

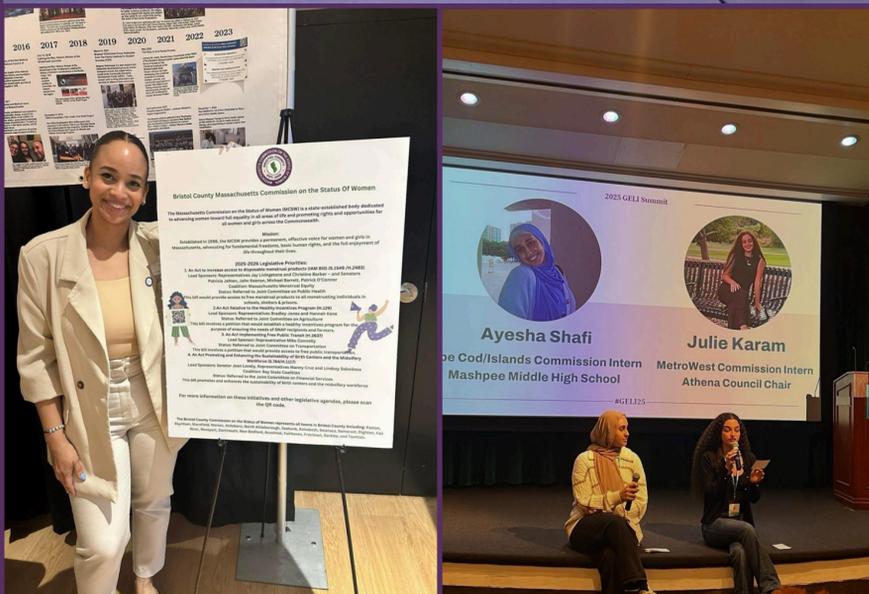


# FY 2025 Annual Report

June 2025



SIMMONS UNIVERSITY  
FRIDAY, MARCH 7TH, 9AM



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## Remarks from FY2025 Chair

The past year has been incredibly transformative for the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women (MCSW) in so many ways. As Chairwoman, it is an honor to stand alongside each of you as we reflect on a year of tremendous growth, renewed purpose, and unshakable commitment.

Our Commission's origin story is rooted in global solidarity. When the [United Nations held its Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995](#), it sparked a fire in delegates from Massachusetts, including then-First Lady Susan Roosevelt Weld. They returned home with a vision — that women and girls in the Commonwealth deserved a Commission of their own to advance equality, protect rights, and amplify the voices too often left out. Just three years later, the MCSW was established by statute with a mission to advance women toward full equality in all areas of life, regardless of party, ideology, or zip code.



With the help of many, such as the women's caucus of state legislatures and others, a unique and model Commission was born. What makes the MCSW so unique — and so vital — is that we are a nonpartisan special state agency. With 19 volunteer Commissioners appointed jointly by the Executive and Legislative branches, all reflecting a shared belief across the aisle that gender equity is not a partisan issue — it's a human one. We are not here to play politics. We are here to speak truth, lift voices, and shape systems that work for all women and girls in the Commonwealth. Since its conception, MCSW commissioners have used their passion and talents to get many things accomplished, such as the creation of 11 Regional Commissions. The Commissioners, the passionate staff, and interns have dedicated themselves to promoting and protecting equality for women and girls in all areas of their lives.

I am filled with gratitude to see the many ways in which the MCSW Team has grown. In a short time, the Commission and the Executive Director has overhauled the Commission's infrastructure, rising to meet the challenge of rebuilding our regional bodies to full strength, welcomed new State and Regional Commissioners, and expanded our reach into underserved communities across the Commonwealth. As we look toward the future, we do so with a strong foundation, a broader bench of leadership, and a renewed sense of direction. We are more ready for the opportunities ahead in the coming year!

I am so proud to be the Chairwoman of the MCSW at this pivotal moment in time. We hosted public hearings all across the state, trained more than 250 young women as next-generation leaders at our 2025 Girls Empowerment Leadership ([GELI](#)) Summit, and awarded more than 125 incredible local women as Commonwealth Heroines, our signature event that highlights local women who don't always make the news, but who always make the difference in our communities. These aren't just programs — they are platforms for power, visibility, and systemic change.

Furthermore, we couldn't be prouder to continue our work to advance the lives of women and girls through policy advocacy. Our policy work continues to be at the heart of everything we do. The

Commission is laser-focused on legislation that addresses real-world inequalities — maternal health, economic security, safety, and access to opportunity — and we're committed to advancing that work through coalitions, testimony, and data-driven solutions.

We express our deepest gratitude to our appointing authorities: the Governor, the Speaker of the House, the Senate President, and the Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators for continually collaborating with us to move the needle on policy that can change all our lives for the better. We are thankful for their partnership, support, expertise, incredible energy, and passionate commitment to this work. As the 194th General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts swings into high gear, we're more committed than ever to working collaboratively to advance our lives for the better.

While there is still much uncertainty, inequity, and discrimination in the world, I draw hope from my Sister Commissioners, staff, partners, advocates, and our collective work as a community to improve the lives of women and girls in the Commonwealth.

In solidarity and gratitude,



State Commissioner Mary-dith Tuitt  
Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women (MCSW) Chairwoman

## Commissioners, Staff, and Interns



*FY25 MCSW Commissioners celebrating MCSW's 2025 Advocacy Day at the Massachusetts Statehouse*

## MCSW State Commissioners and Officers

**Mary-dith Tuitt**, Boston

*MCSW Chairwoman*

**Christine Monska**, Auburndale

*MCSW Vice-Chair & GELI Co-Chair*

**Tanisha Arena**, Springfield

*MCSW Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair*

**Dr. Kimberly Shea**, Winchendon

*MCSW Secretary*

**Dr. Sarah Glenn-Smith**, Holliston

*Immediate Past Chair, Legislative & Public Policy Committee Secretary*

**Guimel DeCarvalho**, Natick

*Legislative & Public Policy Committee Chair*

**Giselle Byrd**, Boston

**Carol Campbell**, Amherst

**Divya Chaturvedi**, Pittsfield

*Finance Committee Vice-Chair*

**Marianne Fleckner**, Westford

**Jean Fox**, Freetown

*Program & Planning Committee Vice-Chair*

**Allison Goldberg**, Marblehead

**Audrey Hall**, Framingham

*Finance Committee Secretary*

**Nina Liang**, Quincy

**Leslie-Ann McGee**, Falmouth

*GELI Co-Chair*

**Dr. Aisha Miller**, Mattapan

*Program and Planning Committee Chair*

**Dr. Candace E. Pérez**, Lynn

**Sonia Shah**, Natick

*Legislative & Public Policy Committee Vice-Chair*



## MCSW Staff

**Shaitia Spruell**, Lancaster

*MCSW Executive Director*

**Marjorie C. Bernadeau-Alexandre**, Roslindale

*Administration & Finance Director*

**Tina Games**, Harwich

*Regional Commissions Director*

**Ellen Moorhouse**, Springfield

*Communications and Marketing Director*

**Darlene Kelter**, Lynnfield

*Administrative Assistant*

**Raven Harris**, Springfield

*MCSW Clerk & Executive Assistant*



## MCSW Interns

The MCSW's internship program provides students with an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in public policy, research, communications, and community outreach related to women's issues. Interns work closely with the commission staff to support ongoing projects and initiatives, as well as to develop new projects and programs. We welcomed a slate of paid interns this year from a variety of educational institutions across the Commonwealth.

**Kelechi Ezemma**, University of Massachusetts Amherst

**Sophia Guziewicz**, Mount Holyoke College

**Riyad Noufal**, Salem State University

**Natalie Rubin**, Boston University

**Vina Le**, Worcester State University

**Magny Breguhe**, Suffolk University

**Annabella Fletcher**, Boston University

**Christina Boye**, Boston University

**Lilly Taglieri**, Simmons University



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## Our Mission

The MCSW is comprised of 19 volunteer state commissioners, 11 regional bodies, dedicated staff members, and seasonal interns. MCSW state commissioners are appointed by one of four appointing authorities: the Governor, the Senate President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Caucus of Women Legislators. Commissioners serve in a volunteer capacity, and meet monthly, September through June. In addition, each commissioner is a member of at least one standing committee that generally meets monthly. The standing committees include:

- Legislative and Public Policy
- Program and Planning
- Finance Committee
- Executive Committee

For more than 25 years now, the Commission and our regional bodies have worked to advance the rights and opportunities of all women and girls across Massachusetts, and advance an inclusive environment for everyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, color, sex, age, disability (seen and unseen), genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity, parental status, marital status, socioeconomic status or background.

