



ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Anne Arundel County Commission for Women

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ANNE ARUNDEL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN



The Anne Arundel County Commission for Women was first established in 1975 to serve as a resource and advocacy group for women of the County and to advise the County Executive on issues of significance to women. Recently signed by County Executive Steuart Pittman, Executive Order Number 64 expanded the Commission to a 19-member advisory board with the following duties:

- Advise the County Executive on issues of significance to women
- Cooperate with the County Executive, governmental agencies, and private industry in programs beneficial to women
- Provide direction in solving problems of particular concerns to women through community outreach and education
- Increase community awareness of women's opportunities and problems
- Act as a resource and advocacy group to promote equal rights for women
- Promote political, economic, and social equality for women



Carolyn Keaton Culp
District 1
Chair



Gina Worthey
District 7
Vice Chair
Retired December 2025



Sari Wisch
District 4
Secretary

"Supporting Women. Strengthening Families. Serving Anne Arundel."

2025 COMMISSIONERS



Karen Akins
District 4



Dr. Ixchel Baker-Tate
District 2



Karen Butler
District 2
Retired September 2025



Doris Bryan
District 4



Aisha Hillard
District 1



Amanda Horne
District 2
Retired March 2025



Meghan Honesto
District 4



CaSandra Jones
District 4



Janelle Joyce-Pesley
District 1



Samantha Nagy
District 7
Retired June 2025



Dr. Siobhan Oma Nnorom
District 1



Michelle Pickens
District 7



Monet N. Proctor
District 6



Brianna Sampson
District 4
Retired December 2025



Stacie Spragins
District 7

County Executive appoints Commissioners to serve two-year terms (not to exceed four consecutive terms). Full biographies of the Commissioners are available on the AACCW website: [Commission for Women | Anne Arundel County Government](#).

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Carolyn Keaton Culp



It has been a profound honor to serve a second term as Chair of the Anne Arundel County Commission for Women (AACCCW) and celebrate our Golden 50th year, guiding our collective push toward greater equity, expanded opportunity, and lasting impact for women and families across the county. Our work has always been about more than programs or policy—it has been about shaping the arc of possibility for generations to come.

Through partnership with Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corporation (AAWDC) In School Career Coaches, AACCCW was able to provide “Journey to Success” Career Panels to provide middle schools throughout the County opportunities to explore career opportunities and learn life lessons through personal stories of challenges and successes. Most notably, AACCCW was able to deliver a career exploration panel for the Teen Parent Program, connecting young moms with diverse professionals and practical workforce pathways. The session expanded participants’ awareness of viable career options and strengthened their access to community resources that support long-term economic stability.

We concluded the first half of the year with the appointment of six new Commissioners, marking both renewal and continuity in our mission. Anne Arundel County Clerk of the Court Scott A. Poyer and Chief Deputy Clerk Mary Katherine Fowler joined us to administer the oath of office to the full Commission. Together, we inscribed our names into the official ledger—a record that stretches back to the 1600s and bears witness to centuries of civic life.

Adding our signatures to that historic book was more than ceremony. It was a symbolic reclaiming of space, a reminder that women now stand in roles once closed to us, shaping decisions and institutions that will define the county’s future. In that moment, we were not simply marking the start of a new term—we were affirming our place in history and our responsibility to those who will follow.

We celebrated our 50th Anniversary in October. The theme: ,

I am extremely proud of the work we have accomplished this year on behalf of women and girls and look forward as we ensure Anne Arundel County is the “Best Place for All”.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Chair: Stacie Spragins, Aisha Hillard, CaSandra Jones
Committee: Sari Wisch

Article VI, Section 1 of the Anne Arundel County Commission for Women Bylaws establishes the Legislative Committee to monitor and report on actions by State and local governmental entities, including, but not limited to the Maryland General Assembly and the Anne Arundel County Council and to develop and review Legislative Committee policies and procedures.

