



OFFICE ON THE ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN
Legislative Coordinating Commission – Minnesota State Legislature

August 25, 2009

Dear Colleague,

The Office on the Economic Status of Women is pleased to join with the United States Department of Labor – Women’s Bureau, the Minnesota Women’s Consortium and the Employment Action Center to host a gathering of community leaders to discuss Green Jobs for Women in Minnesota (see attached description).

The social and political momentum of green jobs has garnered interest, legislation and dollars to encourage the development of green work and industries across Minnesota. But where do women – as individuals, business owners, and leaders of community organizations – fit in to this momentum? And, if they don’t, how will we engage them? We invite you to learn from eight “green experts” and then discuss together steps we can take as a community and state to advance the “green status” of women in Minnesota.

The roundtable will take place on Friday, September 11, 2009 and will include remarks by Senator Ellen Anderson, Chair of the Minnesota Senate Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Budget Division, as well as a panel of eight experts who will comment on various aspects of the green movement. The event takes place at the Lakes and Plains Regional Council of Carpenters and Joiners, 700 Olive Street, beginning at 8:30 a.m. and continuing through 11:30 – a light continental breakfast is included.

The event is free, but space is limited. To RSVP to the event, please be in touch with Sally Kidd at your earliest convenience: sally.kidd@lcc.leg.mn or 651-296-9002; confirmation will be sent promptly and directions to the venue will be sent to you the week before the event.

We hope you will be able to join us. Please contact either of us with any questions (contact information below).

Many thanks,

Amy Brenengen

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Green Jobs for Women Roundtable

Eight things to know about Green Jobs for Women in Minnesota

Friday, September 11, 2009 -- 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Lakes and Plains Regional Council of Carpenters and Joiners Training Hall

- 1. What's Green?:** An overview and definition of green jobs by Rachel Vilsack, Regional Labor Market Analyst from the state Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED).
- 2. Green Law:** An overview of state and federal "green legislation" - past, present, future from Amy Brenengen, Office on the Economic Status of Women
- 3. Greenbacks for Green:** Current and potential government funding opportunities for green initiatives reviewed; including an overview of the federal stimulus dollars directed towards the green economy, Anne Olson, Director, Minnesota Workforce Council Association.
- 4. Green Business:** Rebecca Lundberg, CEO of Powerfully Green, shares insight as a woman business owner in the green industry.
- 5. Green on the Ground:** Michelle LeBeau, founder and owner of Duluth-based Women in Construction, LLC, talks about working and building green.
- 6. Training Green:** Mary Dahlquist, from the Apprentice Opportunity Pilot Project talks about training and preparing women for green careers.
- 7. It's Not Easy Getting in on Green:** Information on challenges women of color, immigrant women, veterans and women with disabilities have in engaging in the green movement. Vanessa Livingston, ALANA Green (African, Latina and Native Americans)
- 8. Harnessing Green - Enter the EcoHouse!**
Pamela McCurdy, Strategic Marketing Specialist from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency talks about using the EcoHouse as a model for envisioning a green future in Minnesota.

Concluding Commentary and Keynote

Senator Ellen Anderson, Chair of the Minnesota Senate Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Budget Division, talks about the green movement in Minnesota, with comments on the role of women in this work.

Hosted by:

Office on the Economic Status of Women, Minnesota Women's Consortium, Employment Action Center

Funded by:

United States Department of Labor - Women's Bureau, Women's Foundation of Minnesota