## Our Charges and Purpose

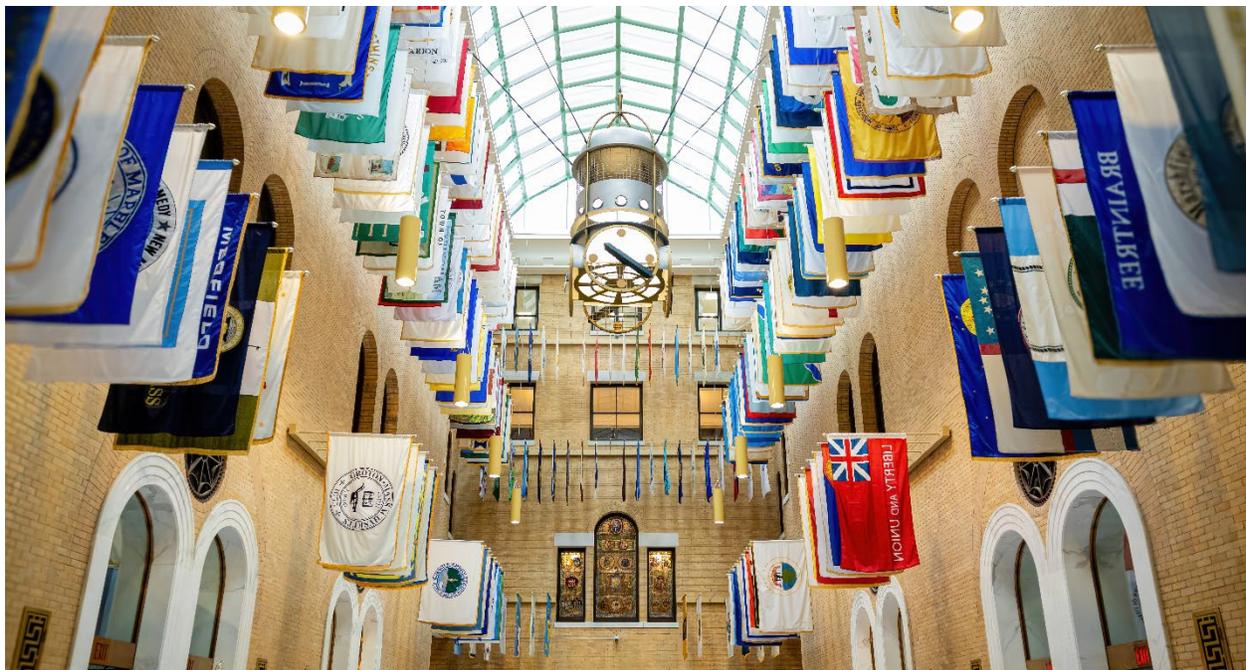
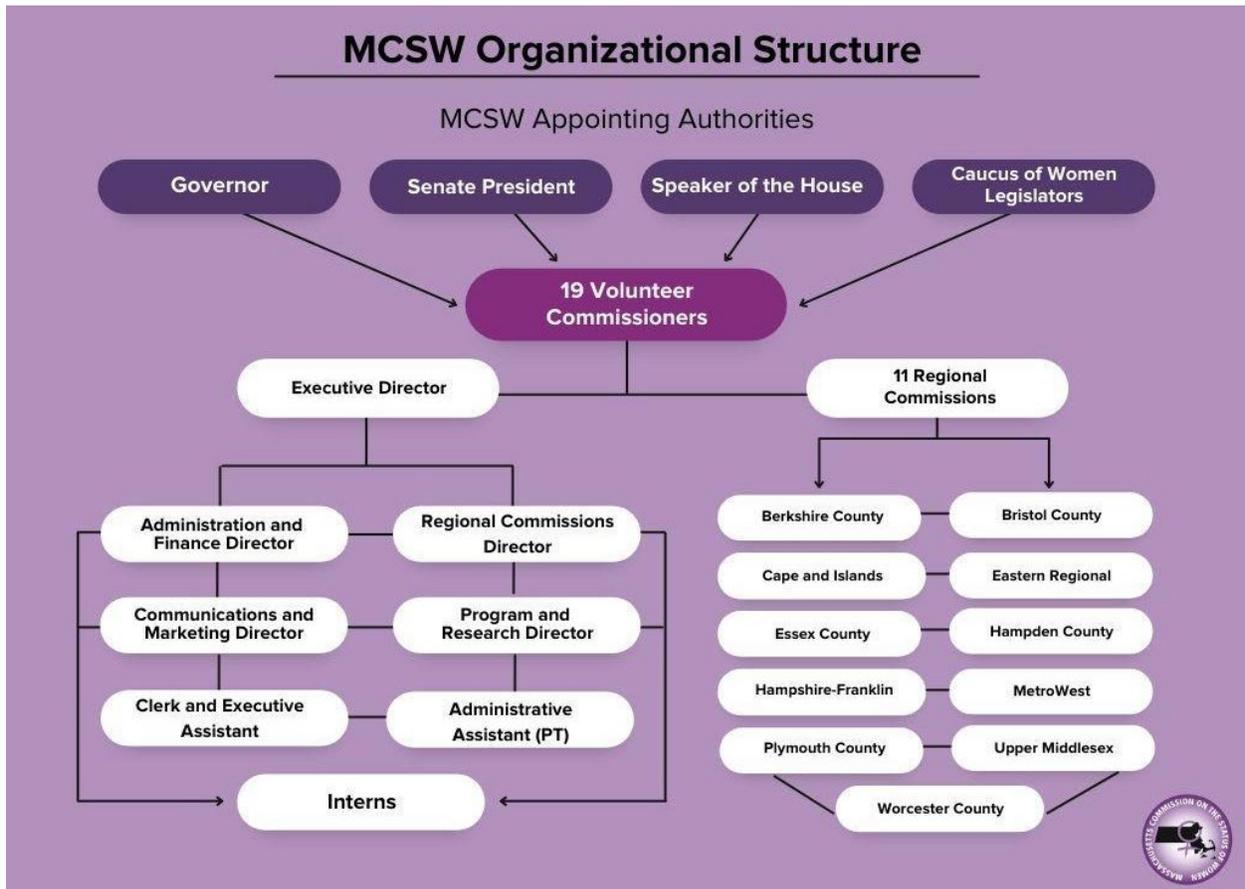
The mission of the Commission is to advance women toward full equality in all areas of life and to promote rights and opportunities for all women and girls. The Commission exists to provide a permanent, effective voice for women across Massachusetts.

The purpose of the Commission shall be to advance women and girls toward full equity in all areas of life and to promote rights and opportunities for all women and girls. According to our bylaws, the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women (the “Commission”) is established as an independent agency by Section 66 of Chapter 3 of the General Laws of Massachusetts ([the “Enabling Act”](#)). The Commission shall conduct an ongoing study of all matters concerning women. It shall be guided by the tenets of the [Platform for Action of the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing, China in September 1995](#).

The MCSW is empowered to:

- a) study, review and report on the status of women in the Commonwealth;
- b) inform leaders of business, education, health care, state and local governments and the communications media of issues pertaining to women;
- c) serve as a liaison between government and private interest groups concerned with issues affecting women;
- d) serve as a clearinghouse for information on issues pertaining to women;
- e) identify and recommend qualified women for appointive positions at all levels of government, including boards and commissions, as the commission deems necessary and appropriate;
- f) assess programs and practices in all state agencies as they affect women, as the commission deems necessary and appropriate;
- g) advise executive and legislative bodies on the effect on women of proposed legislation, as the commission deems necessary and appropriate; and
- h) promote and facilitate collaboration among local women’s commissions and among women’s organizations in the state, as the commission deems necessary and appropriate.

# FY25 Organizational Chart



# Financial Overview

During the fiscal year of 2025 (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025) MCSW received a Massachusetts State General Appropriation budget of \$958,785. Additionally, the State Treasurer maintains a statutory trust fund of money donated and raised by the MCSW to support external community projects, established in 2004.



In the spring of 2024, the commission submitted its request to amend its legislative language to expand the use of the trust fund and change the annual reporting deadline from June 2 to July 31. As of February 27th, 2025, the bill has been referred to the Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

MCSW operational expenses include salaried staff and contracted services, operational technology needs, language accessibility, program costs, and support for advocacy and engagement through the Regional Grant Program for the operation of the 11 regional commissions. The MCSW Regional Grant Program is provided to the regionals for the costs associated with advocacy and community engagement to gather information on the issues impacting the various regions of the Commonwealth.

Throughout the year, MCSW had a dedicated team of 5.5 full-time staff members, each with their own role in the organization. The MCSW also had 8 paid part-time interns from various educational institutions across the Commonwealth contributing to our mission.

As stewards of public funding, the MCSW takes its fiduciary responsibility seriously and is dedicated to using these resources to empower women and girls across Massachusetts. The commission is committed to financial transparency and using state funds to re-invest into the Commonwealth.

Our major financial commitments include:

State Allocation:.....	<b>\$958,785.00</b>
Operational Fees: .....	<b>\$196,875.00</b>
Administrative Operation: .....	<b>\$734,491.00</b>
Paid Intern Program: .....	<b>\$79,955.00</b>
ADA and Language Accommodations: .....	<b>\$14,000.00</b>
Regional CSW Programs & Operations: .....	<b>\$53,816.00</b>
Advocacy & Community Engagements: .....	<b>\$58,000.00</b>

Thank you to MCSW Chairwoman Mary-dith Tuitt, Vice-Chair Christine Monska and Executive Director Shaitia Spruell for representing the MCSW at the Ways and Means FY26 Budget Hearing on Economic Development, Housing, and Labor in Gloucester, Massachusetts on March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The Commission is grateful to the committee and members for their continued support of women and girls across the Commonwealth.

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## Programs and Impact

In 2025, the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women ([MCSW](#)) expanded its statewide engagement through a robust series of programs and events for both youth and adults. The Commission hosted three public hearings across the Commonwealth, introduced a new legislative agenda informed by community voices, and brought over 250 advocates to the State House for its Biennial Advocacy Day. More than 300 women and girls participated in the Girl's Empowerment Leadership Initiative (GELI) 2025 Summit held at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution ([WHOI](#)), which focused on STEAM education and leadership. In June, MCSW will celebrate over 125 exceptional women at its annual Commonwealth Heroines event.

These events, attended by hundreds of individuals both in person and virtually, serve as critical opportunities for the Commission to connect directly with women and girls across Massachusetts. Through testimony, dialogue, collaboration, data collection, and more, MCSW identifies the most pressing issues, builds coalitions for change, and strengthens local networks of women leaders working to improve their communities.

In alignment with its commitment to equity and access, MCSW is translating many of its publicly available materials into the ten most commonly spoken languages in Massachusetts, offering American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation, and providing additional language and physical accommodations as needed to ensure full participation for all women and girls in our programming.



## Public Hearings

Public Hearings are key to the MCSW’s mandate to study and report on the status of women and girls in the Commonwealth. Throughout FY25, the MCSW committed to offering programming that would not only engage constituents in-person, but also model hybrid options that would allow all interested residents to participate and share their stories about the challenges they face. The MCSW is further committed not only to diversity in terms of representation but also in terms of the towns, counties, and various locations we visit to conduct these public hearings to solicit as much public input as possible. Throughout the year, the MCSW held two virtual hearings and one hybrid hearing in Amherst. The virtual public hearings were issue-specific, centering the impact of Health Issues on Women in Massachusetts and the voices of Women of Color in Massachusetts, and the hybrid-hearing held in Amherst was open format, where we heard about a wide range of issues.

