CREATING A 21ST CENTURY WOMEN’S HEALTH AGENDA FOR THE UNITED STATES

The National Women’s Health Agenda Taskforce is committed to ensuring that everyone has affordable, quality healthcare which ensures:

- Coverage of sex and gender-based quality health care for all women regardless of race, ethnicity, income level, age, sexual orientation, or and disability
- Access to high quality, accessible, evidence-based information that will promote sound decision-making
- Emphasis on key prevention and health promotion strategies so often neglected by current programs

Currently, a wide spectrum of organizations are providing and advocating diverse services for women and girls, but they are operating with decreased membership, funding, and volunteer resources within a political climate which marginalizes women’s health.

Additionally, new concepts and important data are being discovered daily that have the promise of revolutionizing the way we frame women’s healthcare services.

The specialized charges of individual women’s organizations have served to isolate one from another and prevented organizations with similar long term goals from collaboration. The National Women’s Health Agenda Taskforce believes that new partnerships are required in order to advance women’s health in the 21st century.

Developing these partnerships will require long range planning to ensure these collaborations are effective. To that end, the National Women’s Health Agenda Taskforce will undertake a series of steps to build a national women’s health agenda.

WHAT is proposing to undertake the following initiatives to begin a more inclusive planning process for developing this 21st Century National Women’s Health Agenda:

1. Identify a comprehensive list of organizations dedicated to advancing women’s health and well being in the US (see attached list, including the 10 million members of the National Council of Women’s Organizations.)
2. Compile and distill the key positions on women and health care reform already prepared by several dozen groups across the country
3. Generate a matrix that identifies unifying principles and policies
4. Distribute these principles and policies to all organizations invited to participate, asking them to give further input either through email exchanges or participation as members of a planning group.
5. Convene a meeting of representatives from organizations that represent diverse constituencies to develop the key elements of a national women’s health agenda, with alternative positions reflecting possible points of disagreement.

The Taskforce is looking for supporters who are willing to contribute time, energy, and funds to develop this agenda by Fall of 2007.