In November 2024, four Commissioners attended the 2025 Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW) Conference. Participation in MLAW is one of the foundational methods for AACCW to increase awareness and advocacy for potential state level legislative initiatives of concern or impactful to women in the County. The County pays for AACCW Chair participation in the annual MLAW Conference. In addition to Chair, Several Commissioners hold membership in the organization with voting rights to determine the Legislative Agenda of bills for awareness and advocacy.

For the 2025 Legislative Session, the Legislative Committee identified the following bills AACCW advocacy:

- HB0933 / SB679 – Nursing Homes: Direct Care Wages and Benefits and Cost Reports. This bill which passed ensures revenue received from Maryland Medicaid program is spent on direct care and the women-led workforce that provides it.
- HB772 - Career Counseling for Middle and High School Students which supports the Workforce Development Organizations providing career counseling in middle and high schools. Unfortunately, this bill died in committee.

In preparation for the 2026 Maryland General Assembly (MGA) session, two AACCW members attended the MLAW Conference in November 2025. During the conference, Commissioners engaged with elected officials and women's organizations from across the state.



50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Chair: Dr. Ixchel Baker-Tate, Brianna Sampson

Committee: Aisha Hilliard, Siobhan Nnorom, Janelle Joyce-Pelsey

The 50th Anniversary Celebration was a resounding success. The event theme, “**50 Years of HERstory – Honoring Our Legacy, Shaping Our Future,**” was beautifully reflected in the program, décor, and remarks.

The 50th Anniversary Committee was charged with planning and executing the Commission’s 50th Anniversary Celebration, honoring 50 years of advocacy, leadership, and service. The event recognized the Commission’s legacy, celebrated community partners, and raised awareness about domestic violence prevention. The committee coordinated all aspects of the event, including venue selection, honoree outreach, program development, design and décor, marketing, and volunteer coordination. The following organizations were honored for the commitment and service to women in the County:

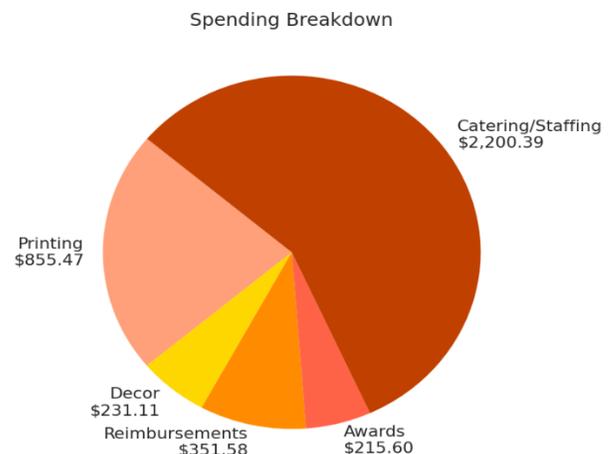
- **Mandy Memmel**, Founder/CEO, The Well / Hon’s Honey
- **Shelley’s House**
- **Chrysalis House**
- **YWCA of Annapolis & Anne Arundel County**

The program included recognition of the Commission’s history, award presentations, and acknowledgment of its ongoing commitment to advancing equity and safety for women and families in Anne Arundel County. Guests dined on a professionally prepared charcuterie/grazing table by **Graze La Meza** as sounds of saxophonist, **Dr. Otis Eldridge** filled the air. Distinguished Guests included:

- Family members of Sheila P. Litzky, the **first Commission Chair**
- **Councilman Pete Smith**, Anne Arundel County
- **Gloria Dent**, Anne Arundel County Board of Education
- **Councilwoman Alison Pickard**, Anne Arundel County

The event showcased the Commission’s mission and long record of service to the community while staying within the approved budget.

