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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Advocacy Day at the Capitol**

**Tuesday, March 2, 2010**

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**Membership Goal:  
1,000 in 2010**

The Coalition's success will be directly linked to our membership. Imagine the impact we will have when thousands of Oklahoma women learn about the issues, feel empowered, and create positive change in their communities.

Our goal this year is 1,000 individual members and 100 organizational members. Individual membership is only \$25 annually and organizations pay \$100 (\$10 for students and \$15 for student organizations). Please JOIN or RENEW today and forward this newsletter to all

# Newsletter

The Oklahoma Women's Coalition is a non-profit, nonpartisan statewide association of organizations and individuals established in 2008 to advance the potential and equity of Oklahoma women and girls through education and advocacy.

## A Message From The Chair



The Oklahoma Women's Coalition is honored by the support it has received in its inaugural year. More than 200 individuals, 24

organizations, along with corporations and foundations signed on to improve the lives of Oklahoma women and girls. In this first year, members put on a *Day at the Capitol* and an *Annual Meeting* that focused on aging, domestic violence and incarceration of women. They recruited members, raised funds, developed print materials and a website. We now have an office in northwest Oklahoma City and a Coalition Administrator. The foundation is laid; now it is time to start making a difference.

**We need your time and talents!** Our Advocacy Committee is busy researching programs and policies that impact women in Oklahoma in the areas of aging, education, health, incarceration, violence and work-family balance. If you have an interest in these areas, let us know! We are about to launch a wonderful new website that will provide information on issues that impact women and girls. If you are a techie and want to help with the website, contact us!

**Mark your calendars!** Our next *Day at the Capitol* is March 2, 2010. We want every member present to brief legislators on important women's issues and bills. With your support, we can achieve the

of your friends.

## Join or Renew Now!

[Individual Membership](#)  
[Organizational Membership](#)



### Loftis Joins Coalition

Jan Loftis with Gilmore Communications has joined the Oklahoma Women's Coalition as Administrator. Her firm is providing administrative support services to the Coalition.

"I am really excited about the advocacy role of the Coalition. I like the fact that the organization is non-partisan," explains Loftis. "The strong Coalition leadership and volunteers have an opportunity to get the attention of decision makers who impact legislation and regulatory issues related to women and girls."

Loftis spent several years working in a variety of roles at the State Capitol and for various state agencies. She later formed Gilmore Communications, a growing association management and lobbying firm.

Loftis will be instrumental in helping with the DAY AT THE CAPITOL which is set for March 2, 2010. The event will start with a briefing and orientation at the Oklahoma History Center. Participants will then travel to the State Capitol to visit with legislators.

"The Coalition is on the verge of a wonderful explosion - an explosion of growth through membership and an explosion of impact on the lives of women and girls in Oklahoma. Tell your friends and get involved!"



Coalition's mission of advancing the potential of Oklahoma women and girls through networking, coalition building, education and advocacy. Let's change Oklahoma from the third worst state for women and girls to a state with programs and policies that help women and families thrive and succeed.

**We've set a membership goal!** The Coalition hopes to have 100 Organizational Members and 1,000 Individual Members in 2010. Help us recruit new members through email invitations, word of mouth and member meet-ups. Through our new quarterly e-Newsletter and emails, we will update you on projects and suggest additional ways you can get involved.

In just the past few days, women have shared stories with me that include sexual harassment, job layoffs, domestic violence, post partum depression, and cut backs on programs for elderly women. Each story inspires me to further grow and strengthen the Oklahoma Women's Coalition. Together we can improve the lives of Oklahoma's women and girls. Your membership makes a difference. Thanks for your support!

## Bridging the Gap

The Coalition is fortunate to be a grassroots organization that does not require a large funding base to do our advocacy and education work. In fact, when we reach about 3,000 members we will become self-funded through membership fees. In the meantime, WE NEED YOUR HELP to bridge the gap. Ongoing expenses include a new website, a bill-tracking service, member communications, and administrative support.

Will you consider a donation to help defray these costs and assure we can move forward with our advocacy efforts this year? Individuals who donate \$250 or more will receive special recognition as Pioneer donors.

Our growth and impact will be curtailed without the financial support of many who share our passion for making a difference in the lives of Oklahoma women and girls.

[\*\*Donate Now Here!\*\*](#)

**Keep Watching For The Launch Of Our Newly**

*The Oklahoma Women's Coalition officers include (left to right), Dr. Jean Warner, chair; Faye Henson, treasurer; Robyn Elliott, secretary; and Donna Lawrence, co-chair.*

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## Redesigned Website!



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