

## *To Our Tri-State Family*

As we reflect back on 2020 and all that has happened and other years gone by, we ponder what do we do next? Where do we start? As we ponder, we believe now and will always believe that the best thing we can do to help ourselves, is to vote. We know God and prayer comes first. But we must also help ourselves, and if we were to have a Plan of Action, we believe it would be:

1. Register new Voters
2. Keep in touch with them and be sure that they Vote when the time comes. Offer them a ride to the polls or just remind them when early voting and or election day is.
3. Vote every two years, Gubernatorial and Presidential, and local elections
4. Vote the entire ballot, it includes your state and local officials, not just for the President and the Governor
5. Vote on the amendments and law changes on the ballot
6. Go to city, county council and school board meetings
7. Join the NAACP, or other organizations, and partner with them.
8. Have conversation with young people, listen to what they are saying.
9. Be kind in your talk and your deeds.
10. Encourage qualified candidates to run for office, they may not have considered it.
11. If you find someone whose insight is different from yours, don't attack them, try to find out their reason, if they want to discuss it, do so calmly. Don't be judgmental! Listen!!!
12. Get the voting information from the Election Office and find out who is not voting, (may have to pay for the information) and these are potential citizens to get out to vote.
13. Never say, "As old as you are, you have never voted", a better way is "Welcome Aboard" and "if you have any questions, let us know."
14. When do we start: NOW! Start with family and friends and then others.

When we are able to meet again, have discussion sessions in the Elks Home, invite new and potential voters in. We realize that we are still facing the Covid-19 pandemic and we want everyone to continue to be safe and follow the State and CDC guidelines. Remember, Help is here for some and on the way for others.

God Bless You, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!

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