



OREGON

COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

SEPTEMBER 2010

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS BRUNCH

26th Annual Awards Celebration – Better Than Ever!

Over 230 people gathered on September 12th for a wonderful celebration at the Crowne Plaza Downtown Convention Center. Our 2010 Women of Achievement Awards honorees, Hon. Gretchen Kafoury, Dr. Melody Rose, and Tricia Tillman, were joined by family and friends for a memorable feast that has turned into the “must-attend” event of the year.

Guests bid on their favorite Silent Auction goodies thanks to Commissioner Karen Shimada as champagne, mimosas, and Bloody Marys flowed. Emcee Renee Mitchell presided over the festivities and Secretary of State Kate Brown presented the awards. The proverbial good time was had by all.

While our honorees inspired the crowd to keep fighting the good fight, the Oregon Commission for Women geared up for a tough legislative session rife with deep budget adjustments that may cut to the bone. With such an amazing gathering of women leaders, the brunch was a great way to help us keep our eyes on the prize for ALL women in Oregon. To view a photo slideshow of the brunch, use this link: <http://tinyurl.com/OCFW-2010-Achievement-Awards>

We'd like to thank our very generous sponsors and table hosts who made the 2010 brunch possible!

KINK-FM

Argyle Winery
Joelle Davis & Sandy Webb
Portland State University
Sen. Martha Schrader

Willamette Valley Vineyards

Commissioner Megan Jacquot
Michelle Gallagher
Rep. Val Hoyle & Susan Cox
Solar World

Witham & Dickey

Dr. Melody Rose
Oregon Center for Politics & Policy
Sen. Chip Shields
University of Phoenix

TO FUND OR NOT TO FUND?

THAT IS THE QUESTION!

As you read this newsletter, the Oregon Commission for Women is preparing an aggressive campaign to retain our state funding. We ALL know that money is tight and that delivering critically needed services and programs to women in Oregon is our primary concern. But current suggestions don't merely cut our budget - they eliminate it completely. This would mean administrative support from the Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office would cease to exist. The citizen members of the OFCW are volunteers. The ONLY state funding we receive keeps our office open and enables staff to answer the phone when women call needing help. ALL other funding for ANYTHING else we do is raised by events like the brunch held earlier this month.

You CAN help. If you don't know your state legislators, go here and find out: <http://www.leg.state.or.us/findlegsltr/> Call your legislators and let them know you want them to keep the Commission's doors open to serve the women of Oregon !



Some of the amazing women who joined us for the 2010 brunch: Secretary of State Kate Brown, OCFW Chair Sue Castner, Hon. Gretchen Kafoury, S. Renee Mitchell, Karol Collymore, Senator Martha Schrader, Tricia Tillman, Commissioner Deborah Kafoury.

Photo by Andie Petkus

SHE FLIES
WITH HER
OWN
WINGS

OREGON HEALTH & SCIENCE UNIVERSITY RECRUITS NATIONAL LEADER IN WOMEN'S HEALTH, MATERNAL-FETAL MEDICINE

OHSU has recruited one of the nation's foremost experts in maternal-fetal medicine and women's health to chair its Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and direct its Center for Women's Health, a National Center of Excellence. Aaron B. Caughey, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.P., M.P.H., replaces Kenneth Burry, M.D., who has served as interim chairman since September 2008.

Initial priorities for Caughey include expanding OHSU's role as a national leader in women's health by fostering increased collaboration among basic scientists, clinicians, policy-makers and translational researchers, within OHSU and at universities and health care organizations nationwide; and developing new mentorship programs and partnership opportunities that will inform and guide the next generation of women's health care leaders at OHSU and beyond.

Caughey brings a wealth of expertise in clinical, translational and policy research across the spectrum of women's health, focusing on outcomes research, decision and cost-effectiveness analyses, quality of care and patient preferences. Specific areas of interest include obesity and weight gain during pregnancy, prenatal screening and diagnosis of genetic disorders, vaginal birth after cesarean section, diabetes in pregnancy, and complications of term and post-term pregnancies.

Oregon Health & Science University is the state's only health and research university and Oregon's only academic health center. OHSU provides many services and community support activities not found anywhere else in the state. It serves patients from every corner of the state, and is a conduit for learning for more than 3,400 students and trainees. OHSU is the source of more than 200 community outreach programs that bring health and education services to every county in the state.

PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY'S CENTER FOR WOMEN, POLITICS & POLICY

The Center for Women, Politics & Policy at Portland State University is the only Center of its kind in the Northwest. Housed at the College of Urban & Public Affairs, the main objective of the Center is to shine a bright light on women's involvement in politics and policy through research, teaching and service.

