

Road 2 Equity

TOUR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Organizations Collaborate to Present a Day of Empowerment for Women in Fayette County

PITTSBURGH (January 31, 2007) – Partnering with the Regional Women's Initiative at Chatham College (RWI) and the Community Foundation of Fayette County, the **Women and Girls Foundation (WGF) is pleased to announce a Road 2 Equity Tour in Fayette County on Thursday, February 15, 2007 at Penn State Fayette - The Eberly Campus.** Included in this free event are an informational session, panel discussion and advocacy training specifically targeted to help women in Fayette and Greene Counties work for gender equality.

The goal of the Road 2 Equity Tour is to inform and empower changemakers throughout the region with the information and skills they need to improve the gender gap in their own communities, which will ultimately have a systemic, positive impact on women and girls living in those communities.

After networking and breakfast, attendees will take part in an informative session overviewing the *Status of Women in Southwest PA* report, which explores the challenges and strengths for women in the region based on five indicators:

- Political participation
- Employment and economic status

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- Social and economic autonomy
- Reproductive rights
- Health and well-being

Following the report summary, representatives from the Community Foundation of Fayette County, the Community Foundation of Greene County, the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, and WGF will participate in a moderated Meet the Grantmakers Forum, which will serve as an interactive opportunity for agencies and individuals interested in learning more about grant processes. The day will end with advocacy training, in which attendees will be given skill-building tips and tools on ways to make change happen in their communities.

The Road 2 Equity Tour is a collaborative effort by WGF and RWI to raise awareness on the status of women in SWPA and in doing so initiate county-wide conversations on what it means for the day-to-day life of women and men. After this event in Fayette County, the Tour will continue throughout the region, having already made stops in Beaver and Westmoreland Counties.

The Road 2 Equity Tour – A Day of Empowerment in Fayette County is open to the public and free of charge. Those interested in attending can visit wgfpa.org or call (412) 434-4883 for more information or to RSVP.

The Women and Girls Foundation (WGF) is an independent community-based foundation with a mission to achieve equality for women and girls in the region. Through a combination of public advocacy, coalition building and grantmaking, WGF seeds, supports, and strengthens women's and girls' efforts to achieve social and economic justice in Pennsylvania.

www.wgfpa.org

The Regional Women's Initiative is a project of the Pennsylvania Center for Women, Politics, and Public Policy at Chatham College. RWI is dedicated explicitly to advancing the status of women in SWPA through increasing public awareness of gender disparity and providing the research, education and training opportunities needed to challenge and change the status quo on issues that affect women.

www.chatham.edu/RWI

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Since 1999, the Community Foundation of Fayette County has been promoting philanthropy and community improvement in our part of Pennsylvania by attracting, managing and distributing charitable resources. By connecting people who care with causes that matter, the Foundation serves as a catalyst for addressing a wide variety of problems and concerns. Managing millions and distributing thousands annually, the Community Foundation is a big part of how we help each other here in Fayette County.

www.cffayettepa.org



WOMEN AND GIRLS
FOUNDATION
WILL WORK FOR EQUALITY

REGIONAL WOMEN'S INITIATIVE
AT CHATHAM COLLEGE



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