

Fort Collins Commission on the Status of Women

1993 WORK PLAN

The Fort Collins Commission on the Status of Women will continue to address the needs of women in the community using the filters of visibility, credibility and relevance. Those functions that have been historically sponsored will continue, along with several new areas of emphasis. This report delineates the activities of the Commission as a whole, and of its several Task Forces.

Commission Activities

Women's/Pace -- This column, appearing twice monthly in the Triangle Review, will continue to be sponsored by the Commission. This forum will be used by the Commission to further the projects and issues embraced by the Commission.

Women's History Month Essay Contest -- The Commission will again sponsor a Women in Your Own History 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 due March 5, 1993 and the winning essays will be published in the Triangle Review, *Women's/Pace*, before the end of the month.

Task Force Activities

Task Force on the Boards and Commissions Workshop -- The Commission again plans to host the Boards and Commissions Workshop this coming March or April. We plan to present a panel including representatives of City Council, Larimer County Commissioners and various boards and commissions. The goal of the workshop is to provide information to, and create interest in citizens of Fort Collins so that they will apply to be members of boards and commissions.

Task Force on Youth Commission

This Task Force will continue to monitor AYC, PACT, GET SET, PTC and other organizations and their programs for opportunities benefitting Fort Collins young people.

Task Force on Racism

The Commission on the Status of Women has approved the appointment of a Multi-Cultural Community Advisory Committee that will function in an advisory and consultative role in relation to the Commission. The Task Force on Racism will recruit women from diverse sectors of the community to serve on this group - Hispanic American women, Black American women, Native American women, Asian American women, senior women, low income women, disabled women, women who are single parents, etc.

The Task Force on Racism will, with the assistance of the Community Advisory group, explore and collect information about racism and diversity concerns of women in the community; including, but not limited to, concerns about education, employment, community issues (police harassment, negative and stereotypical media reporting), and health issues. The Task Force on Racism will pay specific attention to the long standing patterns of racism in the community.

The Task Force on Racism, with the assistance of the community advisory group, will prepare

proposals for community change to work toward the elimination of racism in the Fort Collins community.

The Task Force on Racism will present its information regarding racism and diversity in the Fort Collins community to the city-wide Cultural Diversity Task Force, to other community individuals and institutions and to the media.

Task Force on Economic Equity

The Task Force on Economic Equity will design an award for businesses that provide positive environments for women.

The Task Force on Economic Equity will investigate zoning ordinances to determine if there are hindrances to communal living for women with children.

The Task Force will investigate police reporting procedures for domestic disturbances. Decide whether they need to be improved so that Social Services has better information on which to base their decision of granting a good cause exemption from the search for the absent father.

The Task Force on Economic Equity will continue to monitor activities and progress of the various affordable housing groups in Fort Collins/Larimer County such as Habitat for Humanity, CARE, and the Larimer County Affordable Housing Task Force.

Task Force on Women's Celebrations

The Task Force on Women's Celebrations 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. Events for 1993 will involve Women's History Month, Women's Equality Day, and 100 Years of Women's Suffrage. This Task Force will also attempt to disseminate information on the curriculum materials developed by the National Women's History Project.

Task Force on Curriculum

The Task Force on Curriculum will examine the status of diversity in the curriculum of Poudre R-1 School District. This Task Force will work closely and tie-in wherever possible with the efforts of the Task Force on Racism. In addition, this Task Force will explore the viability of getting Commission members appointed to Poudre R-1 Advisory Boards.

Task Force on Sexual Harassment

The Task Force on Sexual Harassment will complete the development of its criteria for an effective sexual harassment policy and guidelines for policy implementation. These criteria will be distributed to the governments of Fort Collins and Larimer County and those local firms and non-profit organizations that responded to our survey last year. In addition they will be made available to other businesses and organizations in the community who may wish to use them and will also be disseminated widely in the general community. This dissemination may take place through a conference, forum or workshop -- the exact nature of the public meeting or meetings will be determined in the coming year.