



women's fund
for the fox valley region, inc.

Listening Session

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Agenda for the Session

- Overview of the Women's Fund for the Fox Valley Region, Inc.
- Purpose of the Listening Sessions
- "Quiz" on the Status of Women in Wisconsin
- Questions, Answers & Discussion
- Evaluation of Listening Session

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Women's Fund for the Fox Valley Region, Inc.

- Our mission is to invest in women and girls through:
 - grants
 - advocacy
 - education
- Endowment provides support for variety of effective programs targeting women and girls with over \$140,000 in grants to organizations over the past 10 years.

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The Vision

The Women's Fund for the Fox Valley Region, Inc., is the recognized leader of philanthropic opportunities that encourage and inspire women and girls to flourish personally, economically and professionally.

www.womensfundfvr.org

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Purpose of Sessions

- Obtain first-hand information about the current challenges and opportunities for women and girls in the Fox Valley region.
- Are the needs consistent with issues identified at state-level by the *Status of Women in Wisconsin* report.
- Use information from listening sessions to direct attention to unmet and emerging needs in the community.

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Quiz

- For every dollar earned by a man how much does a woman earn?
- What percentage of single-mother families in Wisconsin live in poverty?
- If Wisconsin was given a letter grade (A - F) for its overall health of women, what grade would it receive?
- What percentage of the State legislature is made up of women?

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Answers

- For every dollar earned by a man how much does a woman earn? **71¢**
- What percentage of single-mother families in Wisconsin live in poverty? **23.5%**
- If Wisconsin was given a letter grade (A - F) for its overall health of women, what grade would it receive? **C+**
- What percentage of the State legislature is made up of women? **27.3%**

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Status of Women

- Published by the Institute for Women's Policy Research for all 50 states.
- *Status of Women in Wisconsin* report analyzed several key areas of importance for women:
 1. Political participation
 2. Employment and earnings
 3. Social and economic autonomy
 4. Reproductive rights
 5. Health and well-being

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Goals for Status Reports

- The reports have three main goals:
 1. To analyze and disseminate information about women's progress in achieving rights and opportunities;
 2. To identify and measure barriers to equality;
 3. To provide baseline measures and a continuing monitor of women's progress throughout the country.

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Results for Wisconsin

Employment & Earnings:

- Wisconsin a "C" in employment and earnings.
- 5th in the U.S. for Labor Force Participation.
- 28th in the U.S. for Median Annual Earnings (\$28,000).
- 45th in the U.S. for ratio of earnings between women and men (71%).
- Hispanic women earn the lowest wages of all racial and ethnic groups.

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Results Continued...

Social & Economic Autonomy:

- Poverty rate for single-mothers is 23.5% in Wisconsin as compared to 28.9% nationally.
- 1 in 4 Native-American single-mother families lives in poverty. Women of all races and ethnicities are much more likely to live in poverty than white women.
- 29th in the U.S. for percentage of women with four or more years of college (21.7%)

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Results Continued...

Health:

- Overall grade for the State is "C+".
- Mortality rates for heart disease is climbing from 132.5 per 100,000 in 2002 to 185.4 in 2004.
- African American highest mortality from heart disease with 241.9 per 100,000 and higher breast cancer rates.
- 48th in U.S. for poor mental health days for women.

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Results Continued...

Political Participation:

- 27.3% of the Wisconsin State Legislature are women.
- Only 2 women in Wisconsin serve among the total 10 congressional positions for the State.
- 1st women of color in Congress.

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Questions for Discussion

1. Relevance of the data from *Status of Women*?
2. Issues specific to Fox Valley?
3. Existing programs that are successful?
4. Advice for future generations?
5. What can the Women's Fund do to help serve women and girls in the community?

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Questions for Discussion

1. Relevance of the Data:

- What is your reaction to this research based on your personal experience living in the Fox Valley region?
- Are these issues significant for women and girls? If so, how are they impacting women and girls?

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Questions for Discussion

2. Concerns for Fox Valley:

- Based on your experience, what other issues are significant for women and girls that are not highlighted in the report?

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Questions for Discussion

3. Existing Programs:

- Are you aware of existing programs that have either assisted you or other women and girls in the Fox Valley region to overcome barriers to progress?

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Questions for Discussion

4. Advice for Future:

- What advice would you give to young girls as they prepare to be the next generation of women?

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Questions for Discussion

5. Role of the Women's Fund

- What can the Women's Fund do to assist women and girls reach their full potential and realize their dreams?

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Thank You!

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