### Hybrid Public Hearing: Hampshire-Franklin

On October 22, 2024, the MCSW hosted a hybrid public hearing at the Great Hall in Old Chapel, University of Massachusetts Amherst. This regional forum allowed community members from Hampshire and Franklin counties—and surrounding areas—to share lived experiences and policy concerns directly with MCSW commissioners, staff, and state representatives.

A total of 13 individuals gave live testimony, with additional written testimony submitted. The event was attended by 24 people in person, 39 virtually, and over 285 views across Facebook and YouTube. Interpretation services were provided to enhance accessibility, and outreach materials were shared in multiple languages.

Testimonies highlighted urgent and intersecting issues including housing insecurity, foreclosure fraud, predatory lending, and the lack of legal recognition of women’s property ownership. Attendees also raised concerns about insufficient mental health care, the impact of domestic violence on addiction and eating disorders, and challenges related to trans women participating in women’s sports.

Local advocates, including members of the Worcester Anti-Foreclosure Team and Girls Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts, emphasized the need for legislative action to support women’s economic security and emotional wellbeing. Key bills and study orders discussed included the Healthy Youth Act, COVID-19 impact resolution, and foreclosure reform. [Read the summary on our website.](#)

[Watch the recap of the Hampshire-Franklin Public Hearing on YouTube.](#)

### Virtual Public Hearing: Impact of Health Issues on Women

On November 20, 2024, the MCSW held a virtual public hearing focused on the health and wellness of women across Massachusetts. With 55 participants and 14 individuals providing testimony, the hearing spotlighted barriers to care, disparities in maternal health, access to reproductive services, and the impact of systemic inequities on vulnerable communities. Residents, advocates, healthcare professionals, and community leaders from across the Commonwealth testified on issues including postpartum care, criminal record sealing for survivors of trafficking, reproductive health access, and the dissolution of the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program on Cape

MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

## HAMPSHIRE-FRANKLIN HYBRID PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday | October 22, 2024  
6pm-8pm  
The Great Hall, Old Chapel  
144 Hicks Way, Amherst, MA 01002

We want to hear from you! This is an opportunity for women across the Commonwealth to give testimony on issues that matter most to them, which directly inform MCSW's policy priorities.



RSVP at: [bit.ly/HampshireFranklinHearing](https://bit.ly/HampshireFranklinHearing) or scan the QR code!

Cod. Key themes included the need for comprehensive postpartum mental health services, improved access to abortion and emergency contraception, expanded support for BIPOC birthing individuals, and protection of patient autonomy. Testimony also emphasized the importance of housing stability and economic opportunity as foundational to women's health.

Recommendations emerging from the hearing included automating criminal record sealing, restoring in-person SANE services, eliminating barriers to durable medical equipment under Medicare, and investing in long-term, community-based solutions to address health inequities. The hearing reinforced MCSW's commitment to using public testimony to inform its policy and advocacy agenda. [Read the summary on our website.](#)

[Watch the recap of our Virtual Public Hearing on Women's Health Issues on YouTube.](#)

**AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA VIRTUAL**

Miércoles  
11.20.2024  
6:00PM  
En Zoom

REGÍSTRESE EN [bit.ly/MCSWvirtualhealthhearing](https://bit.ly/MCSWvirtualhealthhearing)  
o escanea el código QR!

**VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING**

Wednesday  
11.20.2024  
6:00PM  
On Zoom

REGISTER AT: [bit.ly/MCSWvirtualhealthhearing](https://bit.ly/MCSWvirtualhealthhearing)  
or scan the QR code!

## Virtual Public Hearing: Women of Color COVID-19 Updated Survey Launch

On May 20, 2025, the MCSW hosted a virtual public hearing dedicated to uplifting the voices of women of color across the Commonwealth. Held on Zoom with 27 attendees and live American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation, the event offered a platform for four speakers to share personal stories and policy recommendations directly with state and regional commissioners. The hearing opened with welcoming remarks from MCSW Chair Mary-dith Tuit and concluded with the launch of the Commission's 2025 COVID-19 Follow-Up Survey, aimed at capturing the long-term impact of the pandemic five years on.

The testimony presented highlighted the urgent and intersecting challenges women of color continue to face. One speaker from Athol raised serious concerns about maternity healthcare access following the closure of a local birthing center, pointing to instances of mothers giving birth outside of medical facilities due to the lack of nearby options. She called on state leaders to study the impact of such closures and to explore increased public transportation access as part of the solution.

**MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

**COVID-19 FOLLOW-UP SURVEY**

**DATA COLLECTION NOW OPEN**

The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women (MCSW) invites all women-identifying individuals who live in Massachusetts to take this survey. As we reflect on the 5 years since the onset of COVID-19, we are looking to develop a snapshot of life for women of the Commonwealth in 2025. The survey is available in 5 languages and we encourage you to share it widely with any interested partners or individuals.

**TAKE THE SURVEY & SHARE YOUR STORY**

[BITLY/MCSWSURVEY](https://bit.ly/MCSWSURVEY)

SURVEY CLOSES FRIDAY AUGUST 22, 2025

Another speaker, MCSW Commissioner and Executive Director of The Theater Offensive Giselle Byrd, shared a deeply personal account of her journey as a trans woman. She spoke passionately about the systemic neglect trans women of color experience—from lack of familial and societal support to ongoing threats to their safety. “I’m now really working to help make sure that our queer and trans artists across the country are taken care of in a time of immense censorship—that our women, and especially our trans women of color, do not go unheard and unseen; that their murders do not go unsolved; and that there is a liberated future for all of us,” she stated.

Additional testimony addressed the mental, emotional, and financial toll on women of color navigating multiple roles as caregivers, workers, and entrepreneurs. One Boston-based speaker described the difficulty of balancing a full-time job while managing her own business and family responsibilities. She called for policies that reflect the high cost of living, including livable wages, paid family leave, and affordable childcare. A high school student from Lexington closed the testimony portion by reflecting on the enduring struggles of immigrant families, noting that she faces many of the same barriers her parents experienced decades ago.

This hearing reinforced the Commission’s mission to center lived experiences of women and girls in its advocacy. The perspectives shared directly inform MCSW’s policy agenda and legislative priorities in the year ahead, ensuring that the concerns of women of color are heard, documented, and addressed at the highest levels of state leadership.

[Watch the recap of our Virtual Public Hearing WoC COVID-19 Updated Survey Launch](#)

The image displays five promotional cards for a survey titled "The Impact of COVID-19 on Women in Massachusetts". Each card is designed for a different language and includes the MCSW logo at the top. The cards are arranged in two rows: three in the top row and two in the bottom row. Each card contains the following information:
 

- Portuguese Card (Top Left):** Titled "PESQUISA O IMPACTO DA COVID-19 NAS MULHERES EM MASSACHUSETTS". It invites residents to share their experiences to inform public policy.
- Spanish Card (Top Middle):** Titled "ENCUESTA IMPACTO DE LA COVID-19 EN LAS MUJERES DE MASSACHUSETTS". It invites women to share their experiences to inform public policy.
- Haitian Creole Card (Top Right):** Titled "SONDAJ KOUNYE A LOUVRI! ENPAK COVID-19 SOU FANM NAN MASSACHUSETTS". It invites women to share their experiences to inform public policy.
- English Card (Bottom Left):** Titled "SURVEY NOW OPEN! THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON WOMEN IN MASSACHUSETTS". It invites all who live in Massachusetts to take the survey.
- Chinese Card (Bottom Right):** Titled "调查现已开放! 新冠疫情对马萨诸塞州女性的影响". It invites residents to participate in the survey to inform public policy.

 All cards include a QR code and the URL <https://bit.ly/MCSWsurvey>.

## Advocacy Day 2025

On March 24, 2025, the MCSW hosted its biennial Advocacy Day at the Massachusetts State House, convening a powerful group of 242 participants, including 98 individuals and 144 youth advocates. This biennial convening is a cornerstone of MCSW's public engagement and policy education efforts, offering constituents a direct opportunity to engage with legislators and elevate issues impacting women, girls, and gender-expansive people across the Commonwealth.

The day featured remarks from prominent state leaders, including Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell and State Auditor Diana DiZoglio, whose moving words inspired and energized the crowd. Youth participation brought added significance to the event, with many students leading legislative conversations and demonstrating deep knowledge of the bills they had researched. Throughout the day, attendees met with legislative offices to advocate for MCSW priority bills and other issues of community importance.

To assess the event's impact, MCSW circulated a 15-question Exit Survey through follow-up emails and QR codes available at the event. Nine participants submitted feedback, providing helpful insights into the participant experience. A third of respondents were first-time advocates, highlighting Advocacy Day's success in welcoming new voices into civic life. Two-thirds had attended an MCSW event before, and most respondents heard about Advocacy Day through MCSW's email communications and outreach.

Advocacy Day also served as an effective platform for legislative education. All respondents reported that the legislative offices they met with were familiar with the bills being discussed, and none indicated that follow-up was needed after their meetings. Bills discussed included top MCSW priorities such as the I AM Bill (S.1549/H.2483), the Menopause Awareness Bill (H.2499), Medicare for All (S.860/H.1405), and others covering issues ranging from reproductive health and racial equity to open meeting laws and midwifery access. While only a quarter of respondents received firm commitments of support or co-sponsorship from legislative offices, many reported positive engagements and an openness to further discussion.

Participants shared memorable moments, including legislative chamber tours, heartfelt speeches by public officials, and the camaraderie of sharing the day with fellow advocates, many with daughters, classmates, and colleagues by their side. The presence of "Advocacy Cookies" featuring QR codes to MCSW's legislative priorities was also a popular highlight. Recommendations for future events emphasized the need for expanded dietary accommodations, more inclusive language and representation of trans women and gender-diverse communities, and earlier distribution of legislative materials and meeting schedules. Some respondents suggested deeper training sessions on the bills and more structured opportunities to speak during legislative visits, especially for adults accompanying youth advocates. Advocacy Day 2025 affirmed MCSW's ongoing commitment to ensuring every voice has a seat at the table. The feedback received will guide future improvements, and the Commission remains dedicated to strengthening partnerships with legislators and communities in the year ahead.



## Girls Empowerment Leadership Initiative (GELI) Summit 2025

On [April 24, 2025](#), the MCSW hosted its annual [Girls Empowerment & Leadership Initiative \(GELI\) Summit](#) at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI), in partnership with the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) and with the support of over 40 volunteers. The summit brought together over 250 young women (ages 14–22) from across the Commonwealth for a powerful day of leadership development, civic engagement, and hands-on STEM/STEAM exploration.

Promoted with the call to *“Unleash Your Potential,”* the summit empowered participants to explore their interests, connect with mentors, and gain practical tools for advocacy and leadership. The program featured more than 15 interactive workshops, including sessions on ocean science, engineering, climate resilience, public speaking, advocacy, and communication, led by women experts in STEM and policy.

A key highlight of the day was the GELI Girls Town Hall, facilitated by youth leaders Julie Karam and Ayesha Shafi from MCSW’s Regional Commissions in MetroWest and Cape Cod & the Islands. Participants spoke candidly about the challenges of being a girl today, touching on issues such as gender bias in trades and STEM, unequal treatment and representation, double standards, and the urgent need for mental health support and safety. These reflections underscored the importance of centering girls’ voices in policy conversations. Survey feedback revealed that attendees found the workshops engaging, relevant, and empowering, especially appreciating the hands-on activities, real-world applications, and direct access to women mentors and professionals. Participants reported increased confidence, stronger communication skills, and greater awareness of career pathways in science and leadership.

The 2025 GELI Summit demonstrated the transformative impact of investing in young women’s leadership. By creating space for their voices and visions, MCSW continues strengthening a statewide pipeline of empowered girls ready to lead change in their communities and beyond. In addition to inspiring participants, the summit served as a platform for collecting data to guide MCSW’s future advocacy efforts. Key themes identified for future programming:

- Mental health and emotional wellbeing
- Environmental justice and climate policy
- Intersectionality and identity-based equity
- Youth policy engagement and advocacy tools
- Career pathways for women in trades and STEM
- Peer connection and networking



Participants at the 2025 GELI Summit with MCSW Chairwoman Mary-dith Tuitt

## Commonwealth Heroines

Commonwealth Heroines are women who don't make the news but make the difference. Every day, women perform acts that make our homes, neighborhoods, cities, and towns better places to live. Commonwealth Heroines use their time, talent, spirit, and enthusiasm to enrich the lives of others in their community. They are mentors, volunteers, and innovators who strive to protect and represent the interests of seniors, victims of violence, children, immigrants, and other vulnerable populations. They are the glue that keeps a community together.

Each year the Commission partners with state legislators to identify women who make outstanding contributions to their organizations and communities. Legislators are encouraged to highlight women within their constituencies as a means of celebrating their outstanding community endeavors. In 2025, the MCSW will recognize 125 Commonwealth Heroines as a part of the Class of 2025 at a celebration taking place on June 26, 2025, at the Massachusetts Statehouse. *Congratulations to the Class of 2025!*



*Pictured above: Commonwealth Heroines Class of 2024*

## The MCSW Speakers Bureau

The MCSW Speakers Bureau amplifies the voices and expertise of our Commissioners and staff to raise awareness and spark dialogue on the issues affecting women and girls across Massachusetts. Through presentations, panels, and community events, the Speakers Bureau educates the public about the work of the MCSW and encourages civic engagement, advocacy, and collaboration. In FY25, the Speakers Bureau reached audiences statewide by partnering with dozens of organizations to support gender equity through storytelling, education, and strategic convening.

Highlights included:

- [National Association of Commissions for Women \(NACW\)](#): MCSW hosted the NACW's 2024 Annual Conference "Strength of Sisterhood: Throughout Time" in Boston, welcoming delegates from over 25 commissions nationwide. MCSW Chair Marydith Tuitt and Executive Director Shaitia Spruell also serve on NACW's national board.
- [Women's Fund SouthCoast](#): Commissioners presented on advocacy and MCSW's work to senior women and youth leaders. The Fund also co-hosted a Massachusetts Women's Funds Meet & Greet with MCSW and regional stakeholders.
- [Girls Inc. of the Valley](#): Executive Director Shaitia Spruell joined the [Speaking Out panel](#) with At-Large City councilor for the city of Holyoke and City Council President/ED for EforAll/EparaTodos Pioneer Valley Tessa Murphy-Romboletti, and Maria Lester COO of the Pocket Project and faculty member at Harvard Medical School's Master's in Bioethics Program, to empower young women.
- [Amherst INDY](#): Commissioner Tanisha Arena spoke on a panel about restorative justice and equity in academia.
- [MA Caucus of Women Legislators](#): Collaborations included NACW Conference events and Troops on the Hill, which introduces Girl Scouts to advocacy at the State House.
- [Girl Scouts of Eastern MA \(GSEMA\)](#): Chair Tuitt and Executive Director Spruell presented at Troops on the Hill and participated in Advocacy Day. Chair Tuitt also spoke at the Great Grown-Up Girl Scout Summit.
- Celebrating international Women's Day & Women's History Month: MCSW co-hosted a joint IWD panel titled "[Global Voices, Local Impact: Advancing Women's Leadership](#)" with the Canadian Consulate and Massachusetts Caucus of Women

Legislators (MCWL) to discuss women's leadership around the globe and served on the planning committee for the [27th Annual Greater Boston International Women's Day Breakfast](#).

- [Center for Women & Enterprise \(CWE\)](#): Partnered for a June 2025 event empowering women entrepreneurs titled ["From Insight to Impact: Empowering Women Entrepreneurs in the US"](#)
- [Massachusetts Girls in Trades \(MAGIT\)](#): Executive Director Spruell, a MAGIT Advisory Council member, supported career pathways for young women in the trades. MAGIT celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2025.
- [MA Women of Color Network](#): Commissioner Divya Chaturvedi served as keynote speaker at the June 2024 conference.

Additional engagements included partnerships with the Girl Scouts of Western & Central MA, Girls Inc. of the Berkshires, Girls Inc of Worcester, Girls Inc of Boston & Lynn, Commonwealth Seminar, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution ([WHOI](#)), Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL), Woods Hole Laboratory NOAA Fisheries, Mount Wachusett Community College, Wayside Youth & Family Support Network, Women's Fund of Western MA, Heart-Wing Center, Arise for Social Justice, Cape Cod Foundation and the Boston Mayor's Youth Council. These events reflect MCSW's commitment to elevating diverse voices, building intergenerational networks, and strengthening advocacy for all women and girls in Massachusetts.

## Program Impact

The impact of MCSW's 2025 programming is both measurable and meaningful. By creating inclusive spaces for testimony, dialogue, and leadership, the Commission continues to elevate the voices of women and girls who are often underrepresented in policy conversations. Stories and recommendations shared at public hearings directly informed this year's legislative agenda, which prioritizes maternal health, childcare access, economic equity, and protections for survivors of gender-based violence.

The Biennial Advocacy Day mobilized a new generation of community leaders, many of whom met with their legislators for the first time. The event resulted in increased legislative co-sponsorship and deeper partnerships between elected officials and constituents across the state. Similarly, the GELI Summit empowered girls from diverse communities to explore careers in STEAM fields, expand their networks, and see themselves as future changemakers. Through these programs, MCSW is not only gathering data and community feedback but also helping to shape policy, shift narratives, and build sustained civic engagement. The Commission's ongoing efforts to improve language access and provide disability accommodations have also expanded participation among immigrant communities, women of color, and women with disabilities—ensuring that equity remains at the heart of its mission.

Together, these outcomes reflect a growing, statewide movement to center the experiences of women and girls in public discourse and policymaking.

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## MCSW Legislative Agenda and Recommendations

The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women (MCSW) is committed to advancing policies that ensure women and girls are not only granted equal rights but also empowered as equal participants in economic opportunity, healthcare access, civil rights, education, and business development. Through its Legislative and Public Policy Committee, the Commission endorses, tracks, and advocates for legislation aligned with these goals. MCSW commissioners and staff meet regularly with lawmakers and provide both written and verbal testimony at state legislative hearings in support of priority legislation.

As part of its statutory authority, MCSW holds regular public meetings, fact-finding hearings, and forums to collect firsthand accounts from women, girls, and their advocates. These engagements generate meaningful data and lived experiences that shape our legislative agenda.

Since the release of our last Annual Report, MCSW is proud to report the passage of several key bills that reflect our legislative priorities and the voices we have uplifted through research, public hearings, and coalition partnerships:

**The Frances Perkins Workplace Equity Act // An Act relative to salary range transparency:** Signed into law on August 6, 2024, this legislation requires Massachusetts employers to disclose salary ranges on all job postings and mandates employer reporting of EEOC data to address racial and gender pay gaps. Sponsored by Representatives Josh Cutler and Brandy Fluker-Reid and Senator Pat Jehlen, this law marks a critical step toward pay transparency and equity. MCSW is a proud member of the Wage Equity Now (WEN) Coalition, which led the advocacy efforts, and continues to monitor the law's implementation.

**The Affordable Homes Act:** This omnibus housing bill, also signed into law on August 6, 2024, responds directly to issues raised during the MCSW's January 2024 Public Hearing on Housing. The legislation addresses affordable housing development, housing stability in seasonal communities, and increasing the availability of units. MCSW continues to track initiatives within the bill to ensure they meet the housing needs of women and families across the Commonwealth.

**The Massachusetts Parentage Act // An Act to ensure legal parentage equality:**

Signed by Governor Healey on August 8, 2024 (Chapter 166 of the Acts of 2024), this law modernizes Massachusetts' parentage statutes to recognize diverse family structures and ensure every child has access to legal parentage regardless of birth circumstances. Sponsored by Representatives Sarah Peake, Hannah Kane, and Kay Khan, and Senators Julian Cyr and Bruce Tarr, this law was a direct recommendation from the MCSW's 2023 research report on LGBTQ+ individuals and families. The Commission served on the MPA Coalition, which led advocacy efforts, and the law took effect on January 1, 2025.



**The HERO Act:** Among its many provisions, the HERO Act—signed on August 8, 2024—expands behavioral health treatment options and protects cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) for veterans. The Commission recognizes this law's importance to women veterans and the broader community, and supports its continued implementation.

**Maternal Health and Midwifery Access ("Momnibus" Package):** MCSW serves on the Bay State Birth Coalition and remains engaged in monitoring and supporting the implementation of this legislation. Signed on August 23, 2024, this legislative package includes:

- An Act promoting access to midwifery care and out-of-hospital birth options, sponsored by Representatives Kay Khan and Brandy Fluker-Oakley and Senator Becca Rausch
- Key elements of Senator Liz Miranda's An Act relative to Birthing Justice

Together, these laws establish a licensure pathway for Certified Professional Midwives (CPMs), update outdated birth center regulations, and ensure MassHealth reimbursement parity for Certified Nurse Midwives and CPMs. Maternal health and birthing equity have been recurring themes in testimony heard by MCSW and its Regional Commissions.

**An Act Supporting Parents Running for Public Office:** This legislation, included in the Economic Development Bill signed on November 14, 2024, permits candidates to use campaign funds to cover childcare expenses, regardless of gender or family status. Sponsored by Representatives Mike Connolly and Joan Meschino and Senator Patricia

Jehlen, this bill supports the political participation of parents, particularly mothers. MCSW convened the Parents Running for Office Coalition in partnership with the national [Vote Mama Foundation](#) and is pleased to see new [Office of Campaign and Political Finance](#) regulations [adopted in January 2025](#).

Throughout FY2025, MCSW held three public hearings across the Commonwealth, hosted a Girls Empowerment and Leadership Initiative (GELI) Town Hall, and engaged directly with hundreds of women and over 40 grassroots organizations, coalitions, and community-based groups. Working alongside its 11 Regional Commissions, the Commission gathered critical insight into the most pressing issues facing women and girls in Massachusetts.

Informed by this input and grounded in over 27 years of research, data, and policy analysis, MCSW developed and released its 2025–2026 Legislative Priorities for the 194th General Court in March 2025. The Commission’s legislative agenda reflects a holistic and intersectional approach to advancing equity, recognizing that women do not live single-issue lives. Legislative priorities are organized into four core categories:

- Healthcare & Human Rights
- Childcare & Caregiving
- Government Access & Transparency
- Economic Mobility & Elevating Youth Leadership

## Health Care & Human Rights

As part of its FY2025 legislative agenda, the MCSW endorsed several bills under the Health Care & Human Rights category. These bills seek to advance equity in healthcare access, promote dignity for incarcerated individuals, and improve public health outcomes for women and girls across the Commonwealth.

### [An Act Relative to Human Rights and Improved Outcomes for Incarcerated People](#)

**Bill Numbers:** [H.2608](#) / [S.1651](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Representative Brandy Fluker-Oakley and Senator Cynthia Creem

**Summary:** This bill seeks to make Massachusetts correctional facilities more humane by requiring access to education, rehabilitation programs, time outside of cells, and improved living standards. These reforms aim to support successful reentry and reduce recidivism.

### [The I AM Bill: An Act to Increase Access to Menstrual Products in Prisons, Homeless Shelters, and Public Schools](#)

**Bill Numbers:** [H.2483](#) / [S.1549](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Representatives Jay Livingstone and Christine Barber, and Senator Patricia Jehlen

**Summary:** This bill would ensure that menstrual products are freely available to menstruating individuals in public schools, homeless shelters, and correctional facilities, affirming menstrual equity and public health.

### [Parity on Public Boards: An Act to Ensure Gender Parity and Racial and Ethnic Diversity on Public Boards and Commissions](#)

**Bill Numbers:** [H.3398](#) / [S.2160](#)

**Lead Sponsor:** Representatives Tram T. Nguyen and Dawne Shand & Senator Jason Lewis

**Summary:** This legislation would establish requirements for gender parity and racial and ethnic diversity across public boards and commissions. MCSW has served on the Parity on Boards Coalition since its inception and now leads the coalition alongside four Regional Commissions.

## **An Act Providing for Safe and Consensual Sensitive Examinations**

**Bill Numbers:** [H.2401](#) / [S.1485](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Senator Jo Comerford, Representatives Mindy Domb and Kimberly Ferguson

**Summary:** This bill would prohibit non-consensual pelvic examinations on patients under anesthesia and require written consent. It also allows a third-party witness to be present during such examinations.

## **An Act Establishing Medicare for All in Massachusetts**

**Bill Numbers:** [H.1405](#) / [S.860](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Representatives Lindsay Sabadosa and Denise Garlick, and Senator James Eldridge

**Summary:** This bill proposes a single-payer health care system in Massachusetts that guarantees universal health coverage regardless of citizenship, incarceration, employment status, or demographic background.

## **An Act to Provide Reproductive Health Care to Incarcerated Individuals**

**Bill Number:** [H.2658](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Representatives Jay Livingstone and Mindy Domb

**Summary:** This legislation would require access to comprehensive reproductive health care—including contraception, counseling, and abortion services—for incarcerated individuals in Massachusetts correctional facilities.

## **Resolve to Study Women Veterans and the Long-Term Effects of Combat on Motherhood**

**Bill Numbers:** [Resolve H.3826](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Representative Shirley Arriaga

**Summary:** This resolve calls for a study on the long-term psychological and physical effects of combat on motherhood among women veterans, with the goal of informing policies that support their health and family wellbeing.

## **Menopause Awareness Act: An Act Pertaining to Women’s Health at Midlife and Public, Medical, and Workplace Awareness of Menopause**

**Bill Number:** [H.2499](#)

**Lead Sponsor:** Representative Joan Meschino

**Summary:** This bill seeks to raise awareness of menopause as a significant public health issue by developing educational resources for patients, clinicians, and employers. It calls for collaboration with the Department of Public Health and relevant nonprofits.

## **An Act to Build Restorative Family and Community Connection**

**Bill Numbers:** [S.1720](#) / [H.2591](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Senator Liz Miranda and Representative Marjorie Decker

**Summary:** The Keeping Families Connected bill protects the right to daily visits for incarcerated individuals and those in ICE detention, promoting consistent family contact as a foundation for rehabilitation and community reintegration.

## **Childcare & Caregiving**

The MCSW supports legislation that strengthens support for caregivers and expands access to childcare through inclusive, community-rooted models. In FY2025, MCSW endorsed the following bills in this category:

### **An Act Relative to Family Members Serving as Caregivers**

**Bill Numbers:** [H.1394](#) / [S.886](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Representative James O’Day and Senator Joan B. Lovely

**Summary:** This bill would allow family members—including power of attorney designees, adult children, and other legally responsible relatives—to be financially compensated for the caregiving services they provide to loved ones. It recognizes the essential role of family caregivers and seeks to alleviate financial burdens associated with care.

## An Act Expanding Access to Family, Friend, and Neighbor-Provided Childcare

**Bill Numbers:** [H.542](#) / [S.341](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Representative Marjorie Decker and Senator Sal DiDomenico

**Summary:** This bill would create an advisory committee to formally recognize "Family, Friend, and Neighbor" (FFN) caregivers and develop a payment structure enabling families using childcare vouchers to compensate FFN providers. The legislation seeks to expand accessible and culturally responsive childcare options for MA families.

## Government Access & Transparency

The MCSW supports legislation that improves government transparency, public access to participation, and inclusive representation in public decision-making. In FY2025, MCSW endorsed the following bills in this category:

### An Act Relative to Virtual Meetings of Appointed Statewide Public Bodies

**Bill Number:** [H.3328](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Representative Tricia Farley-Bouvier and Representative Mindy Domb

**Summary:** This bill ensures that members of statewide appointed public bodies can fully participate in meetings remotely. It establishes the requirement that remote participants be clearly audible and accessible to the public through telecommunication platforms.

### An Act Updating the Open Meeting Law to Support Remote Participation

**Bill Number:** [S.2205](#)

**Lead Sponsor:** Senator Becca Rausch

**Summary:** This legislation strengthens the Open Meeting Law by making hybrid meeting options permanent. It mandates the advance release of relevant meeting documents and prohibits charging fees for remote participation, thereby expanding public access to government proceedings.

### An Act to Protect Safety and Privacy by Stopping the Sale of Location Data

**Bill Number:** [S.197](#)

**Lead Sponsor:** Senator Cynthia Stone Creem

**Summary:** This bill prohibits the collection and sale of location data without user consent. It requires companies to provide clear opt-out options for individuals, thereby enhancing data privacy protections for Massachusetts residents.

### An Act Relative to the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women

**Bill Number:** [H.3433](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Representative David T. Vieira and Representative Hadley Luddy

**Summary:** This technical amendment updates MCSW's enabling statute to allow its Trust Fund to accrue interest and adjusts the Commission's annual reporting deadline from June 2 to July 31.

### An Act to Promote Diversity on Public Boards and Commissions

**Bill Numbers:** [H.3398](#) / [S.2160](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Representatives Tram Nguyen and Dawne Shand and Senator Jason Lewis

**Summary:** This bill directs appointing authorities to strive for equitable representation by ensuring public boards and commissions are composed of at least 50% women and at least 30% individuals from underrepresented minority groups or the LGBTQ+ community. MCSW, in partnership with the Eastern and Essex County Regional Commissions, assumed leadership of the Parity on Boards (POB) Coalition during this session and continues coordination with legislative sponsors and coalition members.

### An Act Relative to the Regional Commissions on the Status of Women

**Bill Numbers:** [H.2313](#) / [S.1464](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Senator Patrick O'Connor and Representative Joan Meschino

**Summary:** This technical bill updates the enabling statute of the Eastern Regional Commission on the Status of Women by removing the town of Hull from its geographic jurisdiction, reflecting changes in local alignment and representation.

## Economic Mobility & Elevating Youth Leadership

The MCSW supports legislation that promotes opportunity, economic advancement, leadership development, and long-term well-being for women, girls, and gender-expansive individuals, particularly those from historically marginalized communities. The following bills endorsed by MCSW in FY2025 address youth justice, health, workforce development, veterans' issues, and equitable access to capital:

### An Act to Promote Public Safety and Better Outcomes for Youths ("Raise the Age")

**Bill Number:** [H.1923](#) / [S.1061](#)

**Lead Sponsor:** Representatives James O'Day and Manny Cruz and Senator Brendan P. Crighton

**Summary:** This bill gradually expands juvenile court jurisdiction to include 18- to 20-year-olds over five years. It aims to place young people in developmentally appropriate justice systems focused on rehabilitation and diversion, which may improve outcomes for young women and reduce recidivism.

