



Dear Friend,

In June 2009, Women In Government (WIG) launched the Family Economic Success (FES) Policy Resource Center to expand our portfolio of issues to better match the needs of our legislative members. The FES portfolio includes: asset building and financial literacy, earned income tax credit, home mortgages and foreclosures, pay disparity, predatory and payday lending, and workforce development.

As current economic problems in the states increase concerns for the well-being of America's working families, we are excited to be at the forefront of the policy discussion on issues that disproportionately impact low-income, working families. In 2007, the family poverty rate and the number of families in poverty were 9.8% and 7.6 million, respectively, both statistically unchanged from 2006. As noted by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, children at the greatest risk in America are those growing up in poor households and in economically disconnected communities.

Women In Government has produced a **Legislative Toolkit** with background and outreach materials, policy recommendations, and sample legislation. Through this toolkit, we hope to improve your efforts in helping the members of your constituency who struggle to make ends meet, build assets and occupational skills, and gain access to mainstream banking options to "save" their way out of poverty.

WIG has been actively developing policy on FES issues and providing related resources to its members since 2003 when it partnered with the Annie E. Casey Foundation to host the first Task Force, *Economic Empowerment for Low-Income and Working Families*.

The Women In Government FES Policy Resource Center is pleased to share these beneficial resources with you. Please feel free to contact us by e-mail at fes@womeningovernment.org, or by phone at 1-888-333-0164, or by visiting our website at www.womeningovernment.org/familysuccess for more information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Brooks Beatty".

Mary Brooks Beatty
President