



State of North Carolina

Department of Administration

Pat McCrory, Governor

Bill Daughtride, Jr., Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For Additional Information Contact:

Chris Mears, Public Information Officer
Office: 919-807-2340
Cell: 919-414-4327
chris.mears@doa.nc.gov
twitter: @ncdoa / facebook.com/ncdoa

Women Thriving in Eastern NC but Challenges Remain

RALEIGH, NC – September 10, 2013

North Carolina Council for Women, a division of the NC Department of Administration, will be releasing a briefing paper today on the Status of Women in Eastern North Carolina. The conclusion of the paper states that many women in Eastern NC are thriving, yet data revealed in the paper shows that there are still areas for improvement. The briefing paper was written by the Institute for Women's Policy Research, a non-profit organization based in Washington, DC. The briefing paper will be formally released at an event held tonight in Kill Devil Hills, NC, in conjunction with the Virginia Dare Business & Professional Women's Club.

The paper identifies key areas for improvement in the lives of women in Eastern NC: an existing wage gap (women earn 80 cents on the dollar when compared to men), more access to affordable child care, and increased focus on educational attainment. It also makes policy recommendations such as monitoring workforce development, implementing teen pregnancy prevention programs and improving access to health care services.

"Identifying the status of women in Eastern NC is crucial to improving their lives and the lives of their children," said Gale Wilkins, Director of NC Council for Women. "We want this briefing paper to serve as a starting point to help address many of these issues."

In March, the NC Council for Women released the full report on the Status of Women in North Carolina. That report was the latest research on women in North Carolina and tracked the progress and disparity in opportunities and outcomes for women since 1996. The briefing paper released today, specifically looks at women in eastern North Carolina counties.

For more information on the briefing paper for the [Status of Women in Eastern North Carolina](#), please contact Gale Wilkins, Director of the [NC Council for Women](#) at 919-733-2455, or Linda V. Murphy from the Virginia Dare Business & Professional Women's Club at 252-229-5188.

###