
12th Annual Western Regional Conference

July 30 – August 1, 2009
Loews Coronado Bay Resort, Constellation Room
San Diego, California



Agenda

Thursday, July 30, 2009

6:30 pm – 7:00 pm **Reception**

7:00 pm – 8:15 pm **Dinner**

7:00 pm – 7:05 pm **Opening Remarks**

Mary Brooks Beatty
President, Women In Government

7:05 pm – 7:25 pm **Welcoming Remarks**

Assemblymember Lori Saldaña
Speaker Pro Tempore
California State Assembly

Friday, July 31, 2009

8:00 am – 9:00 am **Breakfast**

9:00 am – 9:05 am **Welcome**

Mary Brooks Beatty
President, Women In Government

9:05 am – 9:15 am

Welcome to California

*Facilitated by: Mary Brooks Beatty
President, Women In Government*

9:15 am – 10:00 am

Stimulus Demystified

*Facilitated by: Senator Karen Morgan
Immediate Past Chair, Women In Government Board of Directors
Utah State Legislature*

Chris Whatley

Washington Director
Council of State Governments

Over \$300 billion in federal funds will flow into, through, or be touched by state governments as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. This session will outline the funding states will receive as well as strategies for legislators to help constituents access opportunities within the stimulus.

Q & A - 10 Minutes

10:00 am – 10:30 am

Warrior Wellness: “Battle Ready Every Day”

*Facilitated by: Representative Kathy Hawken
Treasurer, Women In Government Board of Directors
North Dakota Legislative Assembly*

Jennifer Cabe, MA

Executive Director
Canyon Ranch Institute

As civilian leaders, what should legislators further understand in order to support the seamless reintegration of servicemen and women into unit, family, and community? This presentation will specifically address current programs related to warrior wellness, as well as prevention and management of PTSD and traumatic brain injury.

Q & A - 10 Minutes

10:30 am – 11:00 am

Water Issues in the West

*Facilitated by: Senator Bettye Davis
Member at Large, Women In Government Board of Directors
Alaska State Legislature*

Senator Karen Fraser

Washington State Legislature

Senator Fraser will distill her extensive experience with western water policy to outline key water issues facing the west, how they became issues, major challenges they pose for our future and why legislators should take an informed interest in them.

Q & A - 10 Minutes

11:00 am - 11:10 am

Break

11:10 am – 11:45 am

Rheumatoid Arthritis

*Facilitated by: Representative Jo Ann Pottorff
Member at Large, Women In Government Board of Directors
Kansas State Legislature*

Patience White, MD, MA

Chief Public Health Officer
Arthritis Foundation

Rheumatoid arthritis affects 1.3 million Americans. This session will provide information on the disease state and current research to find appropriate medical regimens.

Q & A - 10 Minutes

11:45 am – 12:15 pm **Cyberbullying and Sexting: Adolescent Electronic Communication Abuse**

*Facilitated by: Representative Patricia Bellock
Midwestern Regional Director
Women In Government Board of Directors
Illinois General Assembly*

Jean Vaughn, MLS, JD

Director, Cyber Crime Unit
Office of the Attorney General, State of Mississippi

Special Assistant Jean Vaughn will address how electronic communication is being abused by teenagers. Learn what laws are on the books to protect our teens and how state legislators can help.

Q & A - 10 Minutes

12:15 pm - 1:15pm **Networking Lunch**

1:00 pm – 1:10 pm **Resource Center Update**

Michele Wagner, MPH

Director of Policy and Programs, Women In Government

1:15 pm – 2:00 pm **Adolescent Well Visit**

*Facilitated by: Senator Karen Morgan
Immediate Past Chair, Women In Government Board of Directors
Utah State Legislature*

Rachel Caskey, MD, MaPP

Associate Program Director, MedPeds Residency Program
Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Illinois at Chicago

Senator Diane Rosenbaum

Assistant Majority Leader of the Senate
Oregon State Legislature

Well visits during the teen years are important for preventative services such as vaccines as well as education about the health effects of risky behaviors. We will hear about the role policymakers play in ensuring teens see primary care providers regularly, and the influences these and other caring adults can have on youth well-being.

Q & A - 10 Minutes

2:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Blue Collar Goes Green!

