



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN OF SAN MATEO COUNTY

Submitted to the Board of Supervisors on March 11, 2025

I. INTRODUCTION

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), founded in 1982, seeks to improve the quality of life for women of all ages in San Mateo County. Through strategic partnerships and community engagement, the Commission identifies women's needs, advises the Board of Supervisors, and educates the community on matters concerning women. Supervisor Noelia Corzo is the Board of Supervisors' Liaison to the Commission. The actions of the Commission contribute to Shared Vision 2025 and focus on the economic empowerment of women.

II. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION

The Commission consists of 17 adult and 2 youth members who are residents of San Mateo County. There were three (3) new Commissioners who joined us in 2024. Current members include:

Susan Kokores, *President*
Ann Girard, *Vice-President*
Julissa Acosta
Ana Avendaño
Nirmala Bandrapalli
Aileen Cassinetto
Dayna Chung

Trish Erwin
LaSaundra Gutter
Jess Hudson
Aysha Pamukcu
Michelle Stewart
Ellen Tafeen
Susan Takalo

Rosie Tejada
Irma Zoepf

Joy Zou
Youth Commissioner
Amani Shroff
Youth Commissioner



III. COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

In 2024, commissioners were involved in several activities in San Mateo County (SMC) that are outlined briefly in this section.

35th Biennial Women's Hall of Fame

The Women's Hall of Fame was celebrated on International Women's Day, March 8, 2024, at Skyline College's Farallon Room. The inductees honored were Rosanne Foust, Dr. Maria Lorente-Foresti, Christine Padilla, Jenny Walter and Young Women of Excellence recipients, Catalina Gonzalez Johnston and Maya Thompson. Their contributions to economic equity, child care, and diversity, equity and inclusion for all in the community were highlighted.

Fund the Future: A Call for Durable & Coordinated Investment in Child Care & Women's Economic Health in San Mateo County

Following two years of research and community engagement, the Commission also conducted the RISE Women's Conference to elicit feedback and identify drivers specific to two issues: the wealth gap and the impact of lack of sufficient child care on women and families. Additionally, the Commission conducted county-wide surveys and listening sessions. The Commission created a report incorporating the data collected and related recommendations. The Commission's intent was to provide the Supervisors and larger community with county-specific research and solutions, with the goal of promoting systemic changes, expansion of safety nets and more equitable systems. The Commission presented the report to the Board of Supervisors in October 2024. The Board of Supervisors' response was overwhelmingly positive and a resolution was unanimously passed to establish a dedicated full-time, permanent position with requisite authority to address countywide issues that impact women and children, including authority to implement the Action Plan for Women and Children, updating the Action Plan when necessary to achieve

the goals therein, as well as other important initiatives pertaining to women.

Women's History Month

The Commission recognized Women's History Month by accepting a Proclamation from the County of San Mateo. From March to April, the Commission co-sponsored with the Office of Arts and Culture the annual Women's Art exhibit in the Hall of Justice, showcasing the work of local women artists.

Women's Equality Day

The Commission celebrated Women's Equality Day on August 27, 2024 by accepting a Proclamation from the County of San Mateo. Commissioners shared a preview of what to expect from their 2024 Fund the Future Report.

Collaborations

Commissioners are ambassadors for and partners with San Mateo County programs that impact women. The sustained partnerships include groups such as the Leadership Council of San Mateo County, the Domestic Violence Council, the Youth Commission, the SMC Office of Arts & Culture and the Arts Commission, the SMC Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice, and Thrive Alliance. Commissioners are available to provide presentations on their work and learn how we can better support other boards, commissions, businesses, and community groups.



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

IV. PLANS FOR 2025

The impact of the Commission's Fund the Future Report in 2024 has been significant and lays a foundation for the ongoing work of the Commission in 2025-2026. As a result, the Commission will be holding a retreat to develop work plans to carry the impact of Fund the Future over the next two years.

Key projects and events for 2025 include:

- Recognition of Women's History Month in March, 2024 with a Proclamation by the Board of Supervisors.
- Completion of Work Plans for 2025-2026.
- Support of resolution (080801) that establishes a dedicated full-time staff position to focus on policies impacting women and children and to implement and report on related action plan for women and children.
- Additionally supporting the subsequent Action Plan for Women and Children
- Planning for Women's Equality Day, August 26, 2025.
- Planning of the 36th Women's Hall of Fame held in March, 2026.
- Continuing to serve as ambassadors of vital County resources and information.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

All activities undertaken by the Commission were and are financed by the Commission through their attainment of grants and sponsorship. The Commission thanks local sponsors such as Stanford University, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Kaiser Permanente, SAMCEDA, Skyline College, College of San Mateo, Coastside Hope, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, as well as the ongoing funding from County of San Mateo. Staff support is provided by the San Mateo County Human Resources Department.

VI. MORE INFORMATION

Additional information about the Commission on the Status of Women of San Mateo County is available from Commission Director, Tanya Beat, at tbeat@smcgov.org, or on the Commission webpages at <https://www.smcgov.org/csw>.

Commission meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month, 6:00 – 8:00 PM. Meetings are held in-person at 455 County Center, room 101, Redwood City, CA. The 2025 meeting schedule is listed below:

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| • January 28 | • July 22 |
| • February 25 | • August 26 |
| • March 25 | • September 23 |
| • April 22 | • October 28 |
| • May 27 | • December 2* (last meeting of 2025) |
| • June 24 | |