



Hampshire-Franklin County Commission on the Status of Women

Annual Summary FY26

State Liaison: Carol Campbell (Amherst)

Regional Commissioners: Luzed Guzman Romano, Chair (Easthampton); Jo-Ann Konieczny, Vice Chair (Hadley); Victoria Edwards, Clerk (Greenfield); Olivia Laramie, Legislative Liaison (Easthampton); Colleen DelVecchio, (Easthampton); Mary Doherty (Williamsburg); Amanda Sanderson (Greenfield)

Regional Area: The Hampshire-Franklin Commission on the Status of Women represents all cities and towns in Hampshire and Franklin Counties including Amherst, Ashfield, Belchertown, Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Chesterfield, Colrain, Conway, Cummington, Deerfield, Easthampton, Erving, Gill, Goshen, Granby, Greenfield, Hadley, Hatfield, Hawley, Heath, Huntington, Leverett, Leyden, Middlefield, Monroe, Montague, New Salem, Northampton, Northfield, Orange, Pelham, Plainfield, Rowe, Shelburne, Shutesbury, South Hadley, Southampton, Sunderland, Ware, Warwick, Wendell, Westhampton, Whately, Williamsburg and Worthington.

Highlights and Accomplishments for FY26

- **Community Listening and Engagement** – To facilitate direct dialogue with the public, the Commission hosted a community conversation with constituents in Franklin County. The event was held at Greenfield Community College on November 5th where several key issues were brought up, including childcare, education, housing, and economic opportunity.
- **Media and Public Awareness** – To strengthen its advocacy reach, the Commission expanded its media presence by building relationships with press and communication outlets. This enhanced visibility positioned the Commission to inform the public, influence policy conversations, and advocate more effectively on

behalf of women and girls in Hampshire and Franklin counties. HFCSW Chair Luzed Guzman Romano and MCSW Regional Commissions Director Tina Games were interviewed on WHMP's Feminist Futures Radio Show with local radio personality and Smith College professor Carrie Baker where they discussed the work of the commission and its endorsement of key legislative bills.

- **Legislative Advocacy** – The creation and publication of an op-ed in support of Bill H.2499, *“An Act pertaining to women’s health at midlife and public, medical and workplace awareness of the transitional stage of menopause and related chronic conditions.”* This advocacy contributed to increased visibility and public discourse on women’s health.

Goals for Next Fiscal Year

- Recruit new commissioners, strengthen our relationships in the community and with academic partners, build even stronger partnerships with state legislators, continue our media presence.