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**INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:**

Cut It Out 2
Campaign

Roundtable 2
Breakfast

Did You 2
Know...

YWAR 3
Campaign

Just The 4
Facts

New Health 5
Report

Rose Garden 6
Ceremony

LA Woman

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Commission on the Status of Women Welcomes New Interim Executive Director

Kellie Hawkins has been appointed Interim Executive Director of the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women. Ms. Hawkins comes to LACCSW from the Mayor's Office where she served as a Legislative Associate for the Mayor's Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

As Legislative Associate, Ms. Hawkins facilitated communication and cooperative projects between and among the Mayor's Office and Council Members; monitored the status of health care legislation at the local, State and Federal levels; facilitated policy recommendations to the U.S. Conference of Mayors and prepared Federal testimony on behalf of the City of Los Angeles.

Ms. Hawkins joined the Mayor's Office in 2005 as Policy Analyst in the Mayor's Education, Youth and Families Office. Prior to joining



Kellie Hawkins

the City, Ms. Hawkins served as an Epidemiologist for the County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services, Sexually Transmitted Diseases Program. In 2003

she also served as Health Educator of HIV/AIDS prevention for the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science in Lynwood, California, and as Program Coordinator for health education training for youth with the John Wesley County Hospital (JWCH) Institute.

Ms. Hawkins holds a Masters Degree in Public Health from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, and a Bachelors Degree in Allied Health/Biology from Howard University in Washington, D.C. Please welcome Ms. Hawkins on her new assignment as Interim Executive Director of the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women.

New Partnership Collects Used Cell Phones to Help Victims of Domestic Violence

Ever wondered what to do with your old cell phone after you upgrade to the latest and swankiest new gadget-filled model? Well, wonder no more. The Commission has partnered with Verizon Wireless. Now you can donate your used phones, batteries and accessories to the Verizon Wireless HopeLine program which helps victims of domes-

tic violence.

Simply deposit all unused phones and accessories in the various white Verizon Wireless receptacle boxes located throughout City Hall. Phones that can be refurbished will be sold for reuse and those without value will be disposed of in an environmentally friendly way. Proceeds from the HopeLine

program will provide wireless phones and cash grants to local shelters and non-profit organizations that focus on domestic violence prevention and awareness.

Call the Commission on the Status of Women office at (213) 978-0300 if you have questions or difficulty locating a receptacle box near you.

Cut It Out LA Campaign



Left to right: City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo, Council President Eric Garcetti, Former LACCSW Executive Director Paula Petrotta, County Supervisor Gloria Molina

The Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women, Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council and County Commission for Women launched the **Cut it Out** LA campaign during a recent press conference at the Modern Hair Salon in Silver Lake. LA County Supervisor Gloria Molina, LA City Council President Eric Garcetti and City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo spoke and pledged their support to this innovative campaign that takes a unique approach in increasing public

awareness about domestic violence.

Cut it Out is a nationwide effort that mobilizes hair professionals to stand against domestic abuse. Since hair stylists are often a sounding board for their patrons, this campaign leverages that relationship to raise awareness among those who often suffer in silence. The new campaign provides salon owners with information they can give to their clients about preventing domestic violence and provides resources where clients can get

help if they have experienced violence in their homes.

Salons throughout Los Angeles are encouraged to sign up to receive the **Cut it Out** materials and brief training. Orientation and a one-time training will be conducted by the County Domestic Violence Council beginning early 2008. So far eighty-five hair salons have joined the campaign. For more information on the **Cut It Out LA** campaign, contact the LACCSW office and ask for Julie Heifetz.

Special thanks to Marilyn Solomon, Board of Governors of the City Club and the Friends of the LACCSW for hosting the Round Table Breakfast

Women's Roundtable Breakfast

The board and staff members of the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women (LACCSW) recently met with the women of City Council at a roundtable breakfast meeting at the City Club, to talk candidly about the policy issues they believe are paramount to women and girls in their districts.

