety legislation that would curb gun violence and save lives in Ohio.

Our call comes amid a spike in gun violence and Ohio's new no duty to retreat bill taking effect in April.

Democrats' commonsense gun safety priorities include legislation that would:

- Require universal background checks on all gun purchases,
- Implement extreme risk protection orders,
- Require safe, secure storage of firearms in homes with minors,
- Allow Ohio citizens to decide what gun safety measures work for their communities,
- Repeal no duty to retreat.

This gun safety package contains tested, proven and popular strategies to reduce gun violence. Some 90 percent of Ohioans support enacting more commonsense gun safety measures.

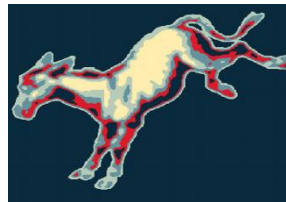
Me and my fellow Democrats are also fighting to repeal Ohio's no duty to retreat law, which passed in Dec. 2020 and took effect April 6. The law permits the use of deadly force by individuals who believe their lives are endangered anywhere in the state. The measure was added as a last-minute amendment to Senate Bill (SB) 175 in Dec. 2020, and the governor signed the bill into law even after suggesting he would veto the extreme legislation.

We will continue to press Governor DeWine and Statehouse Republicans to Do Something!

# Follow the Euclid Dems on Social Media



## *The American Rescue Plan*



Pamela Gray-Mason, Euclid Democratic Club Member

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 is not just a stimulus check! Passed by the Biden/Harris administration, this Plan offers millions to the issues of Child Care Tax Credit, Earned Income, Education, Rent, Homeowner, Utility Assistance, Health Care, and much more. The City of Euclid should be getting their share of the millions. Questions, I have a PowerPoint presentation that I can share. This presentation was designed by Policy Matters Ohio by Wendy Patton, Senior Executive Director.

Policy Matters Ohio is a nonprofit policy research institute that creates a more vibrant, equitable, sustainable and inclusive Ohio through research, strategic communications, coalition building and policy advocacy.



## *Politics Through the Eyes of a Young Person*

Jake Ericksen, Euclid Democratic Club Member



Many young people aren't interested in politics. Is that because candidates struggle to appeal to these voters? When they try, it doesn't work well. The choice is often between a candidate who isn't interesting and young people find boring, or a candidate who tries way too hard and some young people then find them annoying. America needs someone who's willing to try to appeal to younger voters but doesn't seem

desperate. In a way it could be considered like a first date. Try to be flattering and kind but don't be overly nice, be insincere and there's no second date.

This balance is hard. A charismatic leader is often the one people pick. Even if a candidate's ideas are great, if they are standoffish and cold, or uninteresting and bland, people won't vote for them. Candidates need to preach their messages in a relatable way. If a candidate is someone that working people can relate to, they'll listen. This is how President Biden was elected: appealing to normal voters through voicing his struggles and hard times in the past. Most people have had hard times, and overcoming them inspires hope for the future.



If a nominee is young and relatable, there is almost no way they could lose the vote of younger people. Another important quality is humility. If someone is humble, this would be the cherry on top of a political candidate. Humble people are likeable and electable.

Finding a candidate with all of these qualities is challenging. It's hard to find someone relatable, charismatic, humble, likeable, energetic that has an interest in political matters. Let's say that one perfect candidate does come up; if they can effectively relay all of that, they can likely count on the young people's vote. There won't have to be excessive trying to appeal to teens and young adults. Appeal is not assumed, it is earned, and relatability is as valued by young voters (and young people who haven't yet voted) as it is in any other group. No candidate should be afraid to speak of their struggles. Many young people are not interested in politics, but that doesn't mean they will always feel that way.

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## **Cuyahoga County Progressive Caucus**

Steve Holecko, Political Director



### **CCPC 11th Congressional District Endorsement Vote**

CCPC is proud to announce that our membership has voted overwhelmingly to endorse Nina Turner in the 11th Congressional District Special Election. We would like to thank all of the candidates who participated in our endorsement process and our March 24 Candidates Forum. With the primary election being scheduled for

August 3 and hopefully the pandemic restrictions gradually being lifted we should have a great spring and summer working with the campaign! Stay tuned for how you can get involved.

### CCPC May Membership Meeting

CCPC May Membership Meeting Thursday, May 13 from 6:30 to 8 pm Agenda items include 1) Ranked Choice Voting. Leah Nichols, Speakers Bureau and Communications Director for Rank the Vote Ohio will discuss what Ranked Choice Voting is and how it can make our democracy better. 2) Presentation of how the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party functions and is organized. Including how we can make it more progressive in the 2022 Central Committee, Executive Committee and Party Chair elections. Please click [here](#) to register for the meeting. After registering you'll receive an email with the Zoom link.

### What CCPC will be working on this summer:

Projecting what any activist organization will be working on months in advance can be very tricky because unforeseen events can change things quickly. Below are what we know for sure about the summer.

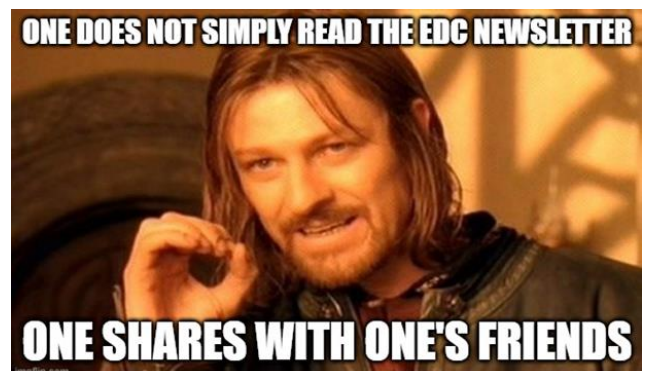


Locally: In addition to our work in the 11th Congressional District Special Election CCPC will be involved in a number of local elections as well. We expect to endorse candidates in at least 9 of the 17 Cleland City Council races, The Cleveland Heights Mayor's race and other suburban races as well. We'll have a complete list of endorsed candidates shortly after the June 14 filing deadline.

