

December 22, 2005

Diana H. Goodrow  
Ventura Co. Commission on the Status of Women  
[REDACTED]

**RE: WIN: Moving the Women's Agenda Forward for Ten Years**

Dear Diana H.:

**Yes, we are moving forward!** In spite of wars – both domestic and international, a failing economy, natural disasters, and daily challenges to our civil liberties, WIN continues building our capacity to make a difference. We are giving women and girls a better informed, louder and more connected voice in public policy. **And we couldn't have done it without you!**

Your partnership and investment in giving women a collective voice for change, locally and globally, and amplifying our voices across the cyber waves in support of each other's agendas are more **critical** now than ever. **But we were made for these times.**

WIN has been connecting women and girls across cultures for collective action for ten years. We came home from the 4th UN World Conference on Women, Beijing, in 1995 and formed the California Women's Agenda – CAWA, and the rest is history. A summary of our work is at: <http://www.win-cawa.org>.

This past decade we traveled 150,000 miles connecting with *circles* of women in Uganda, Afghanistan, Japan and China – building strategic partnerships and fine-tuning our organizing model here in the US. We came full *circle* this summer when Lydia Bakaki and Annette Mukabera came from Uganda and met with California women in eight counties.

Thanks to Lydia and Annette, a WIN-Uganda project granted acres of land to 100 homeless Uganda women this year who have suffered from domestic abuse and HIV/AIDS. This is just one of our dynamic accomplishments that has made a difference in the lives of women.

Now we must focus on challenges in the US women's movement. We have co-created a national women's action network with seven other states and in 2006 US Women Connect (USWC) can do for the US what CAWA has been doing for California:

- Electing more women to serve in congress, state, and local offices.
- Keeping teens safe from fundamentalist attacks on their health and well being.
- Protecting both our democracy and civil liberties.

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Because CAWA has been organizing action networks for the past ten years with many committed volunteers such as yourself, sending thirty (30) action and information alerts per month, eighteen (18) harmful Ballot measures were recently defeated in California.

WIN is about building sustainable alliances that can overcome the deep political and religious divisions facing our country and our world.

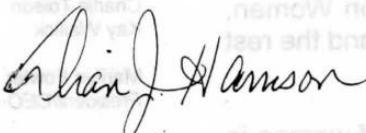
What makes us unique is that we are a **“network that organizes, not an organization that networks.”**

WIN is ready to take on the challenges that we face in 2006 by continuing to engage our grassroots advocates in anticipation of another critical US election in November 2006. **But we will need your help to do this.**

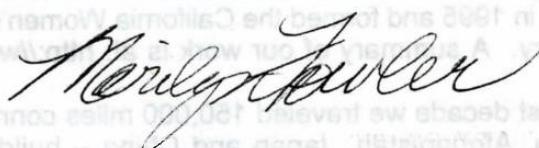
Because of your significant support, you have helped us build the capacity of action networks in California, other parts of the US, Africa and Asia - all intersecting the UN global women's agenda.

WIN has the know-how, field-tested model, track record, people power and the vision. You can depend on WIN to stand strong for another 10 years, but we need you to stand with us. Please send the largest annual membership gift that you can without delay. **We can only do this important work with you as our partner.**

With sincere thanks and best wishes for joy and peace throughout the year!



Dian J. Harrison  
Chair, WIN Board of Directors



Marilyn Fowler  
President/CEO, WIN

P.S. Remember you can help us take WIN to the next level by increasing your membership donation to WIN. Your donation will be 100% deductible if donated before January 1, 2006 (Katrina Emergency Tax Relief Act).  
Our Fed ID#: 94-3204314.

*“Ten years after the most recent UN conferences on women’s rights, girls around the world still face challenges of violence, getting into and staying in school and suffering a disproportionate impact from the HIV/AIDS pandemic.”*

UNICEF, NY, Aug 24, 2005