*Facilitated by: Representative Kathy Hawken
Treasurer, Women In Government Board of Directors
North Dakota Legislative Assembly*

Kil Huh, PhD

Project Director, Research
Pew Center on the States

The emerging clean energy economy is creating well-paying jobs in every state for people of all skill levels and educational backgrounds. This emerging sector is poised to expand significantly, driven by increasing consumer demand, venture capital infusions, and federal and state policy reforms. Between 1998 and 2007, jobs in the clean energy economy grew at a national rate of 9.1 percent while traditional jobs grew by only 3.7 percent.

Q & A - 10 Minutes

2:30 pm - 3:00 pm

Social and Economic Costs Patient Compliance and Adherence

*Facilitated by: Representative Barbara Marumoto
Western Regional Director, Women In Government Board of Directors
Hawaii State Legislature*

Michael Wolf, MA, MPH, PhD

Assistant Professor of Medicine
Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University

Patient non-compliance occurs when individuals do not follow the treatment regimen prescribed by a doctor – usually for a chronic disease. This results in complications or worsening of the condition and eventually increased medical treatment costs. Encouraging constituents to adhere to treatment regimens and living a healthy lifestyle will save overall health care costs for your state.

Q & A - 10 Minutes

3:00 pm - 3:10 pm

Break

3:10 pm – 3:50 pm

Endometriosis: Barriers to Treatment and Diagnosis and Effects on the Workforce

*Facilitated by: Representative Jo Ann Pottorff
Member at Large, Women In Government Board of Directors
Kansas State Legislature*

Deborah Metzger, PhD, MD

Gynecologist and Reproductive Endocrinologist
Medical Director, Harmony Women's Health

Endometriosis is a poorly understood disease by the medical profession and the general public. This session will focus on raising awareness of this disease in your state and the debilitating effects of the disease on women's personal and professional lives.

Q & A - 10 Minutes

3:50 pm -4:20 pm

Fuels for the Future

*Facilitated by: Representative Patricia Bellock
Midwestern Regional Director
Women In Government Board of Directors
Illinois General Assembly*

Sara Tays

Southwest Public Affairs Manager
Exxon Mobil Corporation

The largest publically traded oil and gas company will describe how industry is investing in new technologies to meet the anticipated 35% growth in energy demand.

4:20 pm

Wrap Up

Mary Beatty Brooks

President, Women In Government

10:45 am – 11:30 am **“Race to the Top” Colorado’s P – 20 Education Program**

*Facilitated by: Mary Brooks Beatty
President, Women In Government*

Lieutenant Governor Barbara O'Brien, PhD

State of Colorado

Representative Nancy Todd

Colorado General Assembly

Senator Suzanne Williams

Majority Caucus Chair

Colorado General Assembly

Reviewing state standards for K-12 education and early childhood priorities have been inclusive of citizen input across the state of Colorado. Increasing accessibility, accountability for post secondary options and data collection on teachers and students places Colorado in a good position for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) "Race to the Top" fund to improve education quality and results statewide.

Q & A - 10 Minutes

11:30 am – 12:00 pm **Diabetes: Prevention and Treatment**

*Facilitated by: Senator Bettye Davis
Member at Large, Women In Government Board of Directors
Alaska State Legislature*

Yolie Acosta

Director

Latino Diabetes Association

By 2025 Latinos will comprise 25% of the population and diabetes disproportionately affects this group. Learn about policies and programs to prevent and manage diabetes for this growing segment.

12:00 pm – 12:30 pm **Rethinking the New Asylums: Strategies for Reducing the Incarceration of Persons with Mental Illness**

*Facilitated by: Senator Karen Morgan
Immediate Past Chair, Women In Government Board of Directors
Utah State Legislature*

Laura Pitman, PhD

Deputy Director of Female Offender Operations
Oklahoma Department of Corrections

One unintended consequence of deinstitutionalization has been the incarceration of persons with mental illness. Frequently, incarceration represents the antithesis of what was originally intended. Multiple strategies that have the potential to stall and even reverse this trend will be discussed.

Q & A - 10 Minutes

12:30 pm – 12:35 pm **Wrap Up and Adjourn**

Mary Brooks Beatty

President, Women in Government
