

## **Women's Agenda Assembly:** *Notes for Facilitators/Recorders*

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### Description/History:

Since 1988, women's advocates in NC have come together in each "even" legislative year to share information on public policy issues which may be addressed in the next upcoming session of the General Assembly. In 2007, priorities from the previous local agenda assembly votes/discussions resulted in a lengthy "Draft Women's Agenda" published by the nonprofit organization NC Women United (NCWU) in late summer as an informational tool for the public and other public policy makers (for full agenda see [www.ncwu.org](http://www.ncwu.org)).

The issues from the Draft Women's Agenda are discussed locally at "Women's Agenda Assemblies" across the. The summaries of the local discussion and priorities are then presented to the NCWU Board. NCWU makes use of the locally agreed priorities in compiling the following year's Draft Women's Agenda which is presented annually at the General Assembly on Women's Advocacy Day, which this year will take place on May 22. For more information about the local and state processes see [www.ncwu.org](http://www.ncwu.org) or call toll-free 866-518-7657.

### Facilitating Group Discussions at the Women's Agenda Assembly

Each county conducts its assembly somewhat differently, however the general template has been to organize the event into three parts:

- (1) short presentations by community speakers on the statewide priorities from the Draft Agenda;
- (2) facilitated small group discussions and a recorded vote on the priorities; and
- (3) tallying of the small group votes with a final "Vote for the County" presented.

*Most agree that the heart of the Women's Agenda Assembly is the opportunity to hear from your community members in the small group discussions, learning about the often hidden concerns of those near you, and coming together share solutions.*

*Thank you so much for participating this year!*