



## **2017 Legislative Agenda**

Thank you for attending today's Women's Advocacy Day! North Carolina Women United (NCWU), a coalition of organizations and individuals working towards full equality for all women across the state, came together over 20 years ago in an effort to bring more women's voices to our state policy discussions. Women giving voice to their experiences can powerfully inform policy discussions on everything from public education to voting rights to health care access to tax reform.

Viewing policy through a gender lens is a critical tool for elected officials who are crafting legislation that will impact half of their constituency in unique and/or direct ways. With less than 25% of our current General Assembly made up of women, it is vital that organizations and individuals representing the varied interests of women across the state make their voices heard.

In 2017, North Carolina women fill multiple, diverse roles in our society as caretakers, breadwinners, educators, workers and engaged citizens. Women still face unique barriers in society because we are women, and we have set our legislative priorities to address those barriers. Affordable child care and housing; protection from discrimination on the job; pay equity; access to affordable, quality, comprehensive health care; increased protections from domestic and sexual violence; and easy and accessible ways to bring women's voices to our democracy are just a few ways to provide women with opportunities to reach our highest potential.

With member and partner organizations across North Carolina representing thousands of women, and individual supporters who have coordinated agenda assemblies in different parts of the state, NCWU has been able to reach women across the state with our message that women can make a difference in North Carolina public policy.

With our 2017 legislative agenda, we submit our priorities for policies we believe will bring North Carolina women closer to the full social, political and economic equality we seek.

Thank you for participating in our Advocacy Day!