### An Act Relative to Healthy Youth ("Healthy Youth Act")

**Bill Numbers:** [H.656](#) / [S.340](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Representatives Jim O'Day and Vanna Howard and Senator Sal DiDomenico

**Summary:** This legislation ensures that sex and relationship education in MA public schools is age-appropriate, medically accurate, and inclusive, including content on consent, gender identity, and healthy relationships.

### An Act Relative to Fair Investment Practices ("Capital Equity Bill")

**Bill Numbers:** [H.1922](#) / [S.1119](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Representative Tram T. Nguyen and Senator Cindy F. Friedman

**Summary:** This bill increases protections for women and minority entrepreneurs in private investment negotiations, aiming to ensure equitable access to funding and discourage discriminatory practices in venture capital and finance.

### An Act Relative to Healthcare Industry Recruitment and Education for the 21st Century

**Bill Numbers:** [H.1380](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Representatives John Lawn & Marjorie Decker

**Summary:** This bill aims to expand the Commonwealth's healthcare workforce pipeline by increasing recruitment efforts and modernizing healthcare education to meet 21st-century needs.

### An Act Promoting & Enhancing Sustainability of Birth Centers & Midwifery Workforce

**Bill Numbers:** [H.1117](#) / [S.784](#)

**Lead Sponsors:** Representative Manny Cruz, Representative Lindsay Sabadosa, and Senator Joan B. Lovely

**Summary:** This legislation would create a statewide fund to support midwifery education and ensure sustainable reimbursement rates for midwives, birth centers and more.

## Youth Leadership Development Initiatives

Drawing from findings at the Girls Empowerment and Leadership Initiative (GELI) Town Hall, the MCSW is exploring future policy recommendations and partnerships to:

- Improve access to youth mental health supports
- Support safe spaces for girls to build community

- Expand access to leadership and empowerment programs
- Encourage the inclusion of girls in trades and non-traditional career pathways

These insights will inform future legislative priorities and programmatic efforts to advance gender equity for youth across the Commonwealth. In addition to the extensive legislative priorities outlined above, each of the 11 Regional Commissions on the Status of Women across the Commonwealth has identified region-specific legislation that reflects the unique needs and priorities of their communities. These recommendations amplify local voices and advance MCSW’s commitment to equity in every region. Details on each Regional Commission’s legislative endorsements are available on their respective webpages and in their FY2025 annual reports.

## MCSW Regional Commissions

The MCSW’s 11 Regional Commissions expand the reach of its mission across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Modeled after the MCSW, the 11 county and regional women’s commissions were legislatively created to study and report on the status of women and girls in their geographical areas, and to provide permanent and effective voices for women and girls. Each county and regional commission reports its findings and activities annually to MCSW.

Regional Commissions are comprised of 9-13 volunteer members who have had prior experience working towards the improvement of the status of women and exist to provide a positive and effective voice for women and girls in their respective regions. Commissioners are drawn from diverse racial, ethnic, religious, age, sexual orientation, gender identification, and socio-economic backgrounds throughout the state.

Regional Commission’s duties include studying, reviewing and reporting on the status of women in the county; promoting and facilitating collaboration among local women’s organizations; recommending policies that benefit women to agencies, officers of the state, and local government; and holding fact-finding hearings and other public forums as it may deem necessary.

### MCSW’s Regional Commissions:

Berkshire County

Bristol County

Cape and Islands

Eastern Regional

Essex County

Hampden County

Hampshire-Franklin

MetroWest

Plymouth County

Upper Middlesex

Worcester County



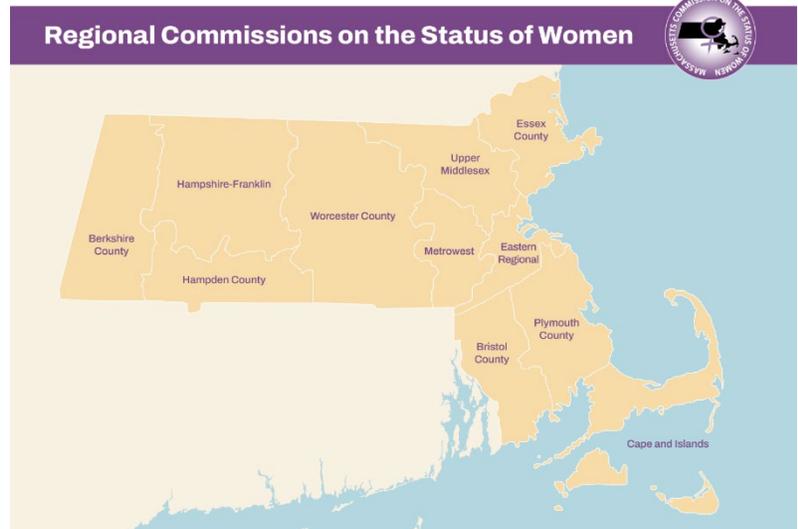
## Regional Convenings

MCSW hosts two Regional Convenings per year for the purpose of providing education, support, and networking opportunities for our 11 regional commissions. These events are organized by our Regional Commissions Director Tina Games, in collaboration with the Program and Planning Committee.

This year's convenings were held on December 5th in Fall River at the Bristol Community College – and on May 7th in Pittsfield at the Berkshire Community College, giving visibility to different parts of the state. Both events were hybrid which gave regional and state commissioners from across the Commonwealth an opportunity to participate in person or virtually, where distance was a factor.

The December 5th convening featured the launch of an online Regional Resource Corner where commissioners could easily locate and access various documents, materials, and resources needed for their commission work. There was also a segment focused on board management and MCSW policies which covered items such as best practices for onboarding, commissioner expectations, community agreements, code of conduct, regional attendance policy, and the regional grant application and approval process. Each regional commission had an opportunity to report on their successes, challenges, and legislative work during the first half of the fiscal year.

The May 7th convening featured a legislative training, taking regional commissioners through the advocacy process, beginning with establishing regional priorities – and how to research, track, and advocate on selected bills that support these priorities. This segment was led by MCSW Chair Mary-dith Tuit who gave several real-time examples of current legislative bills, taking regional commissioners through the process from start to finish. There was also a presentation on strategic planning led by MCSW Secretary Kim Shea which outlined best practices for creating a regional strategic plan that aligns with the mission statement, supports the goals of the regional commission, and invites participation and input from every regional commissioner. This presentation sparked good discussion, curious questions, and lots of great ideas. Each regional commission had an opportunity to report on their successes, challenges, and legislative work during the last half of the fiscal year – which always presents potential for regional collaborations. Our Regional Convenings continue to be well-received by our regional and state commissioners – and we always look forward to hearing from our regional commissions on what topics they would like to learn more about and what networking opportunities they would like to experience with each other.





## Berkshire County Commission on the Status of Women

**State Liaison:** Divya Chaturvedi

**Regional Commissioners:** Shela Levante, Chair (Pittsfield); Sarah Gillooly, Vice Chair (Pittsfield); Halli Stewart, Secretary (Pittsfield); Meg Arvin, Legislative Liaison (Pittsfield); Hope Bussiere (Adams); Laura Cabrera (Pittsfield); Carly Garofano (Pittsfield); Marissa Dubecky Meehan (Richmond); Andrea Wadsworth (Lee).

**Regional Area:** The Berkshire County Commission on the Status of Women represents all cities and towns in the Berkshires including Adams, Alford, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Egremont, Florida, Great Barrington, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, Mount Washington, New Ashford, New Marlborough, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Sandisfield, Savoy, Stockbridge, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, and Windsor.

### **Highlights and Accomplishments for FY25**

- Berkshire County CSW (BCCSW) implemented a range of programs focused on education, empowerment, and equity for women and girls throughout the region. This year's initiatives included educational partnerships, a Women's History Month event, a self-defense workshop, and targeted grantmaking that allowed a group of Berkshire County girls to attend GELI.
- BCCSW engaged in a series of public conversations with key community partners to better understand and support initiatives that advance the well-being of women and girls in Berkshire County. These educational sessions, held during public meetings, featured organizations such as Tapestry Health and the Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts.
- In celebration of International Women's Day and Women's History Month, BCCSW partnered with WAM Theatre to present Creative Resistance: Women Mobilizing Through Art & Activism. This dynamic two-part panel discussion uplifted the voices of women-identifying artists, advocates, and community leaders whose work advances gender equity across Western Massachusetts. BCCSW Chair Shela Levante served as a keynote speaker and panelist.

### **Goals for Next Fiscal Year**

- To build on the momentum of Advocacy Day, BCCSW plans to host a community public hearing.
- Recognizing the importance of uplifting the voices of young women, BCCSW plans to deepen community engagement with regional youth leaders and youth-serving organizations with the intention of creating a Berkshire County CSW Athena Council.
- BCCSW looks forward to welcoming three new commissioners and creating a strategic plan.





## Bristol County Commission on the Status of Women

**State Liaison:** Jean Fox

**Regional Commissioners:** Stephanie Taylor, Chair (Taunton); Shavon Tolson, Vice Chair (Taunton); Makenzie Lennington, Secretary (New Bedford); Millie Sanchez, Treasurer (Taunton); Werlaine Badio (Fall River); Maria Gonzalez (Taunton); Aimee Manzoni-D'Arpino (Easton); Tanya Lobo (Taunton)

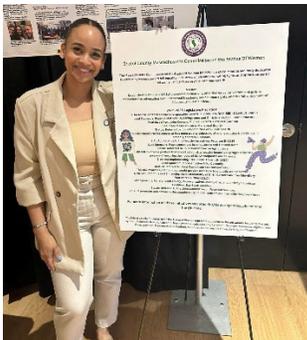
**Regional Area:** The Bristol County Commission represents all towns in Bristol County including Easton, Raynham, Mansfield, Norton, Attleboro, North Attleborough, Seekonk, Rehoboth, Swansea, Somerset, Dighton, Fall River, Westport, Dartmouth, New Bedford, Acushnet, Fairhaven, Freetown, Berkley, and Taunton.

