Outlook Optimistic for Women

*March 8th is International Women’s Day*

Raleigh, NC - March 6, 2014 - [International Women's Day](http://www.internationalwomensday.com/about.asp#.UxeJyPldWm-) is heralded as a chance to celebrate past, present and future women. This holiday, which dates back more than 100 years, is a truly global celebration honored by more than 175 countries, including the US.

For her part, North Carolina based medical real estate developer Stephanie Wilson shared a few reasons she’s optimistic about the recent strides made by women. Wilson is the founder of the newly minted Women’s Capital Collaborative, a fund created to invest in women-led ventures with a sustainable purpose. Their mission? “To help increase the number of women-led, high impact businesses pitching for capital and to encourage and empower more women to invest in these enterprises,” explains Wilson.

While venture investment in women-owned enterprises is just 7 percent, the good news is that gender equality in investments is on the rise stated a recent report from the [Center for Venture Research](http://paulcollege.unh.edu/sites/default/files/2012_analysis_report.pdf). “Nearly 24 percent of angel funding is now going to women-led businesses,” comments Wilson. “We want to ensure that women continue to be properly represented on both sides of angel and venture investments.”

As an angel investor in woman-owned companies, Wilson appreciates the value of the TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE. “Advance women, make a social impact, and receive an economic return on the investment.”

Here are a few more strides made by women:

1. Women are having a [record breaking year](http://www.forbes.com/sites/moiraforbes/2014/03/04/why-2014-is-record-breaking-year-for-women-on-forbes-billionaires-list/) on the Forbes Billionaires list. Author and COO of Facebook, Sheryl Sandberg, joined this prestigious list, becoming part of the 25% increase over 2013 and a staggering 60% increase over the past two years.
2. Of the top five most viewed TED talks, three are by women.
3. Sandra Bullock reportedly earned 70 million for her Oscar-nominated role in Gravity – putting her on track with male actors for this year’s top earnings lists.
4. And… it’s looking good for “**Hillary 2016**.”

“Need I say more?” laughed Wilson.