Though women now hold half of all jobs in the U.S., only a handful of women have served on the Supreme Court. Women hold less than one-fifth of the seats in Congress and less than one-third of the seats in the Oregon legislature. In Oregon, only one Governor and one US Senator were women. Parity for women in positions of leadership remains elusive.

At the Center, we believe what gets measured gets improved. By advancing research that illuminates women's roles in politics and public policy past and future, we provide a societal imperative for increasing women's representation.

Our focus on teaching encourages students to study women, politics and policy and creates abundant resources allowing students to specialize in this area.

Dedicated to creating a leadership pipeline for women in Oregon, the Center has trained over 200 women and teens since our founding through our diverse and inclusive service programs: NEW Leadership™ Oregon (NLO) and Teens Lead.

Many alumnae of our programs have earned coveted congressional internships and fellowships, hold staff positions in the state legislature, work at non-profits serving those in need and run civically-minded businesses.

You can hear about their experience directly from the alumnae themselves at our luncheon on October 7, 2010. We not only train women to lead, we give them opportunities to apply the skills they learn. At our luncheon, our alumnae will take center stage to honor the four amazing women we will honor: Joan Austin, Vicki Nakashima, Justice Virginia Linder and Hon. Norma Paulus.

Through the multi-dimensional, non-partisan work of the Center, we are illuminating the past, inspiring the present and investing in the future.

Buy your ticket to the CWPP Women's Leadership Luncheon today at: <http://cwpp.pdx.edu>

INTRODUCING THE OREGON COMMISSION FOR WOMEN ~ 2010

The Oregon Commission for Women has served the women of Oregon since 1964. The Commission advocates for women in your community by providing information on women to the governor and state legislature, serving as a link for women to state agencies, keeping an eye on pending legislation, and providing services to women in Oregon.

Susan B. Castner ~ Chair

Sunny Petit ~ Vice-Chair

Jenny Greenleaf

Cynthia Homan
Karen Shimada

Megan Jacquot

Mee Seon Kwon
Darlene Taylor

Erika Nebel

Senator Martha Schrader

Representative Betty Komp

LUPUS ~ A DISEASE TARGETING WOMEN

Over 19,000 Oregonians suffer every day. What you need to know!

Lupus is an urgent health issue for Oregon and the nation. Lupus results from an overactive immune system that can attack any organ or tissue in the body. Lupus can cause heart attacks, strokes, seizures, and organ failure. More than 1.5 million Americans live with some form of lupus, including an estimated 19,000 Oregonians. Lupus affects women nine times more often than men, and disproportionately affects women of color—lupus is 2 to 3 times more common among African Americans, Hispanics and Latinos, Asians, and Native Americans.

The pain and fatigue associated with lupus can make it challenging to maintain employment and lead an independent life. One in 5 people with lupus is disabled by the disease and consequently receives government support. The estimated average annual cost for an individual with lupus is \$21,000, and in severe cases, medical costs can greatly exceed this amount—a significant burden to both families and society.

There have been no new lupus-specific treatments for fifty years, and getting a diagnosis remains a long and difficult process for many people with lupus. Molly's Fund Fighting Lupus, a Portland-based nonprofit, is working to change that. Molly McCabe was diagnosed with lupus in

2007, and co-founded Molly's Fund with her mother Debbie to educate the public and the medical community about lupus, to push for earlier, life-saving diagnoses for those afflicted, and to spur governments and foundations to fund research toward a cure.

Molly's Fund Fighting Lupus wants to work with the Oregon State government as well as health care providers and institutions to conduct statewide educational and training programs for service providers to share the most up-to-date scientific and medical information regarding lupus, including medical best practices for detecting and treating the disease in special populations. Molly's Fund already works to raise public awareness about the symptoms and nature of lupus, personal risk factors, and options for diagnosing and treating the disease, with a particular focus on populations at elevated risk for lupus, including women and communities of color.

Through collaboration with public and private partners, Molly's Fund Fighting Lupus hopes to improve health outcomes for people with lupus, and help spur the research that will one day lead to a cure.

To find out more about Molly's Fund Fighting Lupus and lupus, visit www.mollysfund.org

NEWLY EXPANDED – HEALTHY KIDS FOR A HEALTHIER OREGON!

As advocates for women in our communities, we know that when our children are healthy, their chances for success are greater and their opportunities open up. That's why Oregon Healthy Kids, a newly expanded health coverage program for uninsured Oregon children and teens, is partnering with schools, businesses and other community organizations to help make sure every mom knows her child can have health insurance her family can afford.

Healthy Kids provides no-cost and low-cost health coverage for Oregon children and teens up to 19 years of age. Coverage lasts for one full year and covers all health needs, including regular check-ups, dental care, vision, mental or behavioral health services, and prescriptions. Children will not be turned away due to preexisting conditions or be put on a waiting list.

