

2010-2011 Annual Report

LINCOLN MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON WOMEN



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SURVEY PROJECT

Women's Voices

Ten years ago, the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission designed a survey to find out what issues were important to women in our community. This year, the Mayor's Commission on Women decided to launch a similar project to discern where women in our community stand now.

Members of the Commission are contacting organizations to disseminate the surveys and will continue gathering results until April 2012. The survey, which will be translated into Spanish, Arabic and Vietnamese, will go to the cultural centers, women's groups, and any other organizations serving or involving women. The goal is to



have 1000 surveys completed and a report compiled by May. At that time, the data will be analyzed and communicated to the Mayor's office and the community.

This valuable project will enable the Commission to design future programming and inform local agencies, both governmental and private, what challenges local women face.

The Commission hopes to complete the survey project by May 2012. All women are encouraged to take the survey located on lincolnwomen.org or friendsofmcw.org. Paper copies are also available.

For more information, or to obtain a survey, call Kathie Uhrmacher at (402) 488-8859. ■

Welcome

This fall, we were fortunate to have Lyndie Christensen (pictured below) join us as an intern. She is getting a doctorate from the Sociology Department at UNL. Lyndie has been invaluable in helping us write the Women's Voices survey and has put the survey online. She will be responsible for contacting groups, distributing surveys and evaluating the data. Welcome, Lyndie! ■



Lyndie Christensen
Women's Voices Intern

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"This valuable project will enable the Commission to design future programming and inform local agencies, both governmental and private, what challenges local women face."

Ready to Run

Ready to Run is a non-partisan initiative to provide programming to encourage women to run for and/or become involved in the political process

Although the Commission does not have a direct connection to this program, the Friends of the MCW organization supports it financially and encourages women to participate.

Held on April 9th at Anthony's Restaurant in Omaha, the 2011 Ready to Run event focused on Nebraska speakers, including Senator Kathy Campbell. Workshops and lunch sessions offered information on the "how-to" of running for office as well as provided access to current and former female elected officials. ■



Women & Money Conference and Flicks & Finance provide financial education to women of all ages

In 2010-2011, the Commission sponsored financial literacy events that were targeted to specific groups of women in Lincoln. For both events, Lincoln Benefit Life provided financial support in keeping with their goal of promoting women's financial literacy.

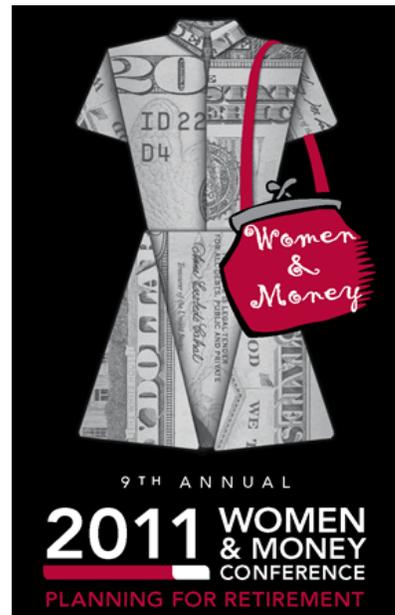
Women & Money Conference

The 9th Annual Women and Money Conference, co-sponsored by AARP-Nebraska, was held at the Center for People in Need on October 22, 2011 with the theme of "Planning for Retirement."

Participants chose between five breakout sessions concerning savings, investment, calculating Social Security benefits, long-term care and pre-retirement plans. Certified financial planners assisted participants with pre-retirement and retirement questions. The keynote speaker, Cathy Wyatt, CSA from Financial Visions in Omaha, added her special wit to the valuable information she shared on aging and heading into retirement years.

Flicks and Finances

The Commission partnered with UNL Student Money Management Center for "Flicks and Finances" on April 18.



Students at the University were invited to the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater to see the film "Maxed Out," a documentary on the credit/debt crisis in the United States.

The objective of the event was to provide young people with the education they need to make good financial decisions. Erin Wirth, the Director of the Money Management Center at UNL, encouraged them to avoid debt, particularly credit card debt, and the pitfalls of bad credit. Stacy Brass, the Chair of the Young Professionals group of the Chamber of Commerce was on hand to talk about the economic situation in Lincoln, new business opportunities and what the future of the job market is for young people.

The event was planned as a result of the information the Commission received at last year's Women and Money Conference. An estimated 285 people attended the event. 85% of participants who completed the post-event survey indicated they gained beneficial financial knowledge and were motivated to change financial behaviors. ■

Flicks & Finance: "Maxed Out"



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Mayor's Commission
on Women

Commission grows media presence

The Lincoln Mayor's Commission on Women is committed to staying connected to our community. Here are four ways you can find us in the community!

1 Watch us on the new Channel 10 Health and Fitness Channel! The Community Health Endowment has been funded to make Channel 10 a 24-hour Health and Fitness Channel. They have asked the Mayor's Commission on Women to do a Women's Health series which will run at different times during the day and on a continuous basis. In addition to showing some of the past Women Talk shows that were centered on women's health, we are pleased to have the opportunity to bring important issues to the attention of the public. Any ideas for future programs? Please contact us at (402) 488-8859 or kuhrmac@inebraska.com.



2 Women Talk. One of the most important ways that we serve the community of Lincoln is through our Women Talk programs. These half-hour educational programs are shown on City TV and cover a wide variety of informative topics of interest to women. This year we produced shows on Aging and Pre-Retirement, Breastfeeding, Immigrant Women in Lincoln, Cervical Cancer, and Fostering and Adopting Children. They can be seen on Channel 5 (City TV) several times during the week and each runs for two months. It is also possible to see past programs on lincolnwomen.org or friendsofmcw.org. Funding was provided in part by the Community Health Endowment and the Friends of the Mayor's Commission on Women.

3 Lincolnwomen.org Visit our website at lincolnwomen.org or friendsofmcw.org to read our latest news and reports, view upcoming events, or watch past episodes of Women Talk.

4 Facebook. Why, yes we do have a Facebook Fan page where you show your support for Lincoln Women and help



spread the word about Commission activities and events. Head over to Facebook and search for "Lincoln Mayor's Commission on Women." Click on the Like button on the top of the page. You will then see updates from the Mayor's Commission on Women in your Facebook feed and get any news that we share with our friends. If you have any questions for us you can ask them on our wall and we will get them answered honestly and quickly. ■



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Friends of MCW is a 501(c)3 that supports the work of the Lincoln Mayor's Commission on Women.

2010 - 2011

Commissioners

The Lincoln Mayor's Commission on Women consists of 15 women and men who advise the Mayor and his office on the issues that pertain to women and families in Lincoln.

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