Exercise: Drawing a Power Map

Total Exercise Time: 25 minutes

Scenario:
You are part of an AAUW state public policy team that is working to pass equal pay legislation in your state legislature. There is an equal pay bill in the labor and employment committee of the state House of Representatives. In order for this bill to pass the committee, you need the support of one more committee member. Your team has determined that your best chance for getting that one more committee member is State Rep. Anne Jones.

Task:
Now that your public policy team has determined the target – State Rep. Anne Jones – the next step is to draw a power map so you know which avenues of influence to pursue.

Below is a series of information that you already know. Using this information, 1) draw out a power map showing all the people and organizations who are connected to State Rep. Anne Jones, keeping in mind that some of these people and organizations may also be connected to each other. Once you’ve plotted all the people and organizations, circle 2) any nodes of power and 3) any people or organizations that may not be nodes of power but are still highly influential. For the last step, 4) note anything you would like to investigate more thoroughly if you had access to research more information.
What You Know:

- State Rep. Anne Jones represents part of New Orleans
- State Rep. Anne Jones used to be New Orleans’s school board president
- Anne grew up in Baton Rouge
- Anne went to nursing school at Loyola University New Orleans
- Anne works part-time as a nurse at Tulane Medical Center
- Anne is a member of the New Orleans Black Nurses Association
- Anne is a member of Equality Louisiana, a local LGBT rights nonprofit
- Anne’s partner, Kim Johnson, is the principal at Benjamin Franklin High School in New Orleans
- Kim is a member of the Louisiana Federation of Teachers
- Kim is a member of the AAUW Greater New Orleans branch

- Kim went to college with the mayor of New Orleans and they go out to lunch once a month
- Anne and Kim’s neighbor and close friend David Smith is a New Orleans city councilman
- David’s sister, Mary Adams, is the mayor of Baton Rouge
- Mary has announced that she plans to run for the state legislature next year
- Mary is a member of the Louisiana Federation of Teachers
- SEIU Local 21 endorsed Anne in her campaigns for school board and the state legislature
- Equality Louisiana endorsed Anne in her campaign for state legislature
- Louisiana Federation of Teachers, a local chapter of AFT, endorsed Anne in her campaign for school board
- SEIU Local 21 was the largest contributor to Anne’s state legislature campaign
- Several members of the New Orleans Black Nurses Association are members of the AAUW Greater New Orleans branch
- Equality Louisiana is part of the same coalition as AAUW Louisiana
- Loyola University New Orleans is an AAUW university partner
Power Map:

*Use this space to draw your power map.*
What Needs More Investigating:

*Use this space to list what you would want to investigate further.*