

**HRC SPENDS
NEARLY \$515,000
ON ELECTIONS IN OREGON**

To defeat anti-gay ballot measures, get out the vote in targeted states and elect fair-minded officials to federal offices, the Human Rights Campaign and the HRC Political Action Committee spent more than \$6.5 million dollars nationwide in the 2004 cycle. HRC and HRC's PAC spent close to \$515,000 in election-related activities in Oregon alone.

"To win equality we must aggressively fund it and fight for it," HRC president Cheryl Jacques said. "Oregonians not only have a major role in deciding the outcome of the presidential election, but they will also be called upon to reject unequal treatment in their constitution. We're doing our part to help ensure both votes come out on the side of equality."

As of Nov. 2, HRC and HRC's PAC spent at least \$514,987 in Oregon:

- \$314,500 to defeat Ballot Measure 36.
- \$158,582 to get out the vote among queer voters and HRC members in Oregon.
- \$36,000 in donations directly to candidates in Oregon for federal offices and the Oregon Democratic Party.
- \$5,905 to distribute the HRC Scorecard to members in the state and advertise in *Just Out* to get out the vote.

"We greatly appreciate HRC stepping up in a critical moment with additional support for the No on Constitutional Amendment 36 campaign in Oregon," campaign manager Aisling Coghlan said. "HRC and its Oregon members have been with us from the start. Their additional contribution in the final stretch provides us with critical funds to get our message out to undecided voters about the real effects of this amendment."

**GRANTS AIM TO FURTHER
VOTER PARTICIPATION**

Oregon's leading social change foundation, McKenzie River Gathering, recently awarded \$8,000 in small grants to groups that have taken on special initiatives to educate and mobilize voters, and to build coalitions in response to issues that are dividing the community such as the struggle over marriage equality and land use policies. The grantees are:

- **Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon:** \$800 for voter education in Asian and Pacific Islander communities on the issue of same-sex marriage.
- **Brother to Brother:** \$1,000 for voter education within the African American community on the issue of same-sex marriage.
- **Korean American Citizens League:** \$1,000 for production of a Korean language version of the Oregon voters' guide.
- **Latino Network:** \$1,000 for voter education in the Latino community on the issue of same-sex marriage.
- **Northwest Veterans for Peace:** \$1,000 for the Critical Response tour of Oregon universi-

ty campuses, which is focused on ending violence and registering voters.

• **Rural Organizing Project:** \$2,000 for production and distribution of the democracy voter guides to ROP's member groups across the state.

"Regardless of the outcome of this election, activists from around the state are empowering the communities they work in by helping a broader sector of the community engage in the political process, by involving voters in critical issues and creating dialogue," executive director Marjory Hamann said.

**RESTAURATEUR RAISES
AWARENESS ABOUT ABUSE**

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Lisa Schroeder, chef and owner of Mother's Bistro and Mama Mia Trattoria, hosted a forum of domestic violence survivors Oct. 26. The event kicked off a celebration of Bradley-Angle House's 30th anniversary and brought together past and current supporters of the organization.

Schroeder, founding member of Bridges of Hope: Businesswomen Against Domestic Violence, spoke passionately about her experience as a survivor of domestic violence when she was a young wife and mother.

"I was lucky...to get away," she said. She told the audience she felt it was her duty to tell her story now.

Several other prominent community leaders spoke during the presentation. *Oregonian* columnist S. Renee Mitchell performed a song she wrote about her experience being emotionally and verbally abused by a former husband.

"You don't have to hit me, to hurt me," she sang.

Bradley-Angle House founder Bonnie Tinker spoke about her experience in the 1970s when she was verbally and physically abused by a female partner.

"We were there to save ourselves," said Tinker of the women who started Bradley-Angle. "We were survivors."

Chiquita Rollins, Multnomah County domestic violence coordinator, said 50 percent of violent crime in the county is related to domestic violence. Jennifer Crosby, a board member at Bradley-Angle and a domestic violence survivor, urged the audience to continue to break the silence about the prevalence of domestic violence and its impact on women and children.

The next session of volunteer training at Bradley-Angle begins in January.

For more information call 503-282-9940 or visit www.bradleyangle.org.



S. Renee Mitchell

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