

This past weekend the State Democratic Party met in Orlando. Here are some of the highlights along with some future events to mark your calendars.

3/1 - 3/3/19 - Democratic County Chairs Association Meeting - Ft Laud Marriott

3/11-3/13/19 - Caribbean Days - Tallahassee

6/1-6/2/19 (1st weekend in June) - Leadership Blue - Orlando

**Important right now** - Constitution Amendments for the 2020 ballot - MEDICAID EXPANSION - expand Medicaid to cover over 700K Floridians... Have until February 28 to get these in... - Please get everyone we know to sign the form. (attached)

Highlights from the meeting - What went right and wrong in 2018 and how to move forward for 2020

Examination of data

1. Voter Registration - we want to continue the state wide efforts - this was impressive
2. Vote-by--mail - highest VBM turnout ever for Democrats

By the Numbers

- Door Knocked by volunteers; 2014 - 194k verses 2018 1.2 Million
- Doors Knocked once Candidates picked - 2.3 Millions doors knocked for 2018 vs 600K doors in 2014
- Democrats abroad - 2016 10.2K voted , in 2018 - Won the overseas ballot vote, really helped to put Nikki Fried over the top
- 48% more Dems voted in 2018
- African American *54% increase* in voter turnout for a mid-term election, highest numbers, over 111K new vote by mail
- Hispanics *97 % increase* for mid-tern election
- Whites *38% increase* for mid-term elections
- Small counties showed up - even the lowest counties turned out in larger numbers
- **WRONG - Dade, Broward and PB not the percentage increase expected, performed way below the state average, at mid-50% vs 67% for other counties for the state of Florida. WHY?**
- **WRONG - Decrease in the white vote state wide**

Had a higher Democratic turnout in midterm than the primary election for the 1st time but Republicans turned out even more. So close - need to drill down to neighborhoods to see why... did Caribbean Americans show up at the polls? And why did we lose so many white voters?

Lack of voter registration in off year is a problem... 7373 voters registered in 2017. Need to do better... \$\$ coming to small counties & Caucuses to register more

**Caribbean people - every time someone becomes naturalized, they should be registered to vote.**

We all know those family members and friends getting their citizenship... say something...2020 is right around the corner.

**CENSUS** - coming up - very important to stand up and be counted!

Michelle Wilger  
904-386-6636