

MEETINGS

The Commission on the Status of Women meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Ken Edwards Center, 1527 Fourth Street, Santa Monica. The meetings are open to the public.

The Ken Edwards Center is wheelchair accessible. For special disability-related needs, please call (310) 458-8701; TTY 458-8696, or e-mail cosw@smgov.net at least 5 days in advance of the meeting.



Commission on the Status of Women
City of Santa Monica
City Hall, Room 212
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401

To contact the Commission...
Visit our website at:
www.santa-monica.org/ccs/cosw
Call: (310) 458-8701 or
TTY: (310) 458-8696
Fax: (310) 458-3380
E-Mail: cosw@smgov.net
Write to:
Santa Monica Commission on the
Status of Women
City Hall, Room 212
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401

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MISSION

The purpose of the Commission on the Status of Women is to enhance the status of women in our community. The Commission will promote these goals through investigation of, advocacy for, and policy development regarding issues relevant to women and girls, and by creating leadership and career advancement opportunities for women and girls in our community.

BACKGROUND

Established in 1981, the Commission consists of nine City resident members who are appointed by the Santa Monica City Council.

AREAS OF CONCERN

- Affirmative action
- Child Care
- Discrimination Against Women of Color
- Economic Equity
- Homeless Women and Children
- Legal Rights
- Participation of Women in Government
- Reproductive Rights
- Sexual Harassment
- Teen Pregnancy
- Violence Against Women and Children
- Women's Health Issues

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA COMMISSIONS FOR WOMEN

The Santa Monica Commission participates in the statewide association of women's commissions, supporting efforts throughout the state to strengthen and create new women's commissions, and bringing innovative programs implemented by other commissions in other communities to Santa Monica .

CHILD CARE

The Commission fosters cooperation between government, business, and nonprofit agencies to aid in developing child care resources for women residing and/or working in Santa Monica. The Commission also sends a liaison to Santa Monica Child Care and Early Education Taskforce meetings.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Commission provides support for domestic violence-related education and networking activities in the community. The Commission was instrumental in starting and continues to support the Domestic Violence Project of the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles. The Project includes a Temporary Restraining Order Clinic, located in the Santa Monica Superior Court Building. A Commission member also attends steering committee meetings of the Westside Domestic Violence Network.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

The Commission analyzes proposed legislation related to women's issues, participates in legislative action, and makes recommendations to legislators at the local, state and national levels.

REPORT ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN & GIRLS IN SANTA MONICA

The Report is a compilation of statistical data about the status of women/girls as compared to men/boys in Santa Monica. It presents general demographic information describing the City's female population in terms of age, ethnicity and race. It also details critical opportunities, employment and income, childcare, poverty and the use of public assistance, disability, and crime committed against women.

WORK/LIFE SURVEY

The Commission is currently engaged in preparing a work/life survey to be submitted to employers in Santa Monica. The survey intends to identify those employers with the best work/life practices in Santa Monica and increase awareness of work/life balance issues in the employment community.

YOUNG LEADERS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

High school students chosen to serve as non-voting members of the Commission will participate in committees, community projects and other Commission activities while learning about the City's political process and sharing the youth perspective with the Commission.

Visit the Commission on the web at:
www.santa-monica.org/ccs/cosw