In attendance were Councilmembers Wendy Greuel and

Jan Perry. Representing Councilmember Janice Hahn were Courtney Chelsa-Torres and Terri McKinnon.

More outreach to mothers affected by gang related violence; advocacy and support for women owned businesses; mobilizing women around issues of health, obesity, domestic violence and sexual assault; more collaboration with other City Departments,

and prevention of gang affiliation among girls were just a few of the recommendations that came out of this meeting.

LACCSW board members will discuss these recommendations in more depth at an upcoming retreat. This promises to be the first of several dialogues with the women of City Council.



Commissioner Helen Han

Commissioner Profile

Helen Han is the Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Women Business Owners, Los Angeles Chapter. NAWBO-LA is a leading women's business organization that inspires and empowers women entrepreneurs into economic, social and political spheres of leadership.

The Los Angeles Chapter of NAWBO is one of the largest

and the most dynamic chapters in the country. Representing over 335,000 women-owned businesses in Los Angeles and Long Beach that employ over 700,000 people and generate more than \$113 billion in annual revenues, NAWBO-LA has become an increasingly active participant in the economic and political landscape of Southern California. Han leads the organization in its effort to strengthen the

wealth creating capacity of women business owners; create innovative and effective changes in the business culture; build strategic alliances, coalitions and affiliations; and transform public policy and influence opinion makers. Under Han's leadership, NAWBO-LA has markedly strengthened its organizational mission and established strategic partnerships with key corporations and community based organizations within the Los Angeles business community.

Youth Advisory Boards Launch Awareness Campaigns



Student members of Wooden and Independence High School Youth Advisory Boards (YAB) launched public awareness campaigns on their campuses to educate their peers about domestic

Independence High School students working on posters and setting up awareness display

violence and breast cancer prevention. Each school is part of the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women's Young Women From Adversity to Resiliency Program (YWAR), a

Commission run school-based preventive intervention program for teenage girls currently implemented at 12 schools throughout the Los Angeles Unified School District. Independence High School students developed fact sheets and posters about domestic violence and breast cancer prevention. Stu-

dents also made pink ribbons to promote breast cancer prevention and awareness, and purple ribbons to promote domestic violence awareness. Student body and faculty members supported the YAB's awareness campaigns by wearing the ribbons on two specially designed days at each school.

Wooden High School students launched a campaign to educate their peers about domestic violence and teen dating violence which included fact sheets and posters. They also created a teen video highlighting different types of abusive relationships including gay and lesbian relationships.

Human Trafficking is a \$9 billion global industry. After drug dealing, it is the second largest criminal industry in the world.

Just The Facts - Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery. Approximately 600,000 to 800,000 young children, teenagers, men and women annually are trafficked across international borders world wide, and between 14,500 and 17,500 of those victims are trafficked into the U.S., according to the U.S. Department of State. Approximately 80% of trafficking victims are sold into sexual slavery and are known to be trafficked through airports, harbors

and border crossings every year.

Many victims are forced to work in prostitution or the sex entertainment industry, labor camps, domestic servitude, restaurant work, janitorial work, sweatshop factory work and migrant agricultural work.

The Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women has implemented an awareness campaign to educate and train the public and

City employees about how to recognize a victim and what to do if you think you've encountered a trafficking victim. Many City departments such as Building and Safety, General Services, Police, Public Works and community organizations have already had awareness training. If you'd like to get more information or to schedule a training, contact Anne Dunn, Sr. Project Coordinator, at the Commission office.

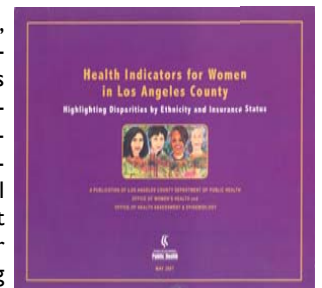
New Report on Women's Health Available

A new report on women's health in Los Angeles County has just been released by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Office of Women's Health. The report is entitled **Health Indicators for Women in Los Angeles County**.

