

RESOLUTION to CLUW NEB April 10, 2015

Support the *Spread the Word about Coronary Artery Disease Campaign*

Women are not only responsible for their own health, but are traditionally also the person in the family responsible for their family's health – which makes maintaining their own good health critically important.

CLUW is committed to empowering union women and that includes providing them with preventive health information.

Unions have done an outstanding job over the years of negotiating good health benefits for their members. However, not many unions have used their trusted and respected position to provide preventive health information to the members.

In recent years CLUW has stepped into that breach by providing its members and their unions with specific women-focused health information (ie. HIV/AIDS education, contraceptive equity and cervical cancer prevention).

More women die from heart disease than from cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, Alzheimer's, and accidents combined. But many women underestimate the threat that coronary artery disease (CAD) poses to their health. Symptoms of a heart blockage can be harder to identify, and more difficult to diagnose in women. Also many women do not know what they can do to help prevent heart disease.

CLUW recently received a grant to promote the **Spread the Word (STW)** campaign – a patient advocacy campaign to educate women about the overlooked symptoms of coronary artery disease (CAD) and the various testing options available, and to partner with their healthcare provider on deciding the right test for them. CLUW joins with two other non-profit organizations (both focused on women's health) – HealthyWomen and the Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health – as a sponsor.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

The Coalition of Labor Union Women will promote the **Spread the Word** campaign with the goal that all union women are aware of coronary artery disease (CAD) symptoms and the available heart test options, so that they receive the right care.

CLUW as an organization commits to promoting the campaign on all levels – chapters, state and national officers – as well as in our respective unions, and state and local central bodies where we are represented.

This resolution will be presented at the CLUW 2015 National Convention and should serve as a template for resolutions on the STW campaign in CLUW chapters and CLUW state bodies, as well as in our unions and other labor bodies.