



The Governor's Commission for Women

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Connecting Texas women with information and opportunity.

The Governor's Commission for Women, a division of the Texas Governor's Office, was established in 1967 and re-authorized through an executive order from Texas Governor Rick Perry. A panel of Governor-appointed commissioners leads the commission.

Our mission is to promote opportunities for Texas women through:

- outreach — being present and active in community efforts and events;
- education — helping women learn more about the issues affecting them;
- research — discovering and digging deeper into key issues for Texas women; and
- referral — connecting Texas women with the information and resources they need to thrive.

Protecting.

Violence Against Women

In Texas, over 180,000 incidents of domestic violence occurred during 2004, and more than 330,000 rapes occur every year. The Governor's Commission for Women works with other organizations to help prevent, protect against, raise awareness of and provide resources about violence against women.

- The commission has distributed more than 20,000 bumper stickers that provide the National Domestic Violence hotline number.
- The commission has collected over 3,800 wireless telephones in the Donate-A-Phone campaign which are distributed to domestic-violence shelters for victims' emergency use.
- The commission has collaborated with the Texas Council on Family Violence, the Collin County Council on Family Violence and the Texas Municipal Police Association to create and distribute 60,000 batterer resource information brochures for law enforcement, social service providers and the faith community.



We are currently concentrating on the issues of violence against women; women's employment and economic development; and women's health

Promoting.

Women's Health

The Governor's Commission for Women wants to help women get fit and stay healthy. From cancer to heart disease to sedentary lifestyle, we work with other organizations to help provide the information and tools to fight such health predators — to help Texas women stay strong.

Breast & Cervical Cancer

The commission co-sponsors an annual media event during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month to highlight the importance of mammograms and breast examinations. The commission will distribute "Make the Connection" brochures which educate people about the connection between the human papillomavirus (HPV) and cervical cancer.



Encouraging.

Women's Employment and Economic Development

In Texas, women own more than 790,000 privately held businesses, which employ more than 1.5-million people and generate almost \$200 billion in annual sales. The Governor's Commission for Women is working to help more women leverage their marketplace position as both workers and customers — to help Texas women stay successful.

- The commission offers research and statistics about the important role women play within the economy and resource information on work-related topics — from job hunting to working at home.
- The commission helps connect Texas women with vital resources for entrepreneurs, including information on financing, mentoring, training and working with the government.

Heart Disease

Every year, more than 500,000 women die of heart disease, the number-one killer of women. The commission is involved in the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women campaign, which calls for women to take charge of their heart health, and provides information about risk factors, prevention and support resources for heart disease.

Healthy Lifestyle

The commission educates Texans about the health effects of overeating and inactