We are pleased to announce that the 12th Annual Women In Leadership Development Conference will be held at the Hilton East Brunswick, March 6-7, 2015.

This year’s conference is brimming with opportunities for participants to develop strategies and tactics to fight back against the unprecedented attacks on workers and their unions.

The national AFL-CIO has developed a groundbreaking Common Sense Economics program for women and families that will be taught this year by national staff and New Jersey trainers. The program will increase women’s awareness and participation in the labor movement and will broaden our influence over the economic policies that impact our families.

We are grateful to be joined this year by our new WILD Sister Jennifer Higgins, AFT 1904, who will talk about the importance of understanding our economic surroundings and building solidarity in the labor movement. We will also be joined by Dr. Mary Gatta, from Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW), who will discuss her newly published book, All I Want is a Job!

This conference builds on WILD’s 11-year tradition of empowering ourselves, our unions, and communities. We thank you for your continued support.

For further information or any questions, please call New Jersey State AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Laurel Brennan, at (609) 989-8730.

Women In Leadership Development

Conference Co-Sponsors

New Jersey State AFL-CIO
Rutgers University, SMLR
Conference Schedule

Friday, March 6, 2015

5:00 p.m. Registration

5:30 p.m. Reception

**WELCOME**
Charles Wowkanech  
*New Jersey State AFL-CIO President*

Laurel Brennan  
*New Jersey State AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer*

6:30 p.m. Plenary Session

*All I Want is a Job!*

**Keynote Speaker:**  
Dr. Mary Gatta  
*Senior Scholar at Wider Opportunities for Women*

In her book, *All I Want Is a Job!,* Mary Gatta puts a human face on workforce development policy. An ethnographic sociologist, Gatta went undercover, posing as a client in a New Jersey One-Stop Career Center. One-Stop Centers, developed as part of the federal Workforce Investment Act, serve as an unemployed worker’s go-to resource on the way to re-employment. Drawing together tales from the front lines, she highlights the strengths and weaknesses of One-Stop Career Centers, recommending key shifts in workforce policy to achieve a system that is less discriminatory, more humane, and better able to assist the unemployed, particularly women and their families.

Understand Your Economic Surroundings

**Keynote Speaker:**  
Jennifer S. Higgins  
*AFT 1904 Professional Staff Negotiations Coordinator*

Jennifer Higgins identifies herself on Twitter as a “wife, mother, labor leader, and a believer in a progressive society that offers a fair chance to all.” However, in today’s society, this is not a vision that is shared by all. In fact, there are powerful and wealthy forces, like the Koch Brothers, at work to advance a vision that would increase inequality, undermine democracy, reduce freedoms, deny collective bargaining rights, and eviscerate economic mobility for the masses. In her discussion, Jennifer will talk about our current economic surroundings and how economic awareness is an essential tool to fight back and achieve an economy that works for all.

Saturday, March 7, 2015

8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast

9:00 a.m. Workshop

**Common Sense Economics Goes WILD**

Common Sense Economics is a tool for getting people involved in their communities to make the economy work for all of us and not just for big corporations. The key takeaways from this seminar are:

- **Working people can and must change the direction of our national economy.**
- **Economic outcomes are not a matter of chance but a result of political choices.**
- **Working people can impact political choices through mobilization.**

This groundbreaking program will be taught by national staff and New Jersey trainers. The knowledge it provides is applicable to our everyday work and our continued goal to become more active and empowered leaders within our unions and the community.

12:30 p.m. Lunch and Wrap-up

Registration

**Conference Fee:** $100

Includes: Meals, Program, and Materials

Please fill out the information below and mail it, along with a check payable to the “New Jersey State AFL-CIO,” to:

**WILD Conference**  
>New Jersey State AFL-CIO  
>106 West State Street  
>Trenton, NJ 08608

Name

Organization

Address

Phone

Email

Reservations

**The Hilton East Brunswick**  
>3 Tower Center Boulevard  
>East Brunswick, NJ 08816

All participants are responsible for their own room reservations. To book, please call (800) 445-8667 and mention “NJ AFL-CIO WILD” to receive the discounted room rate of $116.00 (tax not included).

Overnight self-parking is included in the room rate – valet parking is an additional $14 per day.

To guarantee room availability, the deadline is *Friday, February 6, 2015.*