

Dear Hadassah Friends,

As summer is fully upon us, and the warm weather and long days of sunlight prompt us to do less, I'm thinking about Women Who Do and Women Who Do More. Reading this, you're probably recalling languid days and nights of fun at summer camp. Perhaps you had a summer job or took summer classes. Whatever you did during July and August, I'm guessing you didn't sit still for long. Most women just like a project to work on.

During World War II, women pushed for more active service. Thus, the WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Services) and the WACs (Women's Army Air Corps) were created in the summers of 1942 and 1943. We women see a need and focus our efforts on it.

That's the story of how Hadassah joined the Coalition for Women's Health Equity which will work to address inequities in quality of care, funding and support, and gaps in women's health awareness. The list of our partners is impressive: American Association of University Women; American Heart Association; Black Women's Health Imperative; Breast Cancer Fund; Institute for Women's Health and Leadership of Drexel University College of Medicine; Jewish Women International; National Council of Jewish Women; National Organization for Women; National Partnership for Women & Families; National Women's Political Caucus; Society for Women's Health Research; Vision 2020; WomenAgainstAlzheimer's and WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease. Coalition membership is open and will continue to grow. Announced in April 2016, the Coalition held its inaugural event in May in Washington, D.C. with a panel presentation by leading women's health care experts and advocates. (See photo below)

Hadassah and its Coalition partners will focus on pervasive gender disparities throughout the health care system in order to create a well-coordinated and unified force to advocate for women's health equity—from prevention and diagnosis to treatment and cure.

"We are here to address an issue that represents one of the most consequential and—at the same time—one of the most hidden vestiges of gender discrimination today," Ellen Hershkin, national president of Hadassah, said at the event, which took place on Capitol Hill during Women's Health Week. "By engaging in direct advocacy, grassroots mobilization and the sharing of resources, the Coalition will make a lasting and powerful difference for women's health equity."

How will Tampa Ammeet participate in this exciting coalition? We're planning a "Day in the District" program, when we can visit Senators Nelson or Rubio or Congresswoman Castor, to

discuss gender equity issues and pending legislation on the state/federal level. Our chapter Advocacy chair, Luise Burman, would welcome your advocacy interest in this very important visit which will be scheduled SOON. Please contact her to let her know you'd like to help make the day most effective and enjoyable. Mrs1ab1@verizon.net or 813.982.1360.

In addition, Tampa Ameet is looking forward to lots of fun events this summer, culminating with our annual bar-b-q at The Sandow's.

Finally, a word about Women Who Do More: If you participated in Every Step Counts, Hadassah's Walking Program, which began in April, I hope you "make it" to Hadassah's National Convention in Atlanta by July 21. If you didn't participate this year, let's do it together next year. Remember, any day is a good day to start exercising. On August 14, the 9th of Av, Jews mourn the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. Did the destruction of the Holy Temple destroy our People? Of course not. But, heart disease is trying to do just that. So, Women Who Do, please do more to stay healthy and promote good health for all of us Women Who Do More.

Yours in Hadassah Sisterhood,



Congresswoman Ileana

Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) addressed the inaugural event of Hadassah's Coalition for Women's Health Equity. Other speakers included (from left) Katherine Leon, a heart attack survivor; Dr. Pamela Ouyang of Johns Hopkins Women's Cardiovascular Health Center; Linda Goler Blount, of Black Women's Health Imperative; Monica Mallampalli, of Society for Women's Health Research; and Ellen Hershkin, national president of Hadassah.

Leading women's health care experts and advocates came together in Washington, D.C., on May 12 for a panel presentation at the inaugural event of a new Coalition for Women's Health Equity, convened by Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America.