



Women in Development of Northeastern New York

Building networks, sharing best practices, and
working collaboratively for our collective success.

Demystifying Member Items: What They Should Mean to You and How to Get Them

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Registration Deadline: September 9, 2009

Registration and Networking / Buffet Breakfast: 7:30-8:00 am • Program: 8:00-10:00 am

Where: Wolferts Roost Country Club, 120 Van Rensselaer Blvd. Albany • Cost: \$20 members/\$35 non-members

Register one of three ways:

- Register online by going to <http://www.widneny.net/programs.htm>.
- Print the program information below and mail it to WID.
- Registrations received after the deadline will be accepted as space permits and charged a \$5 late fee. Unpaid reservations will be invoiced regardless of whether someone is in attendance at the program.

As a development professional, your job is to explore every possible avenue for funding, and one of them is the government. However, when it comes to member items, also known as member initiatives, and sometimes referred to as “pork money,” many of us are a bit confused. Aside from being uncertain of what they are, how to apply for them, and whether our programs are eligible, we may also wonder if there will be any funding available given the current state budget crisis, and whether pursuing them is worth the effort.

So what is a member item? *A member item is a portion of state funding allocated by the Senate and Assembly and used for a public purpose. The annual member item allocation is divided among the two houses of the New York State Legislature pursuant to agreement with the governor. Member item allocations are discretionary. Typically, the funds are used for community projects, civic, and public health initiatives in the recipient members’ districts. Member items traditionally represent tens of millions of dollars of spending in each year’s state budget.*

No doubt, the concept of approaching your legislator for funding brings up many more questions:

- How much funding is available to my legislator?
- What are his or her personal priorities or areas of interest?
- Which programs have they supported before?
- How important is building a relationship with my legislator to receiving a grant?
- What are my organization’s chances of success without the support of a lobbyist?
- What is the process and timeline for submitting a request?
- What are the common mistakes?

Please join WID for an informative, in-depth panel discussion addressing these questions and many more. Our speakers include experts from government, a lobbyist, and a nonprofit CEO so that all sides of this funding opportunity are addressed.

Our Panelists:

- Conor Bambrick** Legislative Director for State Assemblymember Kevin Cahill (D-Ulster, Dutchess)
Chris Burke CEO of Unity House, in Troy, which has had success with member item funding
Jack McEneny Assemblymember (D-Albany)
Jessica Schafroth Lobbyist with the firm of Malkin & Ross
Molly Nicol Moderator, Director of Marketing and Development, St. Gregory’s School for Boys

*For more information
about this program contact
membership@widneny.net*

Yes! I would like to attend “Demystifying Member Items” on Wednesday, September 16, 2009.

- Please reserve _____ spots for WID members (at \$20/member).
- Please reserve _____ spots for non-WID members (at \$35/non-member).
- I would like to become a member of Women in Development (\$60/annually).

Please list the names of the people who will be attending this program.

Name _____ Member Non-Member
 Name _____ Member Non-Member

Please share your contact information.

Organization _____ Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Daytime phone _____ E-mail _____

Please send payment to: Women in Development • P.O. Box 5871 • Albany, NY 12205 • membership@widneny.net
To register online by credit card, visit our website at: www.widneny.net/programs.htm



Women in Development
of Northeastern New York
P.O. Box 5871
Albany, NY 12205

WID Program Announcement

Save the Date!

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Women in Development of Northeastern New York Presents

“Demystifying Member Items: What They Should Mean to You and How to Get Them”

About Women in Development of Northeastern New York

Founded in 1994, Women in Development of Northeastern New York was established by 12 women dedicated to promoting women in the fields of development, organizational advancement, and other related fields. Today, the membership has grown to over 140 women in northeastern New York, western Vermont and western Massachusetts. WID of Northeastern New York is part of an informal national WID organization.

Among WID’s many Membership Benefits

- Listing and access to WIDNENY On-line Member Directory
- Seminars and workshops tailored to your needs
- Opportunities to meet and network with professionals sharing similar interests
- WID newsletter, published quarterly, providing information on WID members, activities, and job opportunities