

Action Alert on Global Climate Change from LWVMI President

The League of Women Voters of Michigan is working in partnership with the international humanitarian group Oxfam America, to get the message out that now is the time to act on global climate change. We have been working on a variety of fronts to advance policies that will reduce global warming. An event, featuring a screening of the videos *Sisters on the Planet*, was held in September. You can view these videos at <http://www.oxfamamerica.org/campaigns/climate-change/sisters-on-the-planet>. Attendees included key environmental leaders across the State and LWVUS President Mary Wilson. While in Michigan, President Wilson and I met with a representative from Senator Levin's office. Following up, in October I travelled to Washington DC and, along with an Oxfam representative, held meetings with staff members from both Senator Levin's and Senator Stabenow's staffs.

Oxfam America's *Sisters on the Planet* initiative brings together prominent women in the US, including Members of Congress and leaders in civic, business, faith-based and philanthropic communities who recognize the disproportionate impact of climate change on poor people, especially women and children. These ambassadors are willing to use their strong voices on behalf of voiceless and vulnerable women around the world.

Michigan, Indiana, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, are considered swing states. Our Senators are considered crucial in getting the Climate Change legislation through Congress. LWVMI is getting the *Sisters* message out and recruiting influential women across the state who can help carry the message to Senator Stabenow. We want to increase the number of Sisters ambassadors by asking presidents of statewide organizations and other prominent Michigan women to join in this effort.

Our current Michigan *Sisters* Ambassadors list includes:

Honorable Jennifer Granholm	Governor
Honorable Liz Brater	Michigan State Senator
Honorable Sheila Cockrel	Detroit City Commissioner
Honorable Shelby Bupp	Ingham County Commissioner
Jocelyn Benson	Law Professor, Wayne State University
Debbie Dingell	Member Democratic National Committee
Patricia Gillis	Executive Director, Voices for Earth Justice
Amanda Stitt	Director, Michigan Voices
Raj Weiner	Former Director, Michigan Department of Public Health
Marianne Williamson	Author
Jessica Reiser	President, League of Women Voters of Michigan

If you have personal contact with someone who you believe would consider becoming a sister and you are willing to ask them to do so, please let me know. Contact me at president@lwvmi.org. Thank you for your help,

Jessica Reiser