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[www.shea-porter.house.gov](http://www.shea-porter.house.gov)

October 15, 2014

Dear Friends,

Thank you for inviting me to today's celebration as the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare launches its new initiative, Eleanor's Hope. I regret that I cannot be with you in person for this exciting event.

Since its founding over three decades ago, the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare has been one of the leading advocates for these programs, which play a critical role in providing a secure retirement for millions of Americans. Eleanor's Hope is a grassroots project to bring attention to the disparity in income and financial security between men and women and to train a new generation to fight for equality.

Pioneers like Eleanor Roosevelt, who stood at the forefront of some of the twentieth century's most important social reforms, made great strides in calling attention to women's issues, but there is still work to be done. The American Association of University Women reports that women in New Hampshire earn only 78 cents for every dollar earned by men. This disparity follows them into retirement, with older women across the nation receiving thousands less in social security and retirement income than their male counterparts. We can and must do better.

I applaud the National Committee on your new initiative to promote women's health and retirement security, and wish you all great success in this important endeavor.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carol Shea-Porter".

Carol Shea-Porter  
Member of Congress