
Members of the Commission are appointed from the community by the Monroe County Board of Commissioners and the Monroe County Council. Membership includes a representative from Indiana University and a commissioner from the City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women.

Commissioner	Appointed By
Amanda Barge (co-chair)	Board of Commissioners
Ann Collins	Board of Commissioners
Liz Feitl (vice-chair)	Board of Commissioners
Catherine Stafford (co-chair)	Board of Commissioners
Lara Weaver	Board of Commissioners
Joshua Coker	Council
Shirley Fitzgibbons	Council
Nancy White	Council
Shelli Yoder	Council
Carol McCord	Indiana University
Regina Moore	City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women

MCWC Website:

<http://www.co.monroe.in.us/tsd/Government/Commissioners/MonroeCountyBoardsandCommissions/WomensCommission.aspx>

Meetings:

Second Friday of each month at noon in room 310 at the Monroe County Courthouse. The public is welcome to attend.

Contacts:

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Published March 2017

Monroe County Women's Commission

Focus Areas in 2017:

- Needs of rural women
- Health care
- Equality in the workplace
- Family issues
- Collaboration with other women's groups

The Commission shall serve in an advisory role to assist residents, businesses, and the government of Monroe County, Indiana, in addressing issues of gender equity in all aspects of society.

The Monroe County Women's Commission was founded in 2011.



2017 Monroe County Women's Commission. (standing, l-r): Nancy White, Shelli Yoder, Catherine Stafford (co-chair), Liz Feitl (vice-chair), Carol McCord, Regina Moore; (seated, l-r): Ann Collins, Amanda Barge (co-chair), Joshua Coker. Not pictured: Lara Weaver, Shirley Fitzgibbons.

Research and Projects

The Commission's long-term focus is the needs of rural women. Although this focus helps direct the Commission's efforts, it does not limit those efforts. Activities in several areas are of general interest to women regardless of where they live:

Collaboration for Women's Health

Representatives of the Commission are participating in the community-wide, long-term planning activity of the Monroe County Department of Health. Areas covered include Basic Needs, Substance Abuse and Mental Health, and Chronic Diseases.

Indiana Office of Women's Health

Staffing at the Indiana Office of Women's Health has been drastically reduced, and the Commission is committed to supporting the addition of staff members when funding is adequate. The Commission also supports the department's emphasis on rural women's health initiatives.

Violence Toward Women and Children

Members of the Commission met in 2016 with the Monroe County Community Schools (MCCSC) administrative staff to discuss the issues of sexual violence and sexual health education. Topics of interest include barriers to additional grade-level activities, adequate funding for sexual health staffing and materials, and ways in which the community can support meaningful sexual health curricula in grades K-12.

Equality in the Workplace

The Commission supports Bloomington's Fair Labor Initiative, which encourages local restaurants to comply with fair labor practices. The Commission is following efforts to raise the minimum wage by participating in Pay Equity Day, attending forums, and connecting with legislators in support of a living wage.

Support for Families

Following discussions in 2016 with Indiana 2-1-1 Connect, Monroe County legislators, and Senator Joe Donnelly's staff, the Commission continues to seek answers to critical questions facing women and families regarding health, housing, transportation, and employment. Monitoring legislative action is an important part of this effort.

Collaboration with Other Women's Organizations

The Commission has met with the City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women and continues to identify areas where there can be future collaboration. Several activities are planned for 2017, including state-level support for increased staffing in the Indiana Office of Women's Health, a joint community program planned for April in conjunction with Pay Equity Day, and a future activity to request increased administrative action in response to hate speech in the MCCSC.