### CCPC Cleveland Heights Mayoral Candidates Forum Wednesday, June 16 from 7 to 8:30 pm

And at the National Level: What a relief it is to be away from the singular focus of a year ago to defeat the former president! Instead Welcome to the New Progressive Era seems to be where we're at this year. With the passage of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan in March and the proposed \$2 trillion Infrastructure bill, the Biden administration seems to be willing to go big to help the American people. Although some progressives feel these efforts fall short, CCPC urges its membership to support the idea of big proposals that may eventually get the American people to see that government can actually work.

**Forward this  
newsletter, far and  
wide! Help us get the  
word out!**





*Euclid Democratic Club  
ZOOM Agenda  
Thursday, May 20, 2021- 7 p.m.*

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Certification of a Quorum
4. Speaker(s)- Tariq Shabazz will be speaking at his designated time during the meeting. He is running for congress in OH-11.
5. Certification of Minutes from the April Meeting
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Correspondence Secretary Report
8. Committee Reports- Findings and explanation of recommended changes from the Bylaws Committee
9. President's Report
10. 1st Vice President's Report
11. Old Business
12. New Business
13. Open Forum
14. Announcements
15. Adjournment



EUCLID DEMOCRATIC CLUB Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 15, 2021

Zoom Meeting

**Attendees:** David Bielek Jr., Lana Caviness, Councilwoman Stephana Caviness, Schuyler Cook, Phil DiBianca, Chris Ericksen, Maria Ericksen, Mayor Kirsten Gail, Kandace Jones, Betsey Kamm, Joy Kennedy, Sue McGinn, Christine McIntosh, Richard Montgomery, Lynn Radcliffe, Retanio Rucker, Donna Sudar, Larry Williams

**Guest:** Charles E. Bibb Sr, Emily Hampshire Holody, Cleo Miller, Tara Samples, Judi Zivic

**I. Call to Order:** 7:00pm by President Chris Ericksen

**II. Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited

**III. Certification of a Quorum:** Satisfied

**IV. Approval of Minutes:** Kandace addressed the group with a correction to the March minutes (John Barnes title, should be former State Representative). Schuyler mentioned in the Treasurer report, regarding Warnock campaign has not cashed, should be the PAC check, not Club check. Kandace will make the changes to the March minutes. Motion to accept the April 2021 meeting minutes by Schuyler Cook, seconded by Phil DiBianca.

Motion passed. March 2021 minutes – approved.

**V. Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer sent out PDF of the treasurer report to club members in good standing. He reviewed the club and PAC account activities. If you have not

received a membership packet, please let Schuyler know. Warnock campaign still have not cashed the PAC check donation to their campaign. Larry Williams has a contact in Atlanta that is looking into the donation status and he will report back. Chris asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer report, Motion by Phil DiBianca, seconded by Betsey Kamm. Motion approved.

**VI. Correspondence** – Betsey - None

**VII. Committee:**

a. By-Laws Committee – Kandace gave an update on the status of the committee. The committee should be ready to present their proposed changes at the May meeting.

b. Fundraiser Committee – Chris mentioned the committee would like to hear from the membership if we should have a in person brunch or do another virtual event this year.

c. Presidents Report – Chris Ericksen – mentioned that the EDC Newsletter will take a rest for July & August since the club does not meet. Focus will be events planning. Chris expressed a special thank you to the executive committee. There are tasks the executive committee must accomplish throughout the year. We have been able to grow our membership through these pandemic circumstances.

d. 1st Vice President Report – Joy Kennedy – Welcome to all. She expressed we are looking to increase club membership. We have several new members with the last month. Joy has been working on the By-Laws Committee.

**VIII. Guest Speakers:** Candidate running for 11th Congressional District Congressperson, to replace Marcia Fudge for her remaining term. There will be a special election (Primary & General) in 2021 to fill this position

a. Bryan Flannery – Former State Representative

**IX. Old business** – None

**X. New business** – None

**XI. Open Forum** –

a. Kandace mentioned the Town Hall meeting to stop HB22 from becoming law in Ohio, scheduled for April 17th 2pm – 4pm.

b. Larry Williams – spoke regarding the events that took place in Washington on January 6, 2021

c. Phil DiBianca – made a comment on having a in person or virtual event.

d. Councilwoman Christine McIntosh – announced about The Big Clean – April 24<sup>th</sup>. You can register your Ring doorbell with EPD, may help with crime solving. Annual review of CDBG Funds this month. Anti-Litter Campaign coming soon.

e. Mayor Kirsten Gail – Investment coming into the city –(3 new playgrounds, water line projects, waterfront project, to name a few). May – Teaching businesses that are EDGE certified.

f. Donna Sudar gave an update on the schools – summer program, accessing students when school starts again, construction status of High School. May 20, 2021 there will be an in-person graduation. There will also be a Prom this year.

**XII. Announcements** –

Raffle: N/A

**XIV. Adjournment:** EDC meeting adjourned at: 8:20pm,

Next meeting: Thursday May 20, 2021 –using Zoom.

*Rec. Sec. Kandace Jones*

*Thanks for reading and thank you to all of our contributors!  
See you in next month's edition and on Zoom.*



*-Euclid Democratic Club*

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[www.eucliddems.com](http://www.eucliddems.com)

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@EuclidDemClub on Twitter