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Advisory Commission on the Status of Women

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Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders

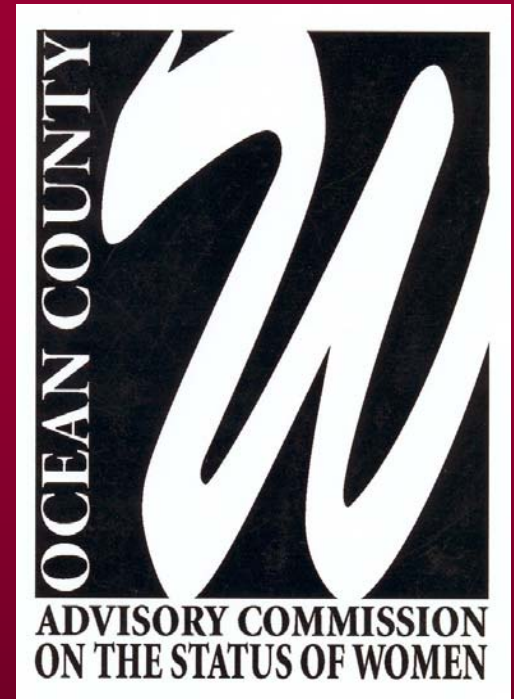
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About the Commission

The Ocean County Advisory Commission on the Status of Women was created by the Board of Chosen Freeholders in October 1977 under the sponsorship of Ocean County's first woman Freeholder Hazel F. Gluck. Nineteen volunteer Commissioners are appointed by the Board of Chosen Freeholders to serve as representatives of the diverse roles that women assume in our society. The Commission is dedicated to analyzing the needs, concerns, and interests as well as identifying and coordinating services and resources for women in Ocean County.

The Commission's role in Ocean County includes providing the women of Ocean County and their families with both a network and a voice through:

Information & Awareness - The Commission has full time staff that are committed to gathering and updating resource information that is made available to the community through publications and referral services. Commission staff also keep detailed information regarding the types of inquiries that are received by office staff. This information is shared with other organizations and agencies in order to enhance program planning.

Collaboration - The Commission collaborates with many organizations and service providers by sharing information on issues of concern in an effort to improve the status of women and their families.

Advocacy - The Commission acts as an advocate for women's issues and for equal rights and opportunities for all women in Ocean County by providing a voice and a resource for networking. The Commission also acts as a liaison providing a bridge to the Board of Chosen Freeholders on matters concerning women in our community.

Commission Achievements

The National Association of Counties has bestowed four achievement awards to the Commission for their support, involvement and advocacy of the Anatomically Correct Doll Project, the Rape Care Plan, the Sexual Assault Survivor's Guide and the Domestic Violence Crisis Intervention Program.

Programs & Services

Information & Referral Service - Our goal is to refer County residents to the appropriate service providers who can address their needs. We also provide information regarding available community resources and assist women & their families to negotiate social/human service delivery systems. There is no eligibility requirement to receive services.

Woman to Woman Newsletter - The Commission publishes an informational newsletter designed to keep the community informed of important issues that affect women and their families. Programs and events can be found in each newsletter.

Women's Health Month - In recognition of "Women's Health Month" and "Women's Health Day" in Ocean County, community organizations and agencies that provide health services to women, in cooperation with the Commission, present resources, programs and events to promote women's health and safety throughout the entire month of October.

Women's History Month - In recognition of the National "Women's History Month" celebration, the Commission coordinates with the Ocean County Library System and key women's organizations in a collaborative effort to organize a "Women's History Month" calendar of events for the County. Women's History Month projects heighten the awareness of the contributions women have made to the evolution of society.

Advocate of the Year Celebration - The Commission has developed the "Women's Advocate of the Year" award to recognize an agency, organization, program or individual that has demonstrated a personal commitment to women's issues through the required leadership skills and resources necessary to advocate for improved services for women in Ocean County. The award is our way of thanking those individuals that go above and beyond to meet the growing needs of our women residents and their families.

Networking - The Commission sponsors various networking programs to offer women, service providers and advocates the chance to meet one another, exchange ideas and information and to learn what services are available within the County.