



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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News Advisory for an Online Chat January 31 at 2pm EST

WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE: THE CHALLENGE OF RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

Rheumatoid Arthritis is a discriminatory disease, attacking women at a rate three times more than men. It comes at a cost that goes way beyond physical pain. With women making up about 50% of the workforce, the impact of Rheumatoid Arthritis on workplace productivity is enormous—to the tune of billions of dollars. Many lose their jobs, retire early, or reduce their hours. It can also be difficult for employers trying to balance business goals and provide adequate medical coverage for employees. Join us for the launch of the Women's Rheumatoid Arthritis Project 2013 (WRAP2013).

WHAT: WRAP 2013 launch—a chance to discuss how to manage RA in the workplace, innovative initiatives on the part of businesses, medical advances and more.

WHO: Panel of experts include:
Barbara Kasoff, President & CEO of Women Impacting Public Policy
Deborah Frett, CEO of the Business & Professional Women's Foundation
Dr. Michael Schweitz, President of the Coalition for State Rheumatology Organizations
Dr. Marianne Cloeren, Medical Director at Managed Care Advisors and Board Certified Internal Medicine and Occupational Medicine
Kari Owens, patient who knows first hand the challenges of working with RA

WHERE: Online at blog.wipp.org - To register, go to <http://bit.ly/XK6Ze7>

WHEN: January 31 at 2pm

About Women Impacting Public Policy (WIPP): WIPP is a national nonpartisan public policy organization, advocating on behalf of over 1 million women-owned businesses representing 68 business organizations. WIPP provides timely economic policy information, identifies important trends and opportunities to its membership, and provides a collaborative model for the public and private sectors to increase the economic power of women-owned businesses.

About Business & Professional Women's Foundation (BPWF): With a legacy dating back to 1919, BPWF Foundation was the first foundation dedicated to conducting research and providing information with a single-minded focus on working women. The mission of BPWF Foundation is to promote systematic change by strengthening the capacity of organizations and businesses to create work

environments that are inclusive and value the skills and contributions of working women, empowering them to achieve their full potential. We convene and partner with working women, employers, and policymakers to create successful workplaces that embrace and practice diversity, equity, and work-life balance.

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