Promoting Women's Economic Empowerment and Entrepreneurship
In Challenging Conditions

A Hubert H. Humphrey Fellows Workshop sponsored by the US Department of State at University of Tennessee Knoxville

Goal of workshop: To put women’s economic empowerment into context at the international, national, and local levels and to clarify the immense difficulties faced by marginalized women.

Takeaways: Ideas and models for successful programs to empower women economically around the globe.

Tuesday April 16, 2019

6 pm Meet for Hors d’Oeuvres
6:30 pm Dinner and Welcome (Vice Provost Gretchen Neisler)
7:15 pm Brief orientation to Appalachia and its emergence into the cash economy in the early 20th century (Lisa Oakley, M.A., East Tennessee Historical Society)
After-dinner networking.

Wednesday April 17, 2019

7:45-8:15 Breakfast
8:30 Introductions
9:00 Framing the Issues: 2016 United Nations report on Women’s Empowerment with Overview of Sectors for Improvement, Strategies; Update to 2016 (Ms. Em Chitty)
9:45 Refreshment Break
10:00 Reflection and discussion
10:30 International Law and Global Women’s Empowerment (Professor Rob Blitt, University of Tennessee School of Law)
11:30 Discussion and time for questions
12:00 pm Break for lunch
1:30 National-level: Ashley Blamey on Title IX (exchange and discussion)
2:30 Small-group Discussion and Exchange
3:00 Leveraging the Resources of Universities to Nurture Entrepreneurship (Lynn Youngs, Anderson Center, Haslam College of Business of the University of Tennessee)
4:30 Discussion and Exchange
5:00 Walkabout and dinner on the town in downtown Knoxville on your own

Thursday April 18, 2019

6:30 am Breakfast, networking
7:00  Depart for Nashville (3 hours) -- Introduction to Thistle Farms
9:30  (*US Central time) Morning presentation at Thistle Farms Center for rehabilitation
     and empowerment of marginalized women (Survivor Staff and Hal Cato)
12:00* pm Lunch at Thistle Farms Cafe
1:30*  Afternoon presentation at Thistle Farms; department directors (Survivor Staff)
3:00*  Leave for downtown Nashville and early dinner, walkabout
7:00*  Leave for Knoxville (3 hours) -- networking on the van
11 pm  Arrive Knoxville Holiday Inn (Eastern Time)

Friday April 19, 2019
8 am  Breakfast, networking
9 am  Debrief on Thistle Farms and Challenging Societal Circumstances; small group
discussions (facilitators: Neisler, Chitty)
10:30 am  Political barriers to women’s empowerment (LaKena Middlebrook)
11 am  Small group discussion
12 pm  Lunch
1:30 pm  Brief presentations on out-of-the-box approaches to women’s empowerment
   a) Global Sports Mentoring Program with Alicia Malnati
   b) STEM programs for disadvantaged kids, Candice Halbert, director of Yo-STEM
   c) Colleen Cruze and Using Social Media to Grow a Family Dairy Farm
   d) Inas Hameed, former microfinance officer, Baghdad Iraq
2:15 pm  Break
2:30 pm  Roundtable -- Malnati, Halbert, Hameed, Neisler, Cruze, Chitty
         Q and A for innovative presenters, discussion
4:00 pm  Final presentations/comments by attendees
5 pm  Closing Dinner

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<th>Title and Affiliation</th>
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Post meeting evaluation with Survey Monkey
Follow-up communication via WeChat group