



For Immediate Release

September 21, 2011

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YWCA USA PARTNERS WITH HERvotes TO MOBILIZE WOMEN VOTERS

Washington, DC – September 21, 2011 - YWCA USA has joined forces with HERvotes, a coalition of leading women's organizations, focused on mobilizing women voters in 2012 around preserving women's Health and Economic rights (HERrights.)

Paramount to the YWCA's role in this partnership is the YWCA's commitment to provide access throughout the nation for voter education. "With our presence in communities all around the country, the YWCA will be 'action central' for educating and mobilizing voters around issues that matter to women and families," says Gloria Lau, CEO of the YWCA USA.

HERvotes launched last month on the anniversary of the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment (guaranteeing all women the right to vote) to bring the power of grassroots organizing, digital and social media engagement to mobilize women voters.

"The YWCA is proud to be an integral part of the nationwide coalition of women's organizations who plan to demonstrate that women represent a powerful political force to ensure that women's jobs, safety, health care and economic well-being are promoted and protected," says Lau.

The YWCA USA joins the leadership of HERvotes, including:

- American Association of University Women
- Advocates for Youth
- Black Women's Health Imperative
- Black Women's Roundtable, National Coalition on Black Civic Participation
- Business and Professional Women's Foundation
- Coalition of Labor Union Women
- Dolores Huerta Foundation
- Feminist Majority Foundation/Ms. Magazine community
- General Federation of Women's Clubs
- MomsRising
- NARAL Pro-Choice America
- National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum
- National Association of Social Workers
- National Association of Commissions for Women
- National Coalition of 100 Black Women
- National Conference of Puerto Rican Women
- National Congress of Black Women
- National Council of Negro Women
- National Council of Women's Organization

- National Council of Jewish Women
- National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health
- National Organization for Women
- National Partnership for Women & Families
- National Women's Health Network
- National Women's Law Center
- National Women's Political Caucus
- Raising Women's Voices for the Health Care We Need
- Sister Song
- Women's Information Network
- Women's Research and Education Institute (WREI)

The combined effort of these organizations working together creates a network of millions of women.

Eleanor Smeal, President of the Feminist Majority Foundation, stated, "The rapid growth of HERvotes is because women's groups are outraged by the attacks on women's advances and the laying off of women workers. We are mobilizing women voters and are sounding the alarm that we want action to save women's advances and jobs."

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About the YWCA...

The YWCA USA is one of the oldest and largest women's organizations in the nation with the mission of eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all. In the U.S., the YWCA serves over 2 million women, girls and their families each year. Globally, the YWCA USA is a member of the World YWCA, which has affiliates in 122 countries that serve 25 million women and girls worldwide.