

Worcester County Commission on the Status of Women

State Liaison: Mary-dith Tuitt

<u>Regional Commissioners</u>: Chantel Bethea (Chair), Worcester; Michelle Quinones (Clerk), Worcester; Cinamon Blair, Clinton; Marcia Chong Rosado, Milford; Kyanna James, Worcester; Carlee Mills, Gardner; Amanda Molina Dumas, Millbury; Jacqueline Martino, Shrewsbury; Stephanie Teixeira, Grafton.

Regional Area: The Worcester County Commission on the Status of Women represents all towns and cities in Worcester County including: Ashburnham, Athol, Auburn, Barre, Blackstone, Bolton, Boylston, Brookfield, Charlton, Clinton, Dana, Douglas, Dudley, Fitchburg, Gardner, Grafton, Greenwich, Hardwick, Harvard, Holden, Hubbardston, Lancaster, Leicester, Leominster, Lunenburg, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, New Braintree, Northboro, Northbridge, North Brookfield, Oakham, Oxford, Paxton, Petersham, Phillipston, Prescott, Princeton, Shrewsbury, Southboro, Southbridge, Spencer, Sterling, Sturbridge, Sutton, Templeton, Upton, Uxbridge, Warren, Webster, Westboro, West Boylston, West Brookfield, Westminster, Winchendon, Worcester.

Highlights and Accomplishments for FY23

We continue to explore opportunities to contribute to the following areas of concern which have been identified as critical by the women in Worcester County:

- An Act relative to healthy youth
- An Act to Increase Access to Disposable Menstrual Product

Mission

The purpose of the Commission shall be to advance women toward full equity in all areas of life and to promote rights and opportunities for all women. The mission of the Worcester County Commission on that Status of Women is to act as a permanent centralizing force and effective voice in the County of Worcester to ensure the equal status of women of every race, religion, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, national origin, ability, age and sexual orientation in educational, economic, political, health, legal, and social spheres including the provision of information, referrals, and guidance. The

commission stands for fundamental freedoms, basic human rights, and the full enjoyment of life for all women throughout their lives.

Goals FY 2023

- Conduct our Legislative Breakfast for September 2023
- Hold more public forums in the surrounding cities and towns in Worcester County.
- Collaborate with the Mass CSW and Regional Commissions to hold more public hearings
 in order to raise awareness of critical issues facing women in Massachusetts and to grow
 the participation and involvement of individual and organizational allies in the work of
 advancing equity for women of Massachusetts.
- Maintain regular contact with our legislators and officials on issues that concern women that have been identified as our priority areas of focus.
- Continue to collaborate with other organizations, and public officials, in order to support women and girls through public awareness.
- Work closely with our sister commissions on implementing and developing best practices for the betterment of each commission.
- Work on writing and proposing new state level legislative policies for women.
- Attend community events and share literature about the commission to promote awareness of our role and work to increase involvement in our activities.

Submitted by: Ms. Chantel, Chair of the Worcester County CSW