

## **WIF To Host National Conference**

By Paula Broadwell

Charlotte – already on the map as one of the fastest-growing cities and home to one of the most successful women’s collective giving groups – will be in the spotlight again in October.

That’s when WIF hosts the fifth annual national Women’s Collective Giving Network Conference. The network represents 44 collective giving groups with a combined membership of 10,000 women in 23 states and grants totaling almost \$70 million.

This year’s conference theme is Doing. Being. Leading.

Former WIF Chairs Dianne Bailey and Sonja Nichols are leading the planning effort, with a host of WIF members already volunteering. An exciting conference with high-powered speakers is planned. All programming will take place at the Ballantyne Hotel, and registration is now open.



Here is a sneak peak:

The conference will include user-friendly content focusing on skill building in philanthropy, from the how-to to building your (or your organization’s) brand and audience via social media, to vetting non-profit organizations, to individual professional development.

High-profile speakers will be in abundance.



Darla Moore, former Vice President of Rainwater, Inc., a private investment company, will serve as keynote speaker. Moore is founder and chair of the Palmetto Institute, a nonprofit think tank aimed at bolstering per capita income in South Carolina, and founder and chair of The Charleston Parks Conservancy, a foundation focused on enhancing the parks and public spaces of the City of Charleston, Moore has invested or donated about \$130 million into projects that benefit her home state of South Carolina.

Breakout and plenary sessions will include presentations from national and local philanthropic leaders such as the founder of the Susan G. Komen Foundation and Charlotte's own Molly Barker, founder of Girls on the Run, now an international organization, and Jessica Bennett, gender writer for TIME magazine and The New York Times.

The conference agenda also includes free breakout sessions for wellness, and the instructional class on using social media to broaden your brand and personal impact.

Whether you've joined WIF to learn to be an impactful philanthropist, to meet can-do women, or to learn more about the needs in our community, this conference offers something for you. Don't miss the early bird registration: <http://www.wcgn-network.org/event-1853355>