

Author and Government Watchdog Launches New Citizen Movement

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Mike McCabe, popular author of 'Blue Jeans in High Places' and former director of the nonpartisan watchdog group Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, starts Blue Jean Nation. 'First-party' effort addresses failing political system.

GREEN BAY - With the goal of getting regular people back in the driver's seat of government at a time when democratic institutions are failing the country, a new citizen group called **Blue Jean Nation** announced its formation Tuesday.

"We aim to make a household for the politically homeless and in so doing transform parties that are failing us," Blue Jean Nation founder Mike McCabe said. For 15 years McCabe headed the nonpartisan government watchdog group Wisconsin Democracy Campaign where he was among Wisconsin's leading whistle blowers and the nation's best political money trackers. Last year he authored the book ***Blue Jeans in High Places: The Coming Makeover of American Politics***.

The new group starts with an organizing committee of citizens from all of Wisconsin's eight congressional districts and 19 different counties. The website BlueJeanNation.com is now live, as are social media accounts for the group on Facebook and Twitter.

"We are not starting a third party. We are neither elephant nor ass, but we recognize that America has a two-party system and we plan to work within that system to get the parties truly working for all of us and not just a favored few who are well connected politically," McCabe said, describing Blue Jean Nation as a first-party movement.

"Our end goal is to make concern for the common good far less uncommon," he said. "To reach that goal, we will work every day against political privilege."

To accomplish its aims, Blue Jean Nation will engage in community outreach, civic education and engagement, grassroots organizing, and public policy advocacy and social action.

Read Blue Jean Nation's [creed](#) .

Take a look at the group's [five aims](#) .

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