



Date: October 15th 2016

Dear Reality Store/Conference Volunteer:

Thank you for your interest in volunteering! This year's theme is Empowerment and all that it encompasses. We will be teaching our participants basic self-defense, financial management, fashion, and as usual the Reality Store. The goal is to keep the participants engaged and learning throughout the day and, with your help, making lasting connections.

The Reality Store is a hands-on simulation that appeals to teens and gives them a taste of the real world— complete with their choice of occupation and the salary associated, spouse, student loan debt, credit card debt, and medical insurance payments. Students get an instant family and then move about the stations to purchase housing, transportation, food, clothing, household necessities, daycare, and other needs.

The Agenda for the day and your table assignment for the Store will be emailed to you about a week prior to the conference. We ask that you arrive by 8:00a.m to receive your instructions and to prepare your table. You are encouraged to bring props or pictures to use at your station. (Examples— Child Care station could use pictures of children, toys, etc.; Groceries— food props, store ads, etc.)

In addition, we would appreciate that you stay through the lunch session and team building exercises (until 2:00 p.m.) We have two keynote speakers this year that will be enhancing our theme, Miss Rowan Elizabeth and Mrs. Ann Tuttle. The girls have indicated at past events that they enjoy talking to our volunteers during lunch and learning about their career choices, education and any advice you can offer to them. This is a great mentoring opportunity for adult women to empower our youth.

New York State Women, Inc., Region VII, and local Chapter Lake to Lake Women thank you for participating in this program. It should be a great learning experience in financial management for our high school girls and hopefully they learn something they can take with them when they leave. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Rhoads

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