



Welcome to the Women Legislators' Lobby's (WiLL) January 2013 e-newsletter! We value your input as we share updates and breaking news on WiLL events and member activities.

## WiLL Membership Month

Happy New Year! In 2012, we proudly counted nearly one-third of the nation's currently seated women state legislators as WiLL members! We welcome new members to grow our ranks. We also encourage returning legislators to join WiLL or renew their memberships. [WiLL members](#) receive access to timely materials, trainings, opportunities to raise awareness about the federal budget's impact on the states and protect programs that constituents rely on, and a chance to network with and learn from state legislators nationwide.

As we prepare for our biennial conference in Washington, DC on September 29-October 1, 2013, we hope to enroll many more talented women to join WiLL! You can join WiLL or renew your membership [online](#). WiLL membership materials will also be mailed to you shortly. If you know of a woman legislator we should recruit, please email [will@wand.org](mailto:will@wand.org).

Hearty congratulations to all the WiLL members nationwide who have ascended this year to leadership positions, including Senate Presidents **Sen. Pam Jochum** (IA), **Sen. Therese Murray** (MA), and **Sen. Sandy Pappas** (MN)! **Sen. Charleta Tavares** (OH), chair of the WAND Education Fund Board, was recently appointed to the powerful Ways & Means and Finance Committees. Utah **Rep. Jennifer Seelig**, WAND Board member, is the new House Minority Leader. If you or other WiLL members you know have won leadership positions, please let us know!

## Media & Messaging Training

Save the date for our highly-regarded media & messaging training, **February 15-17, 2013 in St. Paul, MN**. Truman National Security Project will provide sessions tailored to your role as a state legislator, focusing on how women leaders can effectively and credibly communicate their message through an array of media formats. You'll get top-notch advice on communicating expertly about tough issues, including state and federal budget issues. Our sessions help you to connect with diverse audiences, craft message and opinion columns, enhance your on-air presence, expand your print and electronic media opportunities, and amplify your constituent outreach in real-time through outlets like Facebook and Twitter.

Our trainings have received strong positive reviews from legislators who appreciate this opportunity to master communication skills. Training slots are limited. We hope you can take advantage of this opportunity, which includes coverage of travel, lodging, meals and materials, with your response as soon as possible. To RSVP or for more information, please contact WAND/WiLL Program Manager Maureen Campbell, (202/544-5055 ext.2603, [mcampbell@wand.org](mailto:mcampbell@wand.org)).

## Other Upcoming Events

### First Do No Harm

On **January 31 at 3pm EST**, we will proudly present a new webinar titled "First Do No Harm." Featuring federal and state budget and policy expert Elizabeth Lower-Basch of the [Center for Law and Social Policy \(CLASP\)](#), this program will review the aftermath of the post-election "fiscal cliff" battle and other emerging 2013 budget concerns in Congress. Learn how federal spending choices affect low-income individuals and families, both directly and through their impacts on state programs. We will also discuss opportunities to advocate for policies that strengthen families and create pathways to education and employment at the federal, state and local levels. [Please register today!](#)

### One Billion Rising

On **February 14, 2013**, join a worldwide movement taking a stand and demanding an end to violence against women. One Billion Rising is "a global strike, an invitation to dance, a call to men and women to refuse to participate in the status quo until rape and rape culture ends, an act of solidarity, demonstrating to women the commonality of their struggles and their power in numbers, a refusal to accept violence against women and girls as a given, and a new time and a new way of being." Please check the [One Billion Rising website](#) for more information about activities and events in your area.

## Connect with W/LL

For the latest on W/LL events and news, be sure to follow @WomenLegisLobby on [Twitter](#) and friend W/LL on [Facebook](#).

W/LL is a program of Women's Action for New Directions ([WAND](#)).