

## About the West Virginia Women's Commission:

The West Virginia Women's Commission is an independent state agency that was established in 1977 by House Bill 1378.

The purpose of the Commission is to advance women toward full equality in all areas of life and to promote the rights and opportunities for all women.

The Commission exists to provide a permanent, effective voice for women across West Virginia.

The Commission is overseen by a board of 11 Commissioners drawn from diverse racial, ethnic, religious, age, sexual orientation and socioeconomic backgrounds from throughout the state.

### The Commission is Empowered to:

- Provide referrals and serve as a resource of information on issues pertaining to women.
- Promote and facilitate collaboration among various women's organizations.
- Inform leaders of business, education, health care, state and local governments and the media of issues pertaining to women.
- Advise executive and legislative bodies on the effect of proposed legislation on women.
- Serve as a liaison between government and private interest groups concerned with issues affecting women.

## To Request a Speaker:

You may submit an electronic request via our Web site or mail your written request to the address below.

Please include the date, time and location of your event, the number of people expected, and the topic or issue you would like to have discussed.

Speakers are free of charge. However, tax deductible donations to the WVWC are always welcomed to help subsidize WVWC's operating and special project expenses.



### West Virginia Women's Commission

An office within the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources

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## West Virginia Women's Commission

# Speakers Bureau



**WEST VIRGINIA WOMEN'S COMMISSION**

*Advocacy. Education. Research.*

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has"*

**-Margaret Mead**

## Did You Know?

- Young women enroll in college in greater numbers than young men.
- The poverty rate for working women is higher than the poverty rate for working men.
- West Virginia's women earn just 77% of what men in West Virginia earn.
- Mortality rates of West Virginia's women from heart disease are among the highest in the nation.
- Women make up only 16% of the West Virginia Legislature

## About the Speakers Bureau:

The WWC Speakers Bureau lends the services of our Commissioners, staff, and community volunteers to speak about these and other issues that effect women throughout West Virginia.

Throughout this service, the Commission hopes to support the women of West Virginia raise awareness of women's issues, educate women about the resources of the Commission, and strive for the positive change for women in the state.

It is our hope that this free service will provide needed information to the communities of West Virginia while simultaneously helping the Commission understand the needs of West Virginia's Women. Some speakers may require travel reimbursement.

## Potential Topics:

- **The Status of Women in West Virginia**
  - Young Women and Leadership
- **Societal Issues**
  - Public Health and Safety
  - Homelessness
  - Violence Against Women
  - Governmental Participation
  - Legislative Initiatives
- **Education**
  - Women Returning to School
  - Women's History
  - Mentoring
- **Employment**
  - Pay Equity
  - Labor Issues
  - Job Training
  - Women in Business
  - Economic Empowerment
- **Families**
  - Teen Pregnancy
  - Daycare/Childcare
  - Family Leave
- **Health**
  - Reproductive Health
  - Health Care
  - HIV/AIDS
  - Breast Cancer Awareness
  - Nutrition
- **Diversity and Minority Issues**

## Commissioners/Speakers:

Commissioners      Ex-Officio Commissioners

### CHAIR

**Dr. Kat Williams**  
Cabell County

### VICE CHAIR

Kameron Miller  
Berkeley County

**Belinda Biafore**  
Marion County

**Diana Bell**  
Ohio County

**Gina Martino Dahlia**  
Marion County

**Stacy North**  
Monongalia County

**Linda Waybright**  
Jackson County

**Robin Young**  
Kanawha County

**Mary Kay Jacquet**  
Human Rights  
Commission

Division of Labor

**Sara Walker**  
Division of Personnel

**Dr. Kathy Butler**  
Higher Education  
Policy Commission

**Hazra Alladin**  
Department of  
Education

**Susan Perry**  
Department of Health  
& Human Resources

**Dawn Warfield**  
Office of the  
Attorney General

## Staff:

Tara Martinez  
*Executive Director*

*Judi Nuckolls, Special Projects Coordinator*