Top stories in this newsletter

TVW’s interview with Director Gonzalez

Our Director, Michelle Gonzalez, had the pleasure of meeting Austin Jenkins, the Host of TVW, for an in-depth interview about the Women’s Commission. Click here to watch the full interview. Like us on Facebook to follow the Women’s Commission.

July 29 Meeting in Spokane, WA

Our next plenary meeting and outreach event will be in Spokane, WA at the Gonzaga University School of Law on July 29, 2019.

In addition to conducting regular commission business, we will be hosting a panel discussion to address Child Care Access and Affordability at 3pm.

The outreach event will follow the meeting at 5:30pm. If you wish to stay informed of this meeting and receive an agenda with participation instructions, please email Marie.Vela@wswc.wa.gov.

October 15 Meeting in Seattle

The October plenary meeting and outreach event will be held in Seattle, WA on October 15, 2019. We are in the process of securing a location, so stay tuned.

At this meeting we will conduct regular business and host a panel discussion addressing women on corporate boards.

The outreach event will follow the meeting. If you wish to stay informed of this meeting and receive an agenda with participation instructions, please email Marie.Vela@wswc.wa.gov.
Legislative Updates

The Women’s Commission voted to support 15 bills, and 11 made it to the Governor. We supported bills focusing on sexual harassment and domestic violence prevention, child care, housing, and addressing the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

HB 1016 An act relating to hospital notification of availability of sexual assault evidence kit collection.

EHB 1056 Creating a task force to identify the role of the workplace in helping curb domestic violence.

HB 1149 An act relating to clarifying requirements to obtain a sexual assault protection order.

SHB 1166 An act relating to supporting sexual assault survivors.

SHB 1303 An act relating to improving access and completion for students at institutions of higher education, especially at community and technical colleges, by removing restrictions on subsidized child care.

ESHB 1453 An act relating to residential tenant protections.

HB 1533 Making information about domestic violence resources available in the workplace.

2SHB 1603 An act relating to revising economic assistance programs by updating standards of need, revising outcome measures and data collected, and reducing barriers to participation.

ESHB 1692 An act relating to protecting information concerning agency employees who have filed a claim of harassment or stalking.

ESHB 1696 An act relating to wage and salary information.

2SHB 1713 Improving law enforcement response to missing and murdered Native American women.

ESHB 1998 An act relating to creating a task force to provide more certainty and clarity for institutions of higher education and our communities regarding campus sexual violence policies and procedures.

ESSB 5258 An act relating to protecting information concerning agency employees who have filed a claim of harassment or stalking.

ESSB 5395 An act relating to revising economic assistance programs by updating standards of need, revising outcome measures and data collected, and reducing barriers to participation.

2SSB 5437 Expanding eligibility to the early childhood education and assistance program.

SAVE THE DATE! Centennial Celebration

We have teamed up with the Washington State Historical Society and the Women’s History Consortium to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment (women’s voting rights) and celebrate women change makers across Washington State through 2020.

To help support programming to celebrate the national suffrage centennial, the Votes for Women Centennial Grants have been awarded 11 different non-profits and public entities across the State of Washington.

Our statewide celebrations will culminate on August 22, 2020 on the Olympia Capitol Campus. We hope you can join us in a day of festivities! For more information about statewide celebrations and how you can participate in your area, visit https://www.suffrage100wa.com/.