




**Emma Siggins**  
**WHITE**  
(1857-1936)

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Known primarily as a philanthropist, Emma Siggins White used her societal platform to achieve women's suffrage in Jackson County. The wife of a lumber baron, she led numerous charities and organizations, including the Boys Hotel and the Missouri Valley Historical Society, while also serving as chair of the Jackson County League of Women Voters. Emma oversaw the Suffrage Campaign Committee of Kansas City and, in 1918, distributed unofficial ballots allowing women to voice their demands to the Missouri legislature. In 1920, she organized a nonpartisan citizenship school at the Kansas City Public Library to help women prepare to participate in national elections.



*"The legislators of Missouri have too long put us off with the statement that the women of this state do not want suffrage.*

*We are going to show in actual figures the proof that Missouri's women want the ballot."*

Emma Siggins White, *The Kansas City Star*, July 6, 1918