



## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



### December 2016

Every year's end invariably leads to reflection, and the bookends of that musing often involve looking back and looking forward. Such has been the case as Vision 2020 wraps up another year of planting seeds and building partnerships to achieve economic, political and social equality for American women.

As we have stated before, this is unfinished business.

Hundreds of individuals and organizations that support Vision 2020's bold ideas of reaching 50-50 shared leadership among women and men in business and government and 100 percent turnout of eligible women voters in 2020 have worked diligently over the past year to move us closer to those goals.

Here are some highlights of 2016:

- **In March**, we announced the introduction of U.S. Senate Resolution 405 by Senator Bob Casey, designating Philadelphia as the site of the national commemoration of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment centennial in 2020, and Vision 2020 as the host.
- **In July**, we had a presence at each of the national political party conventions, in Cleveland and Philadelphia, and submitted language for both party platforms.
- **On August 26**, we celebrated Women's Equality Day with the annual Vision 2020 Toast to Tenacity™. Now that we've trademarked this event, we intend to replicate it across the nation beginning in 2017.

Throughout the year, we've handled numerous speaking engagements and been recognized with leadership awards. Most recently, former Oregon Governor Barbara Roberts, a Vision 2020 leader, was honored in Chicago by the International Women's Forum.

But there is much work yet to accomplish as we approach a new year in achieving pay equality for women, educating young people to value gender equality and engaging more women in public service. And we are just four years away from Women 100™, our national year-long celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's voting rights. Our groundwork to date and in the years ahead will shape our future.

We have set our goals high - creating a national movement that is as inclusive as it is sweeping, and setting our sights on achieving women's equality through a collective impact model that marshals Delegates in every state, as well as Vision 2020's Allied organizations, to help push our agenda forward.

And we are equipped for the challenge.

Vision 2020 welcomed two new **Allied organizations** and three new **Delegates**:

- [Kentucky Woman Suffrage Project](#)
- [Representation 2020](#)
- Zenita Henderson, director of marketing operations and business development and vice president of the board of Women in Cable Telecommunications
- Colleen Kelly Howard, executive director of Girls on the Run Philadelphia
- Jocelyn Tate, senior technology policy advisor of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation and Black Women's Roundtable

We have developed a strategic integrated communications plan and assembled a team of experienced communications professionals to help us execute it. And we have set a strategy meeting with key Allied organizations for January to map action steps toward our ambitious goal of inclusive women's civic engagement.

So as December draws to a close, I find myself energized by the expanding reach of Vision 2020, by the clarity of our shared leadership focus, and by the imaginative planning for the Women 100 celebration.

I wish each of you a joyous and healthy holiday season, and I thank you all for your commitment and support. One time ends, and another begins - always building on our successes. Equality is in sight!

Happy Holidays!



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