

For Immediate Release

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The Economics of Caregiving

Bucks County Women's Advocacy Coalition (BCWAC), Aging Adult Services Montgomery County, Bucks County Area Agency on Aging, Women's Center of Montgomery County, A Woman's Place, and the BucksMont Collaborative are proud to announce Pennsylvania's first of its kind symposium "**Who Cares: The Economics of Caregiving**".

Tam St. Claire, President of the BCWAC noted, "We have an impressive list of caregivers, dignitaries and experts speaking including keynote speaker, **Gail Gibson Hunt**, President and CEO of National Alliance of Caregivers." Additional dignitaries include:

- **David Gingerich**, Deputy Secretary, PA Department of Aging
- **Diane Bosak**, Deputy Secretary, Workforce Development, PA Department of Labor & Industry,
- **Jen Burnett**, Deputy Secretary, Office of Long-Term Living, PA Department of Human Services,
- **Brian Duke**, Former PA Secretary of Aging, and System Director, Senior Services, Main Line Health
- **Dan Bates**, President, Lower Bucks County Chamber of Commerce.
- **Robert P. Casey, Jr.**, U.S. Senator (by video)
- **Wendy Campbell**, Exec. Director, Alzheimer's Association of the Delaware Valley
- **William S. Blacker**, Owner, Home Instead Senior Care
- **Kathleen Chalmers**, Human Resources Specialist at Moldamatic LLC
- **Jane Meier Hamilton**, CEO and Founder of Partners on the Path
- **Elizabeth M. Walsh**, Exec. Director, Bucks County Workforce Development Board, Inc.
- **Authur L. Haywood**, PA Senator
- **Madeleine Dean, Kate Harper and Katharine Watson**, PA Representatives
- **Valery Arkoosh**, Montgomery County Commissioner
- **Jon Rubin**, Bucks County Director of Human Services

This symposium will bring together over 100 legislators, caregivers, employers, members of the philanthropic community; representatives of governmental and non-profit agency; community groups; and, the media to:

- promote awareness and validate the financial needs of caregivers;
- catalyze a dialogue and engage partners among key players who will provide insight and potential solutions for an improved economic support system;
- create greater awareness and assistance that can be shared with persons in order to effect reform.

Caregiving crosses all socio-economic boundaries and includes elder care, spousal care, child care, disabled care, and the care of wounded military members. Sixty% of family caregivers are women. Caregiving has a physical and emotional toll on the caregiver, but the un- and under-reported financial implications are most insidious. Caregiving imposes a glass ceiling on women's earnings, social security benefits and career goals, as well as generating additional related expenses.

The symposium will be held on Friday, October 30 at the Montgomery County Community College, Room 144, College Hall, from 8:15 – 3:15. Interested parties are still welcome to register at www.BCWAC.org.