No family makes too much money for Healthy Kids. Family

income will determine whether a child is eligible for the free or low-cost coverage option. For example, a family of four earning as much as \$66,000 a year may qualify for low-cost coverage.

The Office of Healthy Kids is working to make sure advocates like you, local community organizations and businesses, know how to help spread the word that all Oregon children now have access to great health coverage their families can afford. Please talk to the families you know about Healthy Kids. Families can apply for the program online or find local community partners to assist in the application process on the Healthy Kids website at www.oregonhealthykids.gov

Families can also get more information by calling: 1-877-314-5678. To partner with the Office of Healthy Kids please visit our website to learn more! You can find us on Facebook and Twitter too!

THE FRIENDS OF THE OREGON COMMISSION FOR WOMEN ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

The Friends of the Oregon Commission for Women elected new officers at its September meeting. The Friends, the non-profit organization established to assist the OCFW in its mission, welcomed Chair Kimberly Goddard, and Treasurer Joelle Davis. Sue Castner will continue to serve as Secretary (ex-officio). To join The Friends call 503-203-1027.

Every successful event takes an incredible team working together and the brunch was no exception.

~ **SPECIAL SUPPORTERS** ~

Andie Petkus Photography	Michelle Gallagher, Awards Artist		
Columbia Sportswear	Dagoba Organic Chocolates	Macy's	Tazo Tea

~ **SILENT AUCTION & WALL OF WINE DONORS** ~

Ashland Independent Film Festival	Kinu-Mono Japanese Textiles	Oxford Hotel
Basic Rights Oregon	KOBI – Channel 5, Medford	Pastini Pastaria
Camille's Ribbon Flowers	Kristi Bigio	Peace and Power Yoga
Century of Action, Oregon Women Vote	Lee Larson	Penner-Ash Wine Cellars
Chris Dudley	Life by Design NW	Play Outdoors
Cookies by Design	Rebecca Bridge	Ponzi Vineyards
Elk Cove Vineyards	Magnolia Inn	Portland Opera
Emerge Oregon	Mary Jaeger	PSU'S Women's Center for
Carol Cotton-Figueiredo	Mama Mia Trattoria	Politics & Policy
Robert Falconer	Melanie Peter	Raptor Ridge Winery
Father & Son Jewelry	Midori Lashes & Skin Care	Real Deals
Gary's Wine Tours	Mother's Bistro	Springboard Innovation
Grgich Hills Winery	NARAL Pro-Choice Oregon	TAZO Tea
Jacksonville Inn	Nena Cook	Global Kitchen
JEGA Gallery	Oregon Shakespeare Festival	University of Oregon
Jerry's Rogue River Jet Boats	Oregon State University	Wanderlust Tours
Karen Shimada	Bill Stoller	Cynthia Homan
Rogue Creamery	Darlene Taylor	Mee Seon Kwon

Along with fellow Commissioners, we had a stalwart crew of dedicated volunteers to help set up, check in, run the Silent Auction, and manage traffic.

Kimberly Goddard	Helen Hoang	Stevie Saleem
Ellie Bullin		Heidi Woods
Marina Shimada		Alexandria Saleem

And we need to extend a huge thanks to Joy Howard, OACO's Executive Assistant Extraordinaire, and Lucy Baker, our OACO Administrator who kept us all in line.

FREE DENTAL CARE THROUGH A MISSION OF MERCY (MOM) PROGRAM

The Oregon Dental Association and Dental Foundation of Oregon will provide FREE dental care to the uninsured or underinsured on November 22 and 23. Please spread the word and let those in need know.

- DATE:** Monday, November 22 and Tuesday, November 23, 2010
WHERE: Oregon Convention Center, 777 NE MLK Jr. Blvd., Portland, OR.
TIME: Doors open 6 a.m. Patients seen on **first-come, first-served basis** with a maximum 1,000 patients seen each day. The day's patient quota is typically reached by 10:00 am, so come early!
WHO: **Adults and children** of all ages who are uninsured, underinsured or otherwise unable to visit a dental office and do not have a medically-compromising condition that prohibits receiving care are welcome. Children under age 18 must be accompanied by parent or guardian.
CARE: Cleanings, fillings, extractions and limited treatment partials offered. **All work is provided for FREE** by 1,000 dental professionals and community volunteers donating their time and skills.
NOTE: Photo identification, social security number or other personal identification/documentation is **NOT** required. Interpreters will be available to assist Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese speaking patients.

For more information, go here - <http://tinyurl.com/FREE-dental-Oregon>

NEXT UP...Join us for the next Public Meeting of the Oregon Commission for Women, November 19, 2010, in Portland. Time and place are posted on our website: <http://www.oregon.gov/Women/calendar.shtml>

Hope to see you there!