

2015 *35th Anniversary*
WLEB
Women's Legislative Briefing

Build the World You Want *through* **Advocacy & Legislation**

THE UNIVERSITIES AT SHADY GROVE, BUILDING II

PROGRAM – JANUARY 25, 2015

10:30am

Registration Opens for Presidents' Networking Reception

Multipurpose Room Lobby, Building II

11:00am – 12:15pm

Presidents' Networking Session:

A Conversation with Ann F. Lewis, Keynote Speaker

(Open only to leaders of community co-sponsoring organizations)

Gaithersburg Room, Building II

11:30am

General Registration Opens/Refreshments

Multipurpose Room Lobby, Building II

12:30-1:30pm

Opening Ceremony

Multipurpose Room, Building II

- **Debra Bright Harris**, President, Montgomery County Commission for Women
- **Lorna Forde**, Co-Chair, 2015 Women's Legislative Briefing Planning Committee
- **Katie Smith**, Co-Chair, 2015 Women's Legislative Briefing Planning Committee

Greetings from:

- **The Honorable Isiah Leggett**, Montgomery County Executive
- **The Honorable Jan Gardner**, Frederick County Executive
- **The Honorable Ben Cardin**, U.S. Senate
- **The Honorable Chris Van Hollen**, U.S House of Representatives
- **The Honorable Donna F. Edwards**, U.S House of Representatives
- **The Honorable John Sarbanes**, U.S House of Representatives
- **DeLinda Washington, J.D.**, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Mid-Atlantic States
- **Nancy LeMond**, AARP Maryland

1:30-2:15pm

Keynote Speaker: Ann F. Lewis

Senior White House Staffer from 1997-2000

Multipurpose Room, Building II

2:15-2:30pm

Break

2:30 – 3:45 PM

SEMINAR SERIES I

A. Advocacy: The Pitch for Your Legislators

Communicating with legislators, building support for issues, overview of the legislative and budgetary process

Gaithersburg Room, Building II

- **The Honorable Richard Madaleno**, Maryland State Senate
 - **The Honorable Cheryl Kagan**, Maryland State Senate
 - **The Honorable Ana Sol Gutiérrez**, Maryland House of Delegates
 - **Portia White**, Senior Advisor to U.S. Senate Leader Harry Reid
- Moderator: **Velvet Johnson, Esquire**, Maryland Commission for Women

B. Senior Women and Long-Term Care

Healthcare for aging women and eldercare

Room 2032, Building II

- **Tammy Bresnahan**, Associate Director of State Advocacy, AARP MD
 - **Rebecca Fitch, MD**, Physician Director, Population Care Management, Mid-Atlantic Permanente Medical Group
 - **Dr. Homayara Haque Aziz**, Maryland Commission for Women
 - **The Honorable Gloria Lawlah**, Secretary, Maryland Department of Aging
- Moderator: **Cara Tenenbaum**, Maryland Commission for Women

C. Women in Leadership

Encouraging women candidates for positions where they can influence legislation

Bethesda Room, Building II

- **The Honorable Vicki Almond**, Baltimore County Council
- **The Honorable Helen Holton**, Baltimore City Council
- **The Honorable Ingrid M. Turner**, Prince George's County Council (former)
- **The Honorable Jessica Fitzwater**, Frederick County Council
- **Almina Khorakiwala**, Emerge Maryland

Moderator: **Reggie Oldak, Esquire**, Senior Counsel and Director of Government Relations, National Women's Law Center

D. Immigrant Women

Immigration reform, opportunities and challenges associated with citizenship and integration, family unity, and adequate healthcare

Room 3032, Building II

- **The Honorable Aruna Miller**, Maryland House of Delegates
- **Sirine Shebaya**, Immigrant Rights Attorney, ACLU of Maryland
- **Kimberley Propeack**, Senior Director of Politics and Communication, Casa de Maryland
- **Mimi Hassanein**, Emerge Maryland
- **Mirin Phool**, Founder and President, Kaur Foundation

Moderator: **The Honorable Nancy Navarro**, Montgomery County Council

2:25 – 3:55 PM

E. Teen Track: Advocacy 101: Becoming Your Own Self-Advocate (Part 1)

Learn basic advocacy skills and how you can play a role in the legislative process, influence policymakers, and become a leader of tomorrow

Room 3230, Building III

Teen Track Chairs:

Giulia McPherson and
Angela Whitehead Quigley,
Montgomery County
Commission for Women

Panelists:

- **Sareana Kimia**, President and Founder, Youth for National Change
- **Susannah Wellford**, President and Chair of the Board, Running Start
- **Lynn Thompson**, Senior Membership Specialist, Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital

Moderator: **Kimberly McLurkin-Harris**, Past President, Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Montgomery County Chapter

3:45 - 4:00 PM

BREAK

4:00 – 5:15 PM

SEMINAR SERIES II

F. Economic Empowerment for Women

Flexibility, paid leave, pregnancy fairness, fair pay, and custody

Gaithersburg Room, Building II

- **The Honorable Kathleen M. Dumais**, Maryland House of Delegates
- **The Honorable Cherri Branson**, Montgomery County Council (former)
- **Melissa Broome**, Senior Policy Advocate, Job Opportunities Task Force
- **Liz Watson**, Director of Workplace Justice for Women and Senior Counsel, National Women's Law Center

Moderator: **The Honorable Valerie Ervin**, Center for Working Families and Montgomery County Council (former)

G. Health and Safety for Women and Girls

Trafficking, domestic violence, and sexual assault

Bethesda Room, Building II

- **Jessica Emerson, Esquire**, Legislative Counsel, Women's Law Center of Maryland
- **Cynthia Lifson, Esquire**, Legislative Counsel, Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence
- **Amanda Rodriguez, Esquire**, Human Trafficking Policy Advisor, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
- **Lisae C. Jordan, Esquire**, Executive Director and Counsel, Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Moderator: **The Honorable Anne Colt Leitess**, State's Attorney, Anne Arundel County (former)

H. Meet the New Legislators

Women legislators newly elected to office to the Maryland General Assembly

Room 3032, Building II

- **The Honorable Susan Lee**, Maryland State Senate
- **The Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary**, Maryland House of Delegates
- **The Honorable Brooke Lierman**, Maryland House of Delegates

Moderator: **The Honorable Ariana Kelly**, Maryland House of Delegates

I. Raising Ms. President Documentary

Raising the next generation of female political leaders

Room 2032, Building II

Moderator: **Katie Smith**, Montgomery County Commission for Women

4:05 – 5:35 PM

J. Teen Track: Advocacy in Action (Part 2)

Interactive skills-building workshop using advocacy skills in tackling issues impacting your peers and communities
Room 3230, Building III

Teen Track Chairs:

Giulia McPherson and
Angela Whitehead Quigley,
Montgomery County
Commission for Women

Panelists:

- **Jessica Smith**, Coach, Girls for a Change
- **Elana Harris**, Vice President, Montgomery County Youth Advisory Council of the NAACP
- **Marcie Taylor Thoma**, Supervisor of Social Studies, Maryland State Department of Education

Moderator: **Denise Joseph**,
Director of Programs,
Hope Forward,
Prince George's County

5:15 - 6:00 PM

RECEPTION *Multipurpose Room, Building II*

- Meet and Greet with Speakers, Elected Officials, and Attendees
- 35th Anniversary Presentation
- Montgomery County Women's History Archives Induction

2015 Women's Legislative Briefing

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Montgomery County Chapter | National Women's Law Center |
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