### **Highlights and Accomplishments for FY25**

- Bristol County had a great showing at MCSW's Advocacy Day on March 24th with over 110 attendees, including regional commissioners, community partners, and local student groups.
- BCCSW joined sister regional commissions, Eastern Regional and Plymouth County, on March 26th to co-host a film-screening and panel discussion on the topic of black maternal health. This event was held at Bristol Community College in Taunton and was well attended.
- BCCSW continues to strengthen its community presence by partnering with local women-serving organizations to co-host events that focus on women in leadership, girls' initiatives, and issues that better the lives of women and girls living in Bristol County.
- BCCSW is proud of its current commission leadership team, one of the strongest in years.

### **Goals for Next Fiscal Year**

- Bristol County CSW (BCCSW) looks forward to welcoming a new group of commissioners and hosting a planning retreat for team building, regional orientation, and goal setting.
- BCCSW will continue to strengthen community outreach and commission branding.
- BCCSW looks forward to partnering with girl-serving organizations in the county to identify youth leaders to help plan and facilitate a girl's listening session.
- BCCSW is planning a regional legislative meeting with state legislators.





## Cape Cod and Islands Commission on the Status of Women

**State Liaison:** Leslie-Ann McGee

**Regional Commissioners:** Lynne Barbee, Chair (Mashpee); Amy Peters, Vice Chair (Mashpee); Chinna Mapp, Secretary (Falmouth); Mary Waygan, Treasurer (Mashpee); Sunny Daily (Nantucket); Rachel Devine (Nantucket); Natalia Frois (Hyannis); Mary Kate Gallagher (Yarmouth); Janell Burley Hoffman (Sandwich)

**Regional Area:** The Cape Cod and Islands Commission on the Status of Women represents towns in all of Barnstable, Dukes, and Nantucket Counties including Bourne, Falmouth, Sandwich, Mashpee, Barnstable, Dennis, Yarmouth, Harwich, Chatham, Brewster, Orleans, Eastham, Wellfleet, Truro, Provincetown, Nantucket, and Martha's Vineyard (Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, Aquinnah, Chilmark, Vineyard Haven, West Tisbury).

### Highlights and Accomplishments for FY25

- **Hearing More Voices** – This hybrid event was held on October 26th at We Can in Hyannis with translation in Portuguese. Panelists were Lisa Guyon, We Can; Susan Moran, State Senator; Katia Da Cunha, Latinx in Action; Dr. Kristen Harper, Reverend at Barnstable Unitarian Universalist; Annikki (Nikki) Galibois, South Shore Community Action Council. We had 35 attendees representing multiple constituencies and towns.
- **Girls Listening Circle** – This event was held on January 15th at the Mashpee Public Library with high school students from Mashpee, Falmouth and Sandwich attending. The conversation was organized and facilitated by CCICSW Intern Ayesha Shafi. The program included discussion of major issues of concern to girls and how to advocate for legislation at the state level.
- **Cape Cod International Women's Day Breakfast** – CCICSW participated in this community-wide event on March 11th as a partnering organization with Commissioners Peters, Frois, Waygan, Mapp attending and managing a CCICSW to increase our visibility.

### Goals for Next Fiscal Year

- Work with MCSW to reduce the size of our commission from 13 to 9 to allow for consistent recruitment and to maintain a full-functioning commission that allows for geographical diversity.
- Maintain our girls' initiative work by hiring a new high school intern to continue the excellent work that was launched this year. This will include further development of contacts with area schools and community groups and will include another winter program and/or listening circle.
- Continue strengthening and expanding relationships with other organizations in the region, including the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and our two islands, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket.





## Eastern Regional Commission on the Status of Women

**State Liaison:** Marydith Tuitt

**Regional Commissioners:** Gabrielle Jackson, Chair (Braintree); Wanjiku Gachugi, Vice Chair (West Roxbury); Amanda Crabb, Secretary (Quincy); Tamisha Lucien Civil (Stoughton); Manya Chylinski (Boston); Rosa Hanks (Chelsea); Connie Henderson (Boston); Alexandra Weber (Jamaica Plain); Stacy Wilbur (Quincy)

**Regional Area:** Eastern Regional Commission on the Status of Women includes the towns of Avon, Brookline, Canton, Cohasset, Dedham, Foxborough, Holbrook, Milton, Plainville, Randolph, Sharon, Stoughton, and Westwood, and the cities of Boston, Braintree, Chelsea, Quincy, Revere, Weymouth, and Winthrop.

### **Highlights and Accomplishments for FY25**

- Eastern Regional CSW (ERCSW) joined MCSW at the Massachusetts Conference for Women where they managed a table and met with women leaders across the state.
- To celebrate women's history month, ERCSW hosted their flagship event, *Accelerate Action*, in partnership with The Junior League of Greater Boston. This was a panel discussion with women leaders in the region and was moderated by ERCSW Commissioner Tamisha Civil. We had over 35 attendees join us on March 22nd in Milton.
- We have actively been working to utilize social media in a meaningful way, significantly increasing our social media presence to market and highlight events.
- We had three new commissioners this year, all of whom are actively engaged in the work.

### **Goals for Next Fiscal Year**

- To organize a strategic planning retreat to flesh out our long-term mission and vision for the commission and to enhance our community partnerships.
- To continue our community outreach in the form of hosting collaborative community events, tabling and organizing with elected officials, and hosting a legislative breakfast with elected officials, focused on our current legislative priorities.





## Essex County Commission on the Status of Women

**State Liaison:** Allison Goldberg

**Regional Commissioners:** Brianna Sullivan, Chair (Newburyport); Kirsten Alexander, Vice Chair (Wenham); Sara Stanley, Secretary (Rowley); Geetha Rao Ramani, Treasurer (Andover); Helen McDermott (Beverly); Brenda Pena (Lynn); Ivanna Solano (Lynn); Amy Smith (Salem); Maeva Veillard (Methuen)

**Regional Area:** The ECCSW represents all towns in Essex County including Saugus, Lynnfield, Lynn, Peabody, Swampscott, Salem, Marblehead, Danvers, Beverly, Middleton, Topsfield, Wenham, Hamilton, Manchester-by-the-sea, Essex, Gloucester, Rockport, Ipswich, Rowley, Newbury, Newburyport, Salisbury, Amesbury, Merrimac, West Newbury, Haverhill, Groveland, Georgetown, North Andover, Andover, Methuen, and Lawrence.

### Highlights and Accomplishments for FY25

- **The Ginsburg Initiative** – ECCSW continued our programming for young women through the Ginsburg Initiative, our regional youth council, created to give voice to young women in Essex County. Led by intern Katherine Blasius in its third year, our participants, ages 14 - 21, represent diverse Essex County municipalities. Their focus this year was menstrual equity, attending the MassNow Menstrual Equity Summit and running a commission/youth table, and advocating for the I AM Bill.
- **Women's Equality Day** – ECCSW participated in Gloucester's event featuring city proclamations, a panel discussion with women leaders, and recognition of women who have fostered positive community progress.
- **Power UP - Marblehead Initiative** – ECCSW submitted a letter of support for the proposed women veterans' monument and peace garden in Marblehead.
- **Community Needs Assessment Survey** – ECCSW created and distributed a community survey in four languages - Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese, English, to ensure inclusive feedback on the needs of Essex County women and girls. We look forward to providing results in FY26.
- **Listening Circles** – We held two listening circle, one in Danvers focused on girls which attracted over 50 participants – and the other in Methuen, which was focused on senior women, drawing over 25 attendees.

### Goals for Next Fiscal Year

- **Mentorship & Leadership for Girls** - Continue strengthening and expanding our Ginsburg Initiative and building a more robust mentoring program between ECCSW Commissioners and Ginsburg members.
- **Collaborative Impact** - Continue building community connections and inviting monthly guest speakers.
- **Mobilize Data to Inspire Action** - Share findings from listening circles and the community needs survey.
- **Encourage Women to Run for Office** - Promote civic participation by providing education, resources, and encouragement for women seeking public office and leadership roles on local boards.





## Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women

**State Liaison:** Tanisha Arena

**Regional Commissioners:** Nicole Coakley, Chair (Springfield); Cori Rolland, Vice Chair (Southwick); Vanessa Martinez, Secretary (Holyoke); Nicole Esposito (Longmeadow); Magdalena Gomez (Springfield); Jennifer McNeill (West Springfield); Ariana Nunez (Springfield); Tamika Ortiz-Acosta (Chicopee); Sasha Viands (Holyoke)

**Regional Area:** The Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women represents all cities and towns in Hampden County including Agawam, Blandford, Brimfield, Chester, Chicopee, East Longmeadow, Granville, Hampden, Holland, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Monson, Montgomery, Palmer, Russell, Southwick, Springfield, Tolland, Wales, West Springfield, Westfield, and Wilbraham.

### **Highlights and Accomplishments for FY25**

- **Collaborations:** The commission partnered with numerous Hampden County organizations, including:
  - Dora D. Robinson Women’s Leadership Council & United Way of Pioneer Valley.
- "A Mother’s Story: Grounding Allies for Women and Girls Advocacy" virtual event.
- Homeless Women and Girls menstrual product distribution with Western Mass Care Solutions.
- Movie matinee and lecture of “The Six Triple Eight” with Primus Mason Clean Energy Workforce Development and Power Medical Staffing.
- Women Empowerment Initiative event with Breaking the Core and O’Dell Women’s Center.
- **Women Who Lead: The Hoops and the Highlights:** The May virtual event will feature dynamic women leaders Bexie Starks (CEO of Pathway 2 Purpose), Odessa Perkins (CEO and Founder of emPOWERment Dess Perkins Foundation), and Caroline Ritter (Lead for Springfield Women with a Purpose).

### **Goals for Next Fiscal Year**

- Host a commissioner retreat for the purpose of team-building and strategic planning.
- Continue to advocate on our regional priorities.
- Continue to engage and collaborate with our state legislators and community partners.
- Host events that highlight and support the needs of women and girls in our communities.





## Hampshire-Franklin Commission on the Status of Women

**State Liaison:** Carol Campbell

**Regional Commissioners:** Luzed Guzman Romano, Chair (Easthampton); Jo-Ann Konieczny, Vice Chair (Hadley); Victoria Edwards, Clerk (Greenfield); Olivia Laramie, Legislative Liaison (Easthampton); Victoria Cliché (Leverett); Colleen DeVecchio, (Easthampton); Bonnie MacCracken (Amherst); Marie McCourt (Granby); Laura Sylvester (Shutesbury)

**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 FY25

- **Visibility at Pride Events** – Commissioners participated in regional Pride celebrations across Hampshire and Franklin counties, affirming the intersectionality of gender and LGBTQIA+ equity. These events served as a platform for raising awareness about the Commission’s work and demonstrating solidarity with communities historically marginalized in policy and representation.
- **Community Listening and Engagement** – To facilitate direct dialogue with the public, the Commission hosted open hours, including a community coffee chat at The Sphere in Northampton. These informal gatherings invited constituents to share their experiences, raise concerns, and learn more about the Commission’s mission and ongoing initiatives.
- **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.
- **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.





## MetroWest Commission on the Status of Women

**State Liaison:** Audrey Hall

**Regional Commissioners:** Lisa MacDonald, Chair (Natick); Jennifer Wuelfing, Vice Chair (Hopkinton); Odessa Sanchez, Legislative Chair (Wellesley); Christi Apicella (Franklin); Amie Rotondi (Medway); Sophia Rousseau (Natick); Alexandra Todorov (Framingham); Anne Mattina (Hopkinton); Kathleen Marchi (Millis).

**Regional Area:** The MetroWest Commission on the Status of Women represents the towns of Ashland, Bellingham, Dover, Framingham, Franklin, Holliston, Hopkinton, Hudson, Maynard, Medfield, Medway, Millis, Natick, Needham, Norfolk, Northborough, Norwood, Sherborn, Southborough, Stow, Sudbury, Walpole, Wayland, Wellesley, Westborough, Weston and Wrentham, and the city of Marlborough.

### Highlights and Accomplishments for FY25

- **Human Trafficking Prevention Breakfast** – As part of January being Human Trafficking Awareness Month, the Metro West Commission co- sponsored the 2nd annual Human Trafficking Prevention Breakfast on Friday, January 24, 2025. This was an in-person event at MassBay Community College in Wellesley, and a joint collaboration with the EMMA Coalition, RIA, My Life My Choice, Safe Exit Initiative, and Amirah with guest speakers Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll and DA Kevin Hayden.
- **Athena Council Career Fair - Empowering Girls of All Ages to Achieve Their Dream Careers:** Our Youth Athena Council hosted a career fair featuring women in the Metro West at Bellingham Library.
- **International Women's Day** – On Saturday March 8th we held our 2nd annual International Women's Day Event and Celebration at the Natick Commons Spiritual Center in Natick. Guest speakers included, Freddie Kay, founder and President of Massachusetts Women's History Center, Kristen Pope, the Natick's first Black Select Board member, Anna Neiman, Fashion Entrepreneur and Designer, and Keynote speaker Jin In, author of Girl Power: Sustainability, Empowerment, and Justice.
- **Advocacy Day 2025** – On Monday March 24th we attended Advocacy Day at the Massachusetts State House. Metro West represented in person by Commissioners Lisa McDonald, Jennifer Wuelfing, and Odessa Sanchez who spent the day meeting with legislators and their aides.

### Goals for Next Fiscal Year

- Listening sessions to determine ongoing legislative priorities
- Strengthening our Athena Council
- Hosting a Film Screening and Discussion
- Organize Period Palooza





## Plymouth County Commission on the Status of Women

**Regional Commissioners:** Michelle Davidson, Chair (Hanover); Lisa Westgate, Vice-Chair of Program and Planning (Marshfield); Elisabeth Arruda, Emerita (Marion); Kasey Bellegarde-Armstrong (Plymouth); Tamara Dzialo (Bridgewater); Daphne Remy Gomes (Middleborough); Maude Gorman (Hingham); Jacqueline Jones (Brockton); Danielle Kempe (Marshfield)

**Regional Area:** The Plymouth County Commission on the Status of Women represents all the towns and cities in Plymouth County including Abington, Bridgewater, Brockton, Carver, Duxbury, East Bridgewater, Halifax, Hanover, Hanson, Hingham, Hull, Kingston, Lakeville, Marion, Marshfield, Mattapoisett, Middleborough, Norwell, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton, Rochester, Rockland, Scituate, Wareham, West Bridgewater, and Whitman.

### Highlights and Accomplishments for FY25

- **The Gift of Listening Public Hearing:** This event was held Dec. 10, 2024, at Massasoit Community College, Brockton Campus. Attendees shared personal testimonies and participated in small group discussions to identify key challenges and propose actionable solutions. Ten issues rose to the top of their concerns: gender wage gap, maternal and Black maternal health, period poverty, sex and human trafficking, workforce development, domestic violence, housing and economic challenges, caregiver stress and isolation, education on women's health, and food insecurity and childcare access.
- **My Sister's Keeper: Helping to Improve Birthing Opportunities and Black Maternal Health Outcomes:** This event was held on March 26, 2025, at Bristol Community College in Taunton, MA. Hosted by PCCSW, BCCSW, and ERCSW, the event featured a screening of the documentary *Aftershock* followed by a powerful panel discussion addressing the Black maternal health crisis.
- **Unity in Action: PCCSW at Plymouth Pride:** For the second year, PCCSW proudly joined the community to stand in solidarity with LGBTQ+ individuals and families. The event was held June 29, 2025, at Nelson Park in Plymouth. As a sponsor and exhibitor, PCCSW hosted an advocacy booth to share resources, engage with attendees, and spotlight the Commission's ongoing work to advance equity through legislation and policy.

### Goals for Next Fiscal Year

- To increase awareness of the job opportunities women have working in the trades.
- Gather more data and stories from women and girls in the county to inform our event planning and improve our communications with elected officials when advocating for bills.
- Develop stronger relationships with our state legislators.





## Upper Middlesex Commission on the Status of Women

**Regional Commissioners:** Jennifer Canfield, Co-Chair (Littleton); Christina Li, Co-Chair (Lexington); Elizabeth Duclos-Orsello (Somerville); Diane Randolph Jones (Acton); Jessica Kallin (Ashby); Shreya Kesarwani (Lexington); Julie Laflamme (Bedford); Anna Tse (Malden); Doreen Wade (Dracut).

**Regional Area:** The Upper Middlesex Commission on the Status of Women includes the towns of Acton, Arlington, Ashby, Ayer, Bedford, Belmont, Billerica, Boxborough, Burlington, Carlisle, Chelmsford, Concord, Dracut, Dunstable, Groton, Lexington, Lincoln, Littleton, North Reading, Pepperell, Reading, Shirley, Stoneham, Tewksbury, Townsend, Tyngsborough, Wakefield, Westford, Wilmington, Winchester, and the cities of Cambridge, Everett, Lowell, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Newton, Somerville, Waltham, Watertown, and Woburn.

### Highlights and Accomplishments for FY25

- **Community Coffee Conversations:** We hosted a series of community conversations across our region, covering as many of our towns and cities as possible, and invited state legislators, local elected leaders, and community partners to join us for impromptu listening sessions.
- **Continuation of the Athena (youth) Council:** We work together in two subcommittees, a policy/nonprofit one and a hearing one. The members of our Athena Council identified the issues of menstrual equity and mental health as two key areas that they believe are most important to teen girls in their own communities. They continue to collaborate with regional schools to participate in drives that provide free access to menstrual products to girls in our region and are in the process of soliciting donations through their school events, secured funding from the commission, and contacted area nonprofits to provide period products.
- **Eldercare preparedness:** We continue to follow this issue as a regional priority and are preparing a report based on the feedback we received from last year's survey and hosted community conversations.
- **MCSW Advocacy Day:** We had outstanding participation at this year's Advocacy Day, both with regional commissioners and community partners. We spoke to several of our legislative offices and will continue advocating for our regional priorities.

### Goals for Next Fiscal Year

- Create and enact a robust orientation and onboarding plan that spans the full year to promote leadership and support commissioners, Athena Council members, and volunteers. Increase our efficacy and capacity.
- Continue to expand our community and network in the region, working in collaboration.
- Plan and implement a programming calendar that fully supports our regional legislative priorities.





## Worcester County Commission on the Status of Women

**State Liaison:** Kim Shea

**Regional Commissioners:** Chantel Bethea, Chair, (Worcester); Amanda Molina Dumas, Vice Chair, (Millbury); Cathleen Liberty, Clerk, (Worcester); Mary Delaney (Gardner); Kayanna James (Worcester); Carlee Mills (Gardner); Michelle Quinones (Worcester); Marcia Chong Rosado (Milford); Amber Vayo (Berlin)

**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 FY25

- **Advocacy:** Members from the Worcester County Commission on the Status of Women attended Advocacy Day 2025 at the State House on March 24, 2025, where we met with our local representatives and their legislative staff to advocate for both the legislative priorities of the State Commission, as well as our regional priorities, which included the I AM BILL, An Act Relative to Healthy Youth, and An Act Promoting and Enhancing the Sustainability of Birth Centers and the Midwifery Workforce. Follow-up from Advocacy Day has included providing additional information and materials to legislators and their staff via email.
- **Programming:** The Worcester County Commission on the Status of Women held a public hearing on November 21, 2024, at the Worcester Youth Center to hear about local concerns.

### Goals for Next Fiscal Year

- Conduct our annual legislative breakfast in September 2025.
- Have more community input sessions to see what affects women and girls in Worcester County
- Maintain regular contact with our legislators and local elected officials on issues that concern women and girls that have been identified as our priority areas of focus.
- Attend community events and share information about WCCSW to promote awareness and to increase involvement in our commission activities.



# Community Partner Gratitude



Thank you so much to all of the incredible coalition partners, organizations, community stakeholders, mentors, legislators, and so many more for making this year such an incredible success. The Commission is grateful to our many community partners who remain committed to supporting the advancement of all women and girls.



**Thank you.**  
**We could not do this work without all of you.**



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