

Oklahoma Women's Coalition Newsletter

September 2011

OWC Fall Issues Symposium - Nov. 15th

Mark your calendar and plan to attend our **Fall Issues Symposium from 1pm to 5:30pm on Tuesday, November 15th in Oklahoma City**. Get caught up on issues impacting Oklahoma women. Hear from top experts in the state. Check out our website soon for more information.

Advocacy Planning Retreat

Members of our Advocacy Committee plus our seven issue committees will gather October 4th in Oklahoma City for an Advocacy Planning Retreat. They will spend the afternoon discussing current and future projects plus issues and legislation during the 2012 Oklahoma legislative session.

Stay Connected!

The Coalition started posting messages on Twitter August 25. If you'd like short (140 character max) tips and updates on programs and issues impacting Oklahoma women, follow us on Twitter. We are @OKWC and have over 100 followers already. We post something several times a day and work to cover all our issues - aging, education, girls, health, incarceration, violence and work-family balance.

We are also on Facebook now (just search for "Facebook Oklahoma Women's Coalition"). We already have quite a conversation underway but need lots more people engaged and sharing. Hope you'll join the conversation and invite your friends too!

"Askins VS Barnard"

As part of its Versus Series, the Gaylord-Pickens OK Heritage Museum is presenting Jari Askins VS Kate Barnard on Oct. 4th at 6pm.



Chair's Report

I am often asked, "How can I help the Oklahoma Women's Coalition?" Here are a few ideas: Encourage your friends and colleagues to become a Coalition member by visiting our website and making a donation. Attend our November 15th Fall Issues Symposium in Oklahoma City. Follow us on Twitter and retweet our posts. Join us on Facebook, leave comments and share our Facebook page with friends!

If you are an expert in one of our focus areas and would like to apply to serve on a committee, please let us know by emailing us at info@oklahomawomenscoalition.org. If you haven't already, get acquainted with your Oklahoma State Senator and Representative. Look for ways to help women and girls in your community and tell us about successful programs across Oklahoma that serve women and girls. Let us know if you'd like to host a Coalition house party or member meetup in your community.

Thanks so much for supporting the Coalition; we love and appreciate our members!

Jean Warner
Chair, Oklahoma Women's Coalition

Ada Event A Success

Over 75 women attended the Coalition gathering August 23rd at the People's Electrical Cooperative in Ada. Special thanks to hosts Robyn Elliott, Karen Hudson, Monica Neal, Senator Susan Paddack, and Keri Prince. Senator Paddack talked about the need to improve the status of women and girls in Oklahoma while Donna Lawrence gave an overview of how the Coalition is making a difference both with education and advocacy.



OWC is co-hosting a reception following the presentation. For more information, [click here](#).

OWC Calendar

Oct 6 - OWC is a finalist for The Journal Record's "Programs Making a Difference" award

November 3 - OWC Board Meeting, 1pm, Stroud

November 15 - OWC Fall Issues Symposium, 1-5:30pm, Oklahoma City

Thanking Our Partners!

The following Community Partners have made a significant impact on the work of the Oklahoma Women's Coalition through a major donation.

Additional Community Partners are listed on the website.

AT&T of Oklahoma



Crowe & Dunlevy

First State Bank



From left to right: Donna Lawrence, Monica Neal, Senator Susan Paddack, Robyn Elliott, Jean Warner and Karen Hudson (not pictured, Keri Prince)

OWC Community Partners

We so appreciate our corporate supporters. In recent weeks we have received contributions from American Fidelity Foundation, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma, the Walton Family Foundation (through Arvest Bank) and First State Bank. Thank you all!



Left to right: Jane Nelson, Jean Warner, Linda Schulz of Arvest Bank, Bradley Kreiger - Exec. Vice President of Arvest Bank and Donna Lawrence

Project Targets Low-Income Single Moms

For the past year, OWC has been a team member on a one-year planning grant from the Women's Foundation of Oklahoma (WFO). The research team studied programs and best practices designed to help more low-income single mothers attend and graduate from college. The final report went to WFO last month in the form of 7 possible programs WFO might sponsor. Each targets single mothers including a scholarship program, a student mentoring project, encouraging faculty and colleges to adjust policies to better accommodate students who are also parents, expanding childcare options on college campuses and more.

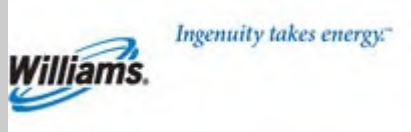
YWCA of Tulsa offers Divorce Toolkit

Know a recent or soon-to-be divorcee? Give her a copy of the YWCA of Tulsa's "On Your Own, Women and Divorce." This new toolkit provides resources and information to women in the process of a divorce. Section topics cover legal concerns, financial considerations, children and divorce, controlling and manipulative behavior, and self care. Request a copy from the Tulsa YWCA (918-587-2100) or download it at: www.ywcatulsa.org/pages/economic_empowerment



The Journal Record

Walton Family Foundation



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OWC Board Member, Pat Potts

Our spot-light this month is on Coalition co-founder and board member Pat Potts who is receiving two well deserved honors this fall. She is one of The Journal Record's "50 Women Making A Difference" which makes her a finalist for Woman of the Year. The keynote speaker for this year's Woman of the Year Gala & Awards Dinner October 6 is entrepreneur and former manager and minority owner of the Philadelphia Eagles Susan Spencer. For a list of all honorees, see <http://journalrecord.com/woman-of-the-year/about/>

On November 29th, the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits will celebrate 30 years of service by honoring their founders -- Pat and Ray Potts. The Coalition certainly benefits from Pat's experience and wisdom.

Please visit our website at www.OklahomaWomensCoalition.org