

International Women's Day 2013

Friday 8 March 2013 - 10am-3pm

Managing on the Margins

Norwich Central Baptist Church

To celebrate International Women's Day (IWD) 2013, Norfolk Federation of Women's Institutes are pleased to announce that we are hosting an event on 8th March 2013 and that this year we are working in partnership with Mothers' Union and 4women project,

Once again, we aim to provide an opportunity for all Norfolk and Norwich women's organisations to come together to celebrate women's achievements and share information and good practice during Fairtrade Fortnight. This year's theme is "**Managing on the Margins**" (MDG1&7) with both a local and a global focus.

There will a number of speakers (please see attached poster) and a final panel including both speakers and leading local politicians, taking questions from the floor. We are also planning workshops and other thought provoking activities to ensure that participants get the most out of the day.

We plan to have a number of stalls representing organisations whose work/activities have a significant impact on the lives and roles of women in society. We have identified your organisation as one whose work is of special importance in this field. We invite you to have a stall with the option of having a micro-workshop (discussion/activity) at the stall as one of the optional activities. Or perhaps you would like to run a larger workshop? Please see attachment: "IWD 2013: Managing on the Margins" for more information.

If this email has not got to quite the right location in your organisation, please could you pass it on?

We are sponsored by John Jarrold Trust & Aviva, which means that we can offer refreshments including a light lunch and a day of activities and speakers for only £7.70 (£7.00 WI members). We can offer one complimentary ticket per stall. We also have to thank Norwich City Council, Norfolk County Council and UEA School of International Development for donations in kind , help and advice.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mary Dorrell
01603 759626 if you need further information.

International Women's Day 2013
10am-3pm Friday March 8th
During Fair Trade Fortnight 2th Feb-10th March
Managing on the Margins

Aims: Participants will go back to their communities strengthened and informed with practical ideas, inspiration and knowledge of initiatives.

1. **The political dimension (Keynote):** How policy can help women, locally and internationally, build and manage with emotional resilience, sustainability and financial capability in times of austerity.
2. **International Women:** Women are very often the home builders as well as the home makers. Existing on less than \$125 (80p) per day, in the marginal conditions of shanty towns. Creating homes and meals out of next to nothing for their families. A chance to recognise and applaud their skills and support our government & NGO's efforts to raise more than 100 million slum-dwellers (MDG7) above the poverty line (MDG1)
3. **Local women:** In this country, this city, too, women manage to make ends meet, struggle through difficult times, build families and make a contribution to society. By having an opportunity for all Norfolk & Norwich women's organisations to meet, sharing awareness and ideas, we hope they will leave with a tool-kit of knowledge about how many organisations are available for them and the people in their community.

Background

- The worldwide recession has impacted on levels of poverty in both the UK and globally.
- In 2010 statistics showed that 925 million people were hungry across the world.
- In 2008/09, 13½ million people in the UK were living in households below the low-income threshold - around 22% of the population.
- According to the Department for Work and Pension's own statistics, about one in every five women in the United Kingdom live in poverty (DWP, 2007a).
- While strategies exist to combat poverty for children and pensioners, there is no specific strategy to challenge women's poverty.
- A Poverty and Social Exclusion Survey in the UK found that women are 'more likely to be poor on all four dimensions of poverty (namely: lacking two or more necessities; earning below 60 per cent median income; subjective poverty; and receiving Income Support)'.
- In this challenging environment, a central theme emerges – that of women sacrificing their own basic needs to put those of their families first; women as members of communities offering support to others; women claiming their rights despite the obstacles they face; women in the role of human rights defenders driving social progress.

STALLS

Aims

- To contribute to the overall aims of the event;
- To provide a variety of information on life-related topics that will be of particular relevance to women and reflect the challenges faced by women in the UK and internationally;
- To contribute to the toolkit of ideas/materials/knowledge/good practice available to attendees.

Issues: There are key areas that contribute to women's life fulfilment, social inclusion and well-being. In the main these can be summarised under the following headings:

- Health – physical and mental well being
- Career and work opportunities
- Freedom from discrimination and violence
- Food and nutrition
- Family and community
- Housing
- Social inclusion
- Finance
- Learning and skills attainment

We will provide

1. a table (size: 1x1.5m aprox.) to be available for you on the day
2. if you plan to bring other large display items please could you advise us beforehand.
3. The doors will be open early to provide ample time for setting up displays (time tbc).
4. A light lunch will be provided, we can provide one free ticket per stall.

Stall holders should provide, wherever practical,

- examples of good practice in relation to meeting the diverse needs of women.
- point of contact for ongoing networking opportunities
- We would like people to have information about important contributors to the day, so leaflets and information booklets that can be added to the toolkit for attendees would be of great assistance. (Number of attendees: Approximately 140?)

Micro-workshop (discussion/activity) at the stall

As well as having a table/display area at the event, we would like to invite organisations to become actively involved in the day. This could involve your representative giving information about your activities to people who call at your table or a user of your services speaking at the stall about their personal experience and how they were assisted by you. We want attendees to hear about good practice examples – what worked and what didn't for you. As an outcome from the day, we want to assist people in networking with other attendees.

PREVIOUSLY

Women reaching Women Project

In response to a large number of requests from National members to increase international work and projects; in 2008 National Federation of Women's Institutes launched a 3 year international development and women's rights project, Women Reaching Women, in collaboration with Oxfam and funded by DfID. This has had growing success in Norfolk over the last five years and will now develop into the **Millennium Development Goals Champions Campaign**.

2008 & 2009: Awareness raising in National and Norfolk Federations. (funded by DfID)

2010: **Building Bridges** IWD (International Women's Day) event at Forum, Norwich on 08.03.10
Attendance 40 WI and other organisations. (funded by DfID)

2011: **Celebrating Success** IWD event at Forum, Norwich on 04.03.11
"Sold out" at 120 WI and growing number of other organisations. (funded by DfID)

2012: **Women reaching Water: Water reaching Women** IWD event at UEA on 09.03.12
With Water Security Research Centre. (funded by ticket sales)
Attendance 140 WI and other Organisations.

2012: **Managing on the Margins** IWD event in Norwich on 08.03.13 More sponsors, more partners, more participants.

National Federation Women's Institute 2013 event is likely to be action around MDG 1, hunger and poverty, in next year's lead up to the UK chairing the G8 Summit." Meanwhile, across England and Wales, eight NFWI MDG Guardians, will be keeping an eye on all eight MDG targets.

Norfolk's focus is on MDG 7; including 7d: *"by 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers"*. In 1918 the National Federation of Women's Institutes passed its first resolution urging local authorities to take advantage of the government scheme for state-aided housing.

As the UK attempts to honour its commitment to spend 0.7% of GDP will the global promise of the MDGs be delivered in 2015? We hope we have something to celebrate, along with the WI 100th Birthday celebrations, also in 2015.