**WIG in St. Paul, Minnesota!**

Women In Government is in its 5th year of policy work to address the opioid epidemic, including a Task Force, a Summit, and two legislative toolkits. In 2019 we’re conducting policy roundtable discussions in 6 states. Thank you Senator Sandy Pappas (MN) for hosting our first roundtable in Minnesota on WIG’s white paper: “State Opioid Taxes: Economic & Health Policy Implications.” WIG conducted the Summit here in 2016 and it was good to be back!

**WIG in Boston, Massachusetts!**

Thank you Representative Jen Benson (MA), Treasurer of Women In Government, for convening the second roundtable discussion on opioid taxation with Economist and white paper author Alex Brill and Marc Hymovitz of the American Cancer Society’s Cancer Action Network.

**WIG in Denver, Colorado!**

"Safe Disposal of Prescription Drugs: Government & Community Strategies that Combat the Opioid Crisis” was the topic of the Denver roundtable. Senator Nancy Todd, Immediate Past Chair of WIG, hosted the dynamic discussion with Greg Fabisiak, Colorado Department of Health and Environment & Co-Chair of the Colorado Consortium on Prescription Drug Abuse and Prevention Safe Disposal Work Group;
Captain Jimmy Lukas, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office; and Candace DeMatteis, the Rx Abuse Leadership Initiative.

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**Don't Miss Women In Government's Conferences in Washington, DC!**

$800 travel scholarship to attend one conference or $1,000 travel scholarship to attend both conferences. [Legislators, please click here to register!](#)

**Sponsorship Opportunities Available!**
For all non-legislator registration options, please contact: Laura Blake, Outreach & Development Manager at [lBlake@WomenInGovernment.org](mailto:lBlake@WomenInGovernment.org)

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**Annual State Directors & First Term Legislators Conference**
November 13-14, 2019

**Healthcare & Technology Summit**
November 14-16, 2019

The Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, DC

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**State Director Feature:**
**Representative Hannah Kane (R-MA)**

**What has been the most interesting thing you learned at a WIG conference?**

"A Mental Health and Substance Use Task Force was formed in 2015 after key panels at several WIG conferences presented data that half of all Americans will experience a mental health condition in their lifetime and 27 million Americans were reporting current use of illicit drugs or misuse of prescription drugs. The task force had the opportunity to hear from mental health professionals and to discuss openly and honestly the factors that contribute to, relate to and are products of mental health and substance use. Under the leadership of former Massachusetts State Senator and WIG Board Member Jennifer Flanagan, the task force developed a Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Toolkit, which provided practices and policy recommendations to address these difficult challenges."

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**Thank You To Our New 2019 Business Council Members!**

- American Chemistry Council
- AstraZeneca

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**Interested in being a State Director? Please contact Laura Blake, Outreach & Development Manager!**
State Director Feature:  
Senator Sandy Pappas (D-MN)

What is the most interesting thing you've learned at a WIG conference?

“I’ve been a regular at WIG events for many years but I was especially excited about the Sexual Harassment in the Workplace session since sexual harassment and assault issues are so timely. I’m a co-author on legislation indicating that harassment doesn’t have to be pervasive or severe to qualify as harassment. It’s passed the House and is awaiting a Senate hearing. I’m a chief author on a bill clarifying the definition of stalking and also eliminating the statute of limitations on sexual assault. WIG’s programs are always on topical and timely issues and are easily applicable to developing legislation. I’m honored to be a State Director.”

Join WIG in Chicago at our Annual National Conference!

Legislators, Register online today to secure your Travel Scholarship

Sponsorship Opportunities Are Still Available!

For all non-legislator registration options, please contact: Laura Blake, Outreach & Development Manager at lblake@womingovernment.org

#ConnectingLegislativeLeaders
Just Confirmed For Chicago - State Policy Power: How To Achieve Labor Force Success Through Disability Inclusion!

Featuring state legislators and representatives from the State Exchange on Employment & Disability (SEED), this session will explore the role that state governments can play in advancing the employment of people with disabilities—and, in turn, their states’ economic success. This session features:

- Georgia State Representative Kim Schofield
- Nadia Mossburg, Senior Policy Advisor, U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy

Check Out Our Latest Draft Agenda Here!