Description	Amount
Starting Budget	\$4,000.00
Total Spent	\$3,854.15
Remaining Balance	\$145.85



CAREER PANELS COMMITTEE

Chair: Doris Bryan

Committee: Karen Akins, CaSandra Jones, Carolyn Keaton Culp, Michelle Pickens, Gina Worthey

The Commission's "Journey to Success" Career Panels provides economic empowerment to teens about to enter the workforce through career development and exploration. The panel bring together professional women from different disciplines within the County for question-and-answer opportunity for school-aged girls to discuss higher education, vocational training, and available career opportunities. The theme of the panel emphasized that career paths are individual and not everyone's path to success looks the same. The Commission continued partnership with Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corporation (AAWDC) to bring "Journey to Success" program to middle and high school students as part of AAWDC In-School Career Coaches program. AACCW coordinates with individual Career Coaches to support career fairs and career exploration opportunities at their respective schools. Through this partnership, AACCW was able to reach over 75 students across Anne Arundel County six schools this year including Teen Parent Program. The "Journey to Success" Career Panels to provide to explore career opportunities and learn life lessons through personal stories of challenges and successes. The Commission looks forward to continuing this partnership next year and expanding to non-traditional at-risk youths.



"Supporting Women. Strengthening Families. Serving Anne Arundel."

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Chair: Janelle Joyce-Pelsey

Committee: Siobhan Nnorom, Sari Wisch, Monet Proctor

The Outreach Committee advanced its mission of branding, communications, and social media development by strengthening the Commission's public identity and expanding its digital reach. Throughout the year, the Committee focused on building a unified visual presence, improving community engagement, and elevating awareness of the Commission's work across Anne Arundel County.

To ensure a consistent and professional public image, the Committee developed and implemented key communication tools and standards:

- **Branding Guidelines:** Established comprehensive visual identity standards to unify the Commission's presence across all social media platforms and outreach materials.
- **Local Events Calendar:** Created a centralized community events calendar to support coordinated social media planning, highlight countywide activities, and encourage Commission member participation in future engagement opportunities.

The Committee led and supported several initiatives that strengthened community connections and advanced the Commission's mission of service and visibility.

The Committee planned and hosted the Annual Holiday Gathering, which served as both a celebration and a meaningful opportunity for community support. In partnership with the YWCA of Annapolis & Anne Arundel County, the Committee organized a donation drive that collected:

- Care kits
- Toiletries
- Toys for children

These contributions supported women and families receiving services through the YWCA during the holiday season.

Committee members attended the 2025 Community Needs Assessment Presentation, *Poverty Amidst Plenty VIII: Building Community Together*, hosted by the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County (CFAAC).

The presentation, led by Dr. Pamela Brown, Executive Director of the Anne Arundel County Partnership for Children, Youth and Families, highlighted key trends shaping the county in the areas of:

- Education
- Health
- Housing
- Income
- Environment

This data will inform future outreach strategies and ensure alignment with the needs of women and families across the county.

COMMISSION IN ACTION

The AACCW is active on the following social media platforms, each of which speaks to a different audience and requires a different approach.



Throughout 2025, AACCW maintained our social media presence. We focused on strategic partnerships to share content on our platforms.

With a focus on engagement, the Commission attended multiple community events to share the purpose and objectives of the Commission and network with like-minded organizations.



STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Anne Arundel County, Office of Community Engagement and Constituent Services (CECS)

- Director Vince Moulden presented at Strategic Planning Session
- Community Engagement Officer Tiyana Parker attends Commission meetings

Office of Equity and Human Rights

- Director, Asha Smith presented at Strategic Planning Session
- Participated in Boards & Commissions Networking Event
- Member of the Anne Arundel County Hate Crimes Prevention Multidisciplinary Advisory Team

Anne Arundel County Workforce Development Corporation

- Met with In-School Programs Director, Elizabeth Savage
- Presented at Career Coaches Planning Session
- Participated in Out-of-School Youth Services - Gap Analysis Roundtable

Maryland Commission for Women

- Attended Maryland Women's Hall of Fame Reception
- Attended 60th Anniversary Celebration
- Attended County/Local Commission for Women Meeting



Economic Security Journey To Success
Families Commitment Collaboration
Journey To Success Collaboration Innovation
Engagement Access Visibility INNOVATION
Advocacy Support Education Leadership
Advocacy **WOMEN** Impact
Civic Engagem. Public Service
TRUSTED ADVISOR Empowerment Social Progress
Engagement Partnership Public Service
Outreach Accountability Advancement
Engagement Policy Health
Trusted Advisor Impact OIIIMVNM-Foousec