



**NEWS RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT:** Lisa Lederer  
Gretchen Wright  
202/371-1999

## **Lori Otter, First Lady of Idaho, Joins Powerful National Effort to End Childhood Drinking**

WASHINGTON, DC – The *Leadership to Keep Children Alcohol Free*, the nation's only initiative guided by the spouses of governors and aimed at preventing childhood drinking during the critical ages of nine to 15, today announced that Idaho First Lady Lori Otter has joined this unique and successful effort.

A former physical education and health teacher and girls' basketball and volleyball coach, Mrs. Otter brings to the *Leadership* a unique understanding of the importance of children's early development and helping them develop healthy habits that stay with them for a lifetime. In addition to her years teaching and coaching, Mrs. Otter has served on the Board of Directors of the Family Advocate Program. She is a current member of the Board of Directors of the St. Alphonsus Foundation, which provides financial support for the St. Alphonsus Medical Center.

"Lori Otter's experience as a teacher and coach and her commitment to children's health will be an asset to the Leadership," said North Carolina First Lady Mary Easley, a Co-Chair of the *Leadership to Keep Children Alcohol Free*. "We are pleased that she is joining us in our nationwide efforts to address childhood drinking and create safer, healthier futures for our children."

"The habits we develop as children stay with us throughout our lives," said Mrs. Otter. "I firmly believe that we all have a responsibility to help children develop healthy habits and guide them to make good decisions, so that they can look forward to healthy, productive lives as adults."

The *Leadership to Keep Children Alcohol Free* includes the spouses and special appointees of sitting governors from 30 states, American Samoa and Guam. They organize campaigns, events and programs in their home states to increase public awareness of childhood drinking and promote prevention. At the national level, the *Leadership* supports underage drinking prevention by providing congressional testimony and working with federal officials and policy makers. More information is available at [www.alcoholfreechildren.org](http://www.alcoholfreechildren.org).

Mrs. Otter received a degree in teaching from Boise State University and a Masters Degree in education administration from Northwest Nazarene University.

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