



2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Working to increase opportunities for Maine women and girls in the legislature

In 2008, Maine Women's Lobby Director of Public Policy, Laura Harper, worked the halls of the State House: combing through hundreds of bill titles to identify those of highest impact to Maine women, meeting face-to-face with legislative leaders, and speaking with key representatives as they rushed between committee meetings and the Chambers.

The Maine Women's Lobby backed up Laura's work with the grassroots advocacy necessary to make the power of women, as a constituency, visible.

As a result, in 2008, the Maine Women's Lobby helped women support themselves and their families by:

- Increasing the minimum wage from \$7.25 per hour in 2008 to \$7.50 per hour in 2009.
- Expanding Maine's Family and Medical Leave law to include siblings who share living arrangements.
- Advocating for legislation which would guarantee a minimum number of paid sick days for all Maine workers, to improve their health and prevent the spread of disease.
- Producing and disseminating a work and family policy guide to every Maine candidate for statewide office and Congress, capturing pledges of support by incoming lawmakers.
- Defending against harmful budget cut proposals that would have eliminated or reduced state funding for domestic violence and sexual assault services, family planning clinics, public assistance, and health coverage. By advocating for a more balanced approach to resolving the budget deficit, funding for these critical services was restored.
- Protecting women and children against toxic chemicals found in consumer products through the Kid-Safe Products bill. As a result, Maine became one of the first states in the nation to set up a comprehensive chemical policy to require safer alternatives to dangerous chemicals used in consumer products.

Additionally, the Maine Women's Lobby educated, engaged, and listened to the women and girls of Maine by:

- Hosting over 25 house meetings across Maine. Our grassroots outreach and membership-building efforts engaged over 100 new supporters in our work.

And, we celebrated. In commemoration of our 30th year of advocacy on behalf of Maine women and girls, members, supporters, policymakers, and community leaders gathered in Portland to celebrate the Maine Women's Lobby's pioneering achievements for women and girls.

Financial Report

January 1, 2008—December 31, 2008

Income

Membership Contributions	21,152
Grants	63,250
Donations	5,893
Miscellaneous	805

Total Income **91,100**

Expenses

Program	81,269
Operating	14,018
Fundraising	3,425

Total Expenses **98,712**

Net Surplus (Deficit) **(7,612)**

Current Assets	59,991
Equipment Basis	5,202

Total Assets **65,193**

Current Liabilities	5,689
Unrestricted Fund Balance	59,504

Total Liabilities and Net Assets **65,193**