

American Agri-Women Foundation and the CHS Foundation are joining forces to promote “Women in the Boardroom”. Far too often organizations need people to apply for their boards and it is a struggle to find them. Women typically did not consider serving on agriculture boards where the norm was all male.

Men were perceived as the one that knew agriculture best and also were thought of as the farmer in household. We know that is changing with the huge percent of female farmers that have stepped up to call themselves farmers and Ranchers. Still there is a barrier, women still are the main family care-taker.

We have formed a panel called “It’s about Time”, featuring women holding positions on agriculture boards at all levels from community, state and national organizations, both appointed and elected. The point is for these women to share how they went about getting onto these boards, the drawbacks and the positive thoughts and also, took care of home and family.

The CHS Foundation and the American Agri-Women share the same mission to develop a new generation of agriculture leaders for life-long success with a priority on making investments that advance innovation and drive excellence in agriculture education while cultivating high-impact programs for rural youth and accelerating potential for careers in agriculture.

Women, when asked to serve, have two things pop into their minds, they either feel unqualified, when that is far from the truth, or compared to the long standing, typically all male board the fear of asking stupid questions or maybe they won’t speak out at all.

Yes this myth is slowly losing ground as more women step forward and fill these positions. Women bring a different and unique perspective to these boards as well.

By awarding scholarships to travel and take part in the American Agri-Women’s National Convention to be held November 6-12, 2019 in Tegalard Oregon and listen to our panel subject “It’s about Time”.

American Agri-Women have a long standing commitment to form leaders through mentoring young women and to help shape their futures. We hope to provide skills and knowledge for them to seek out and take their place on agriculture boards.

Promoting this panel discussion certainly will give them a “leg up” when actively seeking board positions. This will be an ongoing commitment program that will help our agriculture and commodity groups find real talent.

The scholarships will be available on our website www.americanagriwomen.org and awarded to 10 young women between the ages of 18-25. The scholarship applications are due by August 15th. 2019.

The panel itself will be held on Friday so travel could be planned around that day, making it easier to attend.