

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chantel Bethea	Jeanine Paul
Sarah Gruhin	Daisy Reeves
Kristen Lemire	Marianne Sarkis
Kathleen Linton	Elizabeth Tomaszewski

FUTURE ASPIRATIONS

- Build a close relationship with the Massachusetts State Commission on the Status of Women.
- Work with the community in addressing the needs found in the Women's Needs Assessment Survey.
- Continue programs and celebrations including the Women/Young Women of Consequence Award, International Women's Day, Equal Pay Day, and Women's History Month.
- Keep up to date on women's rights news as well as contact with local senators and representatives that will help support our goals.

MEETINGS

Monthly meetings are opportunities for committee members and members of the community to discuss future endeavors that support women.

- Open to the public.
- Fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- For more information, contact Abby McCabe at (508) 799-1175.

STATISTICS ON WOMEN

EMPOWERMENT

75% of all women cannot get bank loans.
21% of women are less likely to own a cell phone resulting in a lack of communication skills.

Source: UNDP and MWOMAN

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Women perform two-thirds of the world's work and produce half the world's food. However, they only earn 10% of the income and own 1% of the property.

Source: WfWI

EDUCATION

Women constitute 2/3 of the world's 800 million illiterate adults (15 and older). The more educated girls become in Africa, the more likely they are to be healthier and have a larger income.

Source: Camfed USA

EQUALITY AND LEADERSHIP

Only 28 countries have achieved the 30% target set in the early 1990s for women in decision-making positions. Worldwide, women are paid 17% less, and have less employment security than men.

Source: UNWOMEN

HEALTH

Heart disease is leading cause of death in females. Every minute a woman dies from pregnancy-related causes. Worldwide, young women (15-24) are 1.6 times as likely to be HIV positive. About 1 in 8 women in the United States (12%) will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime.

Source: International Organization for Women Foundation

SAFETY AND SECURITY

The abuse of women and girls is endemic around the world. One in three women will be raped, beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise violated in her lifetime.

Source: UNIFEM



THE CITY MANAGER'S

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

...to formulate, encourage, promote and monitor programs and policies relating to the status of women in the City of Worcester...

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THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

The Advisory Committee on the Status of Women was founded by Worcester women and established by City Ordinance in 1977. The Committee is an organized forum for addressing concerns of particular interest to Worcester women. The committee seeks to foster diversity and improve the economic status of women. The Committee's main function is to formulate, encourage, promote and monitor programs and policies relating to the status of women in the City of Worcester.

HISTORY OF THE COMMITTEE

The Advisory Committee on the Status of Women was established by City Manager Francis McGrath in 1977.

ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A public forum on "Women, HIV, AIDS and Worcester" was presented and recommendations for action were proposed and forwarded to the City Manager's Task Force on AIDS.

A public forum on "Women: Elder Health Care Issues in Worcester" brought forth additional information important to women in Worcester. Recommendations were forwarded to the Commission on Elder Affairs.

Collaboration with various groups to develop a job ordinance initiative aimed at increasing the number of building trade jobs available to women in the City.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Based on ACSW recommendations...

- The "Women's Safety Network" was presented in August 2004. This effort resulted in recommendations that were implemented by a number of city departments, including the Department of Public Health and the Worcester Police Department.
- Annual recognition of Equal Pay Day in April with the help of local businesses.
- In partnership with WPI, the Committee engaged in an aspirations study for young women and men in public and private high schools. The study examined gender stereotypes and roles.
- The Committee continues to work with the Massachusetts State Commission on the Status of Women.
- In 2009 - 2010, the Committee worked with the local community to create and distribute a Women's Need Assessment Survey.
- In March 2011, the Committee celebrated the 100th Anniversary of International Women's Day in conjunction with the annual Young Women of Consequence Award and Women's History Month.

WOMEN OF CONSEQUENCE

1996	Annette Rafferty, Lisa Connelly-Cook, Sandi Carlson
1997	Susan Seibel, Barbara Ward, Marie McCarthy-Kaye
1998	Jane Dutton, Mary Melville, Harriette L. Chandler
1999	Linda Weinreb, MD Deborah D. Carey
2000	Zoila Torres Feldman
2001	Linda Cavaoli
2002	Lois B. Green
2003	Virginia Navickas
2004	Judy Brown-Cahill
2005	Stephanie Blaisdell Ph.D and Denise Nicolletti Ph.D
2006	Lynda Young
2007	Veronica Griffin
2008	Helen Vassallo Ph.D
2009	Hazel Berry
2010	Thuha Le, Lynne Tolman

YOUNG WOMEN OF CONSEQUENCE

2000	Yahira Rodriguez
2001	Eva Nazerwicz, Kathryn Hanley
2002	Aferdita Spahillari
2003	Caitlin Maynard
2004	Dylan Espinosa
2005	Malissa Osei, Emily McKee
2006	Kleidia Spiro
2007	Leila Boudouani
2008	Rubby Wuabu
2009	Carly Eressy, Danielle Pingue
2010	Cindy Cao
2011	Paige Allen
