

STATE OF OHIO

Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus

In Recognition of

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY IN OHIO 2009

International Women's Day (IWD) has been celebrated since the early 1900s. It is a global day celebrating the economic, political and social achievements of women past, present and future.

Women's organizations and governments around the world have observed IWD annually on March 8 by holding events that honor women's advancement, while reminding us of the action required to ensure that women's equality is gained and maintained in all aspects of life.

Each year, the United Nations selects an IWD theme to reflect global and local gender issues. This year's theme is

Women and Men United to End Violence Against Women and Girls.

Ohio must continue to address the issues of education for young girls and women, access to health care, the full social participation of women and the elimination of violence against women.

The health of any society can be measured by how much all its people are encouraged to reach their full potential. On behalf of all Ohioans, Frances and I welcome Ohioans to join the forefront of efforts to establish a caring and compassionate society, and to do this we must work toward programs aimed at achieving social and economic equality for women.

I encourage all Ohioans to recognize International Women's Day!

On this 8th Day of March, Two Thousand and Nine



Ted Strickland
Governor