

**Policy, Leadership and Institutional Change:**

**Have women reached the tipping point?**

*Friday, February 25, 2011 – Mankato, MN*

Conference Goal: *To engage participants in a conversation with leaders from the public, private and non-profit sectors about how having women at the table changes policy, institutions and the lives of women individually and as a whole.*

9:30 Registration

10:00 Opening Remarks – Anne Ganey, Amy Brenengen, Debra Fitzpatrick

**10:15 Session I: Women in the Non-Profit Sector**

- A. Women in the Non-Profit Sector: Marnie Wells, CEO Camp Fire USA, Minnesota Council
- B. Responses from women leaders in the non-profit sector:
  - a. Anne Ganey, Executive Director, YWCA of Mankato
  - b. Jeanne Willaert, Executive Director, Life-Work Planning Center
  - c. Kaying Hang, Senior Program Officer, Bremer Foundation, invited.
  - d. Amy Jo Lennartson, Southwest Regional Coordinator, Minnesota Council of Non-Profits
- C. Discussion

**12:00 Lunch Served**

**12:15 Session II: Women in Business**

- A. The Minnesota Census of Executive Women: Rebecca Hawthorne, University of St. Catherine
- B. Responses from women business owners and other experts:
  - a. Rachel Vilsack, Labor Market Industry Analyst, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development
  - b. Linda Hachfield, President, AppleTree Press
  - c. Sarah Richards, President, Jones Metal Products
  - d. Michele Durkin, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
- C. Discussion

**1:45 Break**

**2:00 Session III: Women in Public Office**

- A. The Impact of Women in Public Office: A National Perspective – Debbie Walsh, Center for American Women and Politics, Rutgers University (30 mn)
- B. Responses from federal, state and local officials (30mn):
  - a. Rep. Kathy Brynaert, Minnesota House
  - b. Sen. Kathy Sheran, Minnesota Senate
  - c. Judi Branson, ISD 77 School Board Member
  - d. Meredith Salsbury, Congressional Staff, U.S. Rep. Tim Walz
- C. Discussion

**3:00 Closing Remarks**

**3:15 Adjourn**