



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EISLER CALLS FOR A NEW ECONOMICS THAT VALUES CARE-GIVING

May 4th event to bring together business, education, and civic leaders to create change for working women

CHICAGO – Women are now the breadwinners or co-breadwinners in two-thirds of American households, yet female-dominated jobs are still undervalued and underpaid. Dr. Riane Eisler, bestselling author of *The Chalice and the Blade*, will be in Chicago on May 4th at Women Employed's annual fundraiser, *The Working Lunch*. Dr. Eisler will discuss her new book, *The Real Wealth of Nations: Creating a Caring Economics*, which outlines the need for a new economics that places more value on caring and care-giving.

“Childcare workers, nursing assistants, and other caregivers often earn barely above minimum wage, even though we entrust them with the lives of our loved ones. The women performing this vital work often struggle, working multiple jobs just to make ends meet,” notes Anne Ladky, Executive Director of Women Employed. In Dr. Eisler’s speech, “Empowering Women and Changing the World,” she will present evidence that our current economic crisis has been brought about, in part, by our flawed economic systems that fail to place value on the essential work of care-giving. Dr. Eisler will show that investing in human infrastructure, and placing more value on the work of women, is an essential part of a successful post-industrial economy.

She will also lay out a plan for a new, “caring” economy that will empower women; create and subsidize jobs in industries like childcare, education, and eldercare; and place economic value on caring in homes. The results will be profound – not only will we more fully recognize women’s economic contributions, but our economy will better support families and we will see a radical reduction in poverty.

The Working Lunch, sponsored by Northern Trust, will be held from 12 - 1:30 p.m. in the Imperial Ballroom of the Fairmont Hotel Millennium Park, 200 N. Columbus Dr., Chicago. Hundreds of business and community leaders will gather to hear Dr. Eisler, whose keynote speech will begin at approximately 12:50 p.m.

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About Women Employed

Founded in 1973, Women Employed's mission is to improve women's economic status and remove barriers to economic equity. Women Employed focuses on the millions of women who are paid low wages, advocating for better workplace policies and increased access to and success in post-secondary education.

For more information, call (312) 782-3902 ext. 222, or visit www.womenemployed.org.

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