

FORT COLLINS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

1995 WORK PLAN

November 30, 1994

Introduction:

The Fort Collins Commission on the Status of Women will continue to focus efforts toward addressing the needs of women in the community in ways that are visible, credible, and relevant. A number of activities that have historically been sponsored by the Commission over the years will continue in 1995. This report outlines planned activities of the Commission as a whole, as well as liaison roles.

Current Activity:

The Fort Collins Task Force Report : A report to City Council - At this time, the Task Forces will unit and focus on producing a second research study similar to the 1986 Fort Collins Task Force on Women's Issues: Report to City Council. The Task Force on Racism, Sexual Harassment, Domestic Violence, Economic Equity, and Health care will include their areas of interest and expertise to formulate the follow-up research study. The mission of the follow-up research study is: to gather and document current information on issues critical to the status and opportunities for women in the community and prepare a report with recommendations for POSITIVE change.

Traditional Activities:

Women's History Month Essay Contest - The Commission will sponsor an essay contest for Junior High students. We will work with Carol Ann Hixon at Poudre R-1 to coordinate distribution of the contest invitations early in January. Entries will be reviewed in early March 1995 and the winning essays will be presented to the Fort Collins Coloradoan for possibly publication later in the month. Contest winners also are presented certificates and monetary awards at a subsequent City Council meeting.

Women's Celebrations - The Commission will continue to increase the visibility of the Fort Collins Commission on the Status of Women by participating or taking a lead role in those events celebrating women. The Commission will lead Fort Collins in the celebration of:

1. Women's History Month (March) publicize the events celebrating women.
2. Women's Equality Day (August) through the sponsorship of buttons and awareness.
3. Marcile N. Wood Award by presenting the award to a outstanding nominee who has made considerable positive contributions to the women of Larimer County.

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Liaisons to the Community:

Liaison on Sex / Health Education in the PR-1 Curriculum - The Commission will have a representative examining, monitoring, and reporting the status of sex / Health education in the curriculum of Poudre R-1 School District to the Commission.

Liaison to the Multi-Cultural Task Force - A component of the Task Force on Racism, members will review the City's Diversity Plan and provide ongoing feedback on the City's progress. The Commission will continue to support efforts of the Multi-Cultural Advisory Committee on projects that will continue to document the contributions of Hispanic citizens to the Fort Collins community. Additionally, a collaborative liaison to the Human Relation's Commission will continue. This representative will be responsible for keeping the Commission informed of new and existing developments.

Task Force Activities:

The Boards and Commissions Outreach and Training - The Commission will have representatives work with City Clerk's office, Ms. Rita Harris, to develop a format that will increase the diverse ethnic, cultural, and socio-economic backgrounds of potential applicants to City and County Boards and Commissions. A critical assessment of the Board's and Commission's applications will be conducted and recommendations made regarding reading levels, location of applications, and the formal process of the applications.