

FINAL
Fort Collins Women's Commission
2017 WORK PLAN
Updated February 22, 2017

The City of Fort Collins Women's Commission promotes decisions and actions that address the needs and positively impact women in our community. We do this by listening to the voice of women, advising City Council, promoting community events, and educating ourselves and others about safety, health, and poverty as they relate to the City of Fort Collins Key Strategic Outcome of Community and Neighborhood Livability.

INTRODUCTION

For the year 2017, the Fort Collins Women's Commission will continue to focus its efforts on three key areas affecting women in Fort Collins: Safety, Health, and Poverty. The Commission is focused on becoming a stronger voice to the City Council and the community on behalf of the women of Fort Collins.

GOALS

The Women's Commission has established the following goals for 2017

1. Continue to align the Work Plan and monthly agendas with the City of Fort Collins seven Key Strategic Outcomes.
2. Review and capitalize on the research available from existing sources to provide a picture of the status of women in the community. These sources include, but are not limited to, the Report on the Status of Women and Girls in Colorado from the Women's Foundation of Colorado, updates from the National Association of Commissions on Women, research, and education from members of the Women's Commission, and information from local agencies and organizations. By utilizing these credible resources and communicating key data, and stories about women to the decision makers and movers, we seek to engage the community, foster dialogue and create the forums and synergies necessary for problem solving.
3. **Review CEDAW materials and determine whether to recommend to City Council for adoption**
4. Attend a networking event for organizations that we partner with for women's issues (SAVA, Crossroads, etc.).
5. Collaborate with local organizations and law enforcement to highlight issues such as domestic violence, sexual assault, homelessness, and poverty.
6. Bring to the attention of City Council and identify and utilize key events/media outlets in the community where the materials and messages of the Women's Commission can be effectively communicated and leveraged. **Explore options around a social media presence with Council Liaison and City staff.**
7. Continue to develop and leverage relationships with other City of Fort Collins' Boards and Commissions around issues that impact the key focus areas of the Women's commission, i.e. attend super meetings and collaboration meetings.
8. Continue to develop and leverage relationships in the community, i.e. presentation of the *Marcile N. Wood Award* at the fall WomenGive event.
9. Focus and align Women's Commission activities and work with the Key Outcome of Community & Neighborhood Livability, especially as related to the Women's Commission Periodic Review in 2019.

ON-GOING ANNUAL COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

- Attend and present material at City Council meetings
- Organize collaboration meetings with other Boards and Commissions
- Participate in and/or arrange community events that highlight issues pertinent to women in Fort Collins
- Create collaborative relationships with individuals and entities who address the community's issues of poverty, health, and safety
- Identify and reach out to community experts and resources to inform the work of the Women's Commission
- Professional development and training for Women's Commission members
- Quarterly evaluations of progress
- Participate in city budget discussions as appropriate
- Produce written materials related to annual goals which will be available in both electronic and paper form
- Monitor City Council 6-month planning calendar

COMMISSION LIAISONS

Relationship with City Council – Track the Council's policy agenda and, in the Commission's advisory role, provide information and appropriate comments to the City Council on issues of information gathered by the commission.

Develop and strengthen relationships with community organizations and groups that focus on women in the community - including Colorado State University, local non-profit organizations, and other relevant organizations.

GENERAL TIMELINE

January:

- **Community & Neighborhood Livability, Strategic Objectives 1.1, 1.7, 1.8**
- Approve the 2017 Annual Report to be presented to the City Council by the end of the month
- Determine method for recognizing *Sexual Assault Awareness Month: Engaging New Voices 2017* theme (April)
- Set up the 2017 Commission Retreat for February/March
- Planning for 2017 proclamations and community partnerships
- Discuss SANE donations and decide how to proceed
- Guest Speaker: Beth Bruno from A Face to Reframe & Mary Beth Swanson from Voices Carry Child Advocacy Center

February:

- Annual Retreat
- Elect Women's commission officers
- Discuss ways to collaborate with the Senior Advisory Board for *Older Americans Month* (May)
- Determine method for recognizing *Women's Health Week* (May)
- Determine method for recognizing *Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month* (May)
- Guest Speaker: Gail Engel Grandfamily coalition

March:

- **Transportation, Strategic Objectives 6.2 & 6.4**
- Schedule the year based on information from the February/March Retreat
- March is *Women's History Month*
- Explore publicity options for promoting events, winners, and honoring women within the community at large
- Quarterly evaluation of progress
- Plan annual collaboration breakfast
- **Review options for Commission involvement in social media as an outlet to increase exposure and community involvement.**

April:

- **Safe Community, Strategic Objectives 5.3 & 5.8**
- *Equal Pay Day* is April 4, 2017
- Finalize annual collaboration plans
- Guest Panel LGBTQ
- **Finalize Social Media Outreach proposal for meeting with City Council Liaison**

May:

- **Community & Neighborhood Livability, Strategic Objectives 1.6**
- Host annual B&C collaboration breakfast
- *Women's Health Week* is May 14-20, 2017
- Review City Council retreat outcome and six-month planning calendar
- Quarterly evaluations of progress
- Schedule meeting with City Council liaison
- **Review CEDAW presentation by WC task force and discuss any recommendations to City Council**

June:

- Planning as determined by the Commission – review rest of 2017 and adjust as necessary
- Guest Speaker: Transportation
- Determine method for recognizing *Domestic Violence Awareness Month* (October)
- **Finalize CEDAW recommendation to City Council**

July/August:

- **Culture & Recreation, Strategic Objectives 2.1, 2.2, 2.7**
- Plan for Marcille N. Wood award with WomenGive
- Review draft 2017 Work Plan
- Determine method for recognizing *National Hunger and Homeless Week* (November)
- Research data regarding the status of women in poverty in the community

September:

- Quarterly evaluations of progress
- Approve 2017 Work Plan; submit to Clerk's Office
- Guest Speaker: Emerge Colorado

October:

- **Economic Health, Strategic Objectives 3.3 & 3.6**
- October is *Domestic Violence Awareness Month*
- Review data about the status of women in poverty in the community

November:

- **Environmental Health, Strategic Objectives 4.3 & 4.7**
- Plan December activity to review the year and celebrate any outgoing Commission members
- Begin working on 2017 Annual Report

December:

- Review 2017 Annual Report
- Quarterly evaluations of progress
- Celebration