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## **Women Employed Honors 35 “Champions for Change” at 35<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration**

*Chicago nonprofit event to feature artwork, networking, and fun*

**CHICAGO** (Aug. 27, 2008) — Women Employed (WE) celebrates 35 years of opening doors, crashing ceilings, and creating fairer workplaces for women at a birthday party on Thursday, Sept. 18, 2008, from 6:00 – 8:00p.m. at FLATFILEgalleries, 217 N. Carpenter, Chicago. At the celebration, WE will honor 35 “Champions for Change” — Chicago-area women who create a better future for women and families.

"We're excited about honoring 35 talented women who are real 'Champions for Change,' says Debbie Thorne, Chair of WE's Board of Directors. "These women include long-time activists on behalf of women and families, as well as young leaders who are making a difference in their communities. We'll celebrate their accomplishments and our accomplishments over our 35-year history."

Since 1973, Women Employed has been a leader in every major advance that working women have made. Our successes include securing \$38 million in state funding for student assistance programs, developing the innovative online career-planning program Career Coach, and working with national allies to win passage of crucial legislation such as the federal Family and Medical Leave Act and the Civil Rights Act of 1991.

"We're very proud of our successful advocacy for women's advancement over the years," says Women Employed Executive Director Anne Ladky. "As we celebrate and have fun, we'll call our supporters to action on the pressing issues facing working women today — including the need for fair pay and paid sick time."

Women Employed's 35<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party, generously sponsored by Exelon, features cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, artwork, and networking. Tickets can be purchased for \$35 at <http://www.womenemployed.org>, or by calling Women Employed Development Officer Tracy Fletcher at 312-782-3902 x225.

### **About Women Employed**

Women Employed promotes fair workplace practices, helps increase access to training and education, and provides women with innovative tools and information to move into careers paying family-supporting wages. For more information, visit [www.womenemployed.org](http://www.womenemployed.org).

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