Since women are often the primary caretakers and health care decision makers in their families, their health and well-being is para-

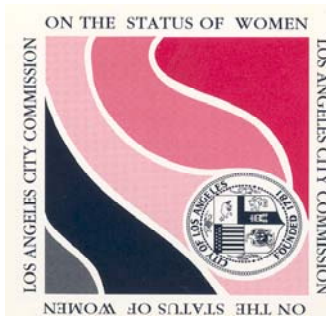
mount to the health of the entire family. This report focuses on health issues for women and highlights the health disparities apparent among the diverse communities living in Los Angeles County. According to Doctor Jonathan Fielding, Director of Public Health and Health Officer, there are numerous factors which contribute to the health disparities among women such as poverty, gender, race/

ethnicity, lack of health insurance, access to health care, environmental and lifestyle factors. This comprehensive 20-page guide dramatically illustrates the health disparities with easy to read and understand graphs and charts. Call the Office of Women's Health at (626) 596-3850 for copies or download the report by visiting <http://www.lapublichealth.org/owh>.



Health Indicators for Women in Los Angeles County Report

LA Woman



**Los Angeles City
Commission on the Status of Women**

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**Next Board Meeting November 9, 2007
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

Location: District office of Councilmember Herb
Wesson, 1819 S. Western Ave., Los Angeles, CA
90006

The Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women was established by ordinance by the City Council and Mayor in 1975. In 1980, the Commission was made a permanent department of City government.

The Commission assists in assuring to all women the opportunity for full and equal participation in the affairs of City government and promotes the general welfare of women in the Los Angeles community. The Commission is authorized to:

INFORM AND ADVISE the Mayor and City Council of the needs and problems of women in the City of Los Angeles, with special emphasis given to women in City government

INVESTIGATE problems and conditions affecting women adversely, and

RECOMMEND programs which offer to women in the City of Los Angeles, a greater opportunity and ability to pursue life choices without discrimination

PROPOSE methods of alleviating inequities in pay and job opportunities between men and women

PROMOTE awareness of changing life patterns, opportunities and responsibilities of women

MAINTAIN an active liaison with citizen groups concerned about identifying and removing obstacles to the development of a woman's full potential.

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL WOMEN HONOR

GERALDINE A. FERRARO AT ROSE GARDEN CEREMONY

Councilmembers Wendy Greuel (CD2), Janice Hahn (CD15) and Jan Perry (CD9) honored Geraldine Ferraro at a rose planting ceremony on the grounds of the Exposition Park Rose Garden, in Exposition Park. Ferraro made history when she became the first woman nominated for the vice-presidency by a major party in 1984. She also served three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1979–1985.

The Jackson & Perkins Company, a nationally renowned rose hybridizer, developed a commemorative hybrid tea rose in honor of Geraldine Ferraro as a tribute to her inspirational courage and grace, both as a public figure and as a survivor of

multiple myeloma.

Councilmembers Greuel, Hahn and Perry not only applauded Ferraro for being a role model for women, but also for her efforts in increasing the awareness of this form of cancer.

Multiple myeloma is a type of cancer formed by malignant plasma cells. Ferraro was diagnosed with the disease in 1998. Each year, about 15,000 Americans learn they have multiple myeloma. African Americans and Native Pacific Islanders have the highest reported incidence of this disease, and it is one of the leading causes of cancer deaths among African Americans.

“On behalf of the millions of victims, survivors, and families affected by multiple myeloma, I am honored and humbled to have this beautiful Jack-

son & Perkins rose named after me,” Ferraro said, adding that there are now several promising new therapies that are helping multiple myeloma patients live longer and healthier lives. A portion of the sales of the rose will be donated to the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation (MMRF).



**Left to right: Hahn, Greuel,
Ferraro and Perry**