To: NextGen Virginia Allies and Supporters
From: Carter Black
Date: November 8th, 2018
Re: **UPDATE -** NextGen Virginia's Efforts in the 2018 Midterm Elections

"We are by far the most progressive and most diverse generation yet. It's so exciting to see us coming out to vote in big numbers so we can elect progressive, diverse and younger candidates [who] represent us."
— *"Riding the "blue wave": students express contentment with election results"*, *The Commonwealth Times, 11.7.2018*

NEXTGEN VIRGINIA 2018: BY THE NUMBERS
TOTAL SPEND: **$2.2 million**
TOTAL STAFF ON THE GROUND: **71**
TOTAL DOORS KNOCKED: **99,297**
TOTAL TEXTS SENT: **862,697**
TOTAL VOLUNTEERS: **1,572**
TOTAL REGISTERED VOTERS: **24,788**
TOTAL COMMIT TO VOTE CARDS COLLECTED: **28,940**
TOTAL CAMPUSES WITH PROGRAM: **30**
TOTAL YOUNG VOTERS REACHED WITH DIGITAL ADS: **274,232**
TOTAL PIECES OF DIRECT MAIL SENT: **186,718**

For the second year in a row, young people have left their mark on Virginia politics. This Election Day, young voters across Virginia were the key to flipping three highly contested Congressional districts from red to blue. Due to NextGen's organizing efforts at schools like William and Mary, Shenandoah University, and Reynolds Community College and in communities like Winchester, Norfolk and Richmond, Jennifer Wexton, Elaine Luria, and Abigail Spanberger are headed to Washington in January.

As the largest and most progressive voting bloc in the Commonwealth, young Virginians are exercising their power to decide who represents them, and by electing a Democratic majority in Virginia's Congressional delegation, they have -- without question -- turned the Commonwealth blue. As *The Richmond Times-Dispatch* noted on Tuesday, "Tonight's results offer a much harsher lesson for Virginia Republicans, who have been in decline for nearly a decade now, in part because of their inability to gain more meaningful support from young people and minorities, who make up a growing portion of the commonwealth's electorate."
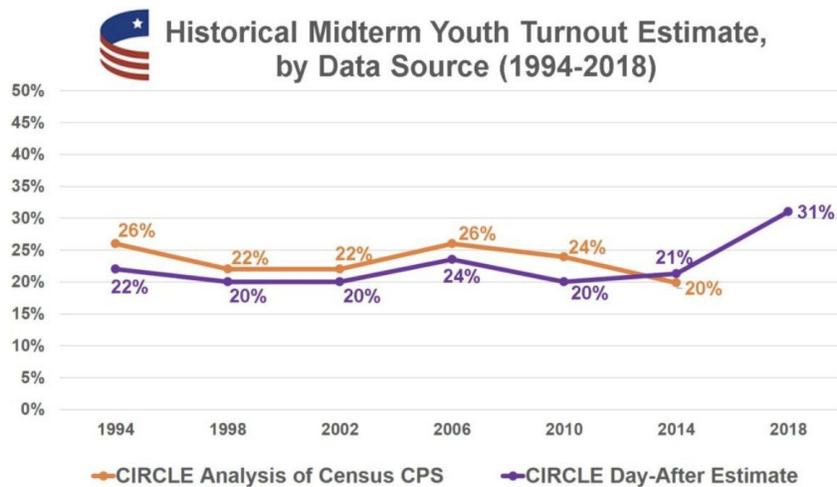
Young Virginians have offered Democrats a blueprint for 2020 — engaging young voters and defending the progressive values most important to them is critical to winning the state. Once again, NextGen played a pivotal role in Virginia's elections, and while there is still a great deal of important and challenging work ahead of us, the strides we made on Tuesday are the first steps towards building a country that values equality, justice, and opportunity for all.

Turnout By Young Virginians Breaks Records
Based on exit poll analysis completed by CIRCLE, 31% of young Americans (age 18-29) turned out to vote in the 2018 midterm elections, the highest level of participation among youth in at least 25 years. Over the course of Election Day, we tracked turnout in 4 Youth Vote Indicator Precincts, where more than 50% of registered voters are between 18 and 35 years old. In Virginia, all four of these precincts had

more ballots cast than in 2014 or 2017, with three exceeding 2014 turnout by 12PM. Each saw a turnout of at least 50% of all registered voters.

- The University of Virginia's precinct at Slaughter Recreation Center saw turnout increase by 3.5x over 2014 levels, even surpassing 2016 presidential turnout.
- At William and Mary, nearly 1,000 more ballots were cast than in 2014, and over 500 more than 2017.
- Radford city's East Precinct, where NextGen Virginia registered over 1,500 Radford University students to vote, saw a difference in +1,415 votes between 2014 and 2018.
- After NextGen became the first to organize Shenandoah University in Winchester City, the students' precinct nearly doubled 2014 turnout.

Historical Midterm Youth Turnout Estimate, by Data Source (1994-2018)

Young People Showed Up for Progressives

Young Virginians are overwhelmingly progressive, and they show up for candidates who inspire them and share their values. Two-thirds of voters between ages 18 and 29 prefered to re-elect Tim Kaine over Republican senate candidate Corey Stewart -- a startling 35 point margin between the two.

Age

	Kaine	Stewart	No Answer
18-29 **14%**	66%	31%	3%
30-44 **21%**	60%	37%	3%
45-64 **41%**	50%	48%	2%
65 and older **24%**	55%	44%	1%

With Donald Trump as President, this trend will continue to persist in Virginia. Last year in Virginia, young people didn't just turn out to vote in droves, they swung their votes hard towards progressive candidates, giving Ralph Northam a lopsided 69-30 advantage over Ed Gillespie.

Steps Toward Common-Sense Gun Reform

Young people across the country stood up for common-sense gun reform on Tuesday. In Virginia the Our Lives, Our Vote program empowered high school students to make their voices heard this November, and vote out politicians beholden to the NRA, such as Scott Taylor, Dave Brat and Barbara Comstock. In Virginia, Our Lives, Our Vote partnered with Inspire U.S. and Headcount to register 3,885 high school students to vote in person, online, and through mail ahead of the registration deadlines.

Victories For Working Families

For Our Future (FOF), a partnership between NextGen America and national labor unions, was the largest independent field operation for the progressive movement in the 2018 cycle. This year, For Our Future Virginia organizers knocked on 214,027 doors by Election Day to turnout voters for candidates who support working Virginians, like Tim Kaine, Elaine Luria, Abigail Spanberger and Jennifer Wexton.

Fighting For Our Planet

Through GiveGreen, a partnership between NextGen America, the League of Conservation Voters (LCV) Victory Fund, and NRDC Action Fund PAC, $343,973.63 was raised for progressive climate champions up and down the ballot in Virginia. GiveGreen was crucial in electing Tim Kaine, Elaine Luria, Abigail Spanberger and Jennifer Wexton who will fight for clean air and water, push Virginia to transition to renewable energy, and stand up against Trump's reckless agenda.

"...If we can get [youth turnout rates] up to half, or more than half, we can run elections between now and when we have kids old enough to vote." — *"NextGen VA working to get the youth to the polls",*
LocalDVM, 10.30.2018