

NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON WORKPLACE FLEXIBILITY

Challenges and solutions for the manufacturing industry

APRIL 14, 2011

8:00 AM TO 12:30 PM

SPERTUS INSTITUTE, 610 S. MICHIGAN AVENUE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Women's Bureau is hosting a *National Dialogue on Workplace Flexibility* with a focus on the manufacturing industry on April 14, 2011 in Chicago. The Chicago Dialogue, like those in Dallas, Los Angeles, and New York, will build on the message and momentum from the March 2010 White House Flexibility Forum. The Bureau's half-day conference will model the White House's event and include participants from the business community, advocates, researchers, union leaders, government agencies, and employees.

The purpose of the events is to:

- Raise awareness and exchange best practices, real stories and the newest research on the impact of workplace flexibility.
- Expand the knowledge base and base of support on flexibility by reaching out to new partners and stakeholders.
- Stimulate dialogue among employers and business owners on making flexibility work.

Labor Secretary, Hilda Solis will be the keynote speaker for the event. We want to highlight and acknowledge the efforts of employers and advocates who have taken on the challenge of assuring high quality work-life environments for working families. Many employers realize the benefit to both their business and the lives of their employees, but we still have a long way to go in fostering and creating workplaces that support and acknowledge the realities of workers' lives, including family care-giving. This is not just a women's issue, but an issue that affects our families, businesses, and the economy.

Promoting work-life balance, including flexible workplace policies, is one of the many ways the Women's Bureau will improve working conditions and promote economic security for all working women.

This initiative also plays a key role in the strategy implemented by Women's Bureau Director Sara Manzano-Díaz for achieving Secretary Solis' vision of "Good Jobs for Everyone" through focused efforts on four priority areas including workplace flexibility, equal pay, higher-paying jobs for women, and supporting women veterans who are homeless.

For more information or to receive an invitation, please contact the Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor at pascal.deborah@dol.gov or 312-353-6985.

