

Lawton “Bud” Chiles

(Source: League of Women Voters of Orange County)



As president of the Lawton Chiles Foundation, Lawton “Bud” Chiles has been an advocate for children throughout the state of Florida. Through the Whole Child program, supported and significantly funded by the foundation, Chiles has been actively involved in promoting Whole Child’s method of a six dimensional approach to child development; now adopted in eight Florida counties. Under Chiles’ leadership, the foundation has also launched Worst To First, a statewide education and awareness campaign, in partnership with a great number of children’s advocacy groups.

Prior to his advocacy on behalf of Florida’s children, Chiles had global responsibility for the international charity, HOPE Worldwide, establishing and over-seeing best practice programs on the continent of Africa, the Caribbean and in the United States. Chiles was also co-owner of Chiles Communications, an innovative public affairs company, serving as the firm's chief strategist and senior counselor on issues management and crisis communication.

Chiles received a B.S. Degree from Stanford University. His affiliations have included chairman, Florida Environmental Coalition; vice-chairman, Florida Chamber of Commerce; Commissioner, The Future of the South Commission; board member, Center for Florida Fiscal and Tax Reform; UF Law School, Board of Trustees; and Florida House, Washington DC, Board of Trustees.

Linda Sutherland

(Source: League of Women Voters of Orange County)



Linda Sutherland has served as the Executive Director of the Orange County Healthy Start Coalition since February 2001. As the chief executive officer of the Coalition, she oversees a \$3.5 million budget and related staff and programs which support both the Coalition of over 130 members and a variety of direct maternal and child health and social services offered to the community.

The Coalition is responsible for identifying need in the community, and designing and supporting related services for mothers and babies at risk to ensure that every baby gets a “healthy start” in life. In order to develop and maintain the Coalition and build community collaborations with the purpose of improving target health indices, Sutherland works with a wide variety of area maternal and child health providers, community agencies, and service providers.

Prior to her work with the Coalition, she served on the Orange County School Board for 12 years. During her tenure she served as both chairman and vice chairman for the local school board and as president of the State School Board Association, as well as many national education and early childhood development advisory committees. Sutherland serves on many boards responding to issues facing children and families in Central Florida and around the state, including the Florida Children's Campaign.

Deirdre Macnab

(Source: League of Women Voters of Florida)



Deirdre Macnab has served as president of the League of Women Voters of Orange County for the past four years and as a board director for the League of Women Voters of Florida for the past two years. Under her leadership the Orange County League increased its annual budget by 900% and experienced membership growth of 330%. In addition, the Orange County league initiated its own monthly TV program called HOT TOPICS, and was awarded the top recognition for a Voter Services Campaign by the national LWV, as well as winning two awards from the local public TV/radio network for its efforts and success in increasing voter turnout.

Graduating with an MBA from Columbia University, and a BA from New York University, Macnab has worked for the New York City prison system, Dun & Bradstreet, Manville Corporation, and was president of her own direct marketing consulting firm. She was elected to the Board of Education in Nashville, TN (70,000 students), and appointed by Mayor Shirley Franklin of Atlanta to serve as her designate on the Fulton County Library Board, prior to moving to the Orlando area. In addition to her leadership role with the League, she is a member of the board of MyRegion.org, a seven county visioning coalition in Central Florida, former member of WMFE's Citizen's Advisory Board, and a number of other local civic boards and organizations. Macnab was most recently recognized by the ORLANDO SENTINEL as a runner up for the 2008 Most Influential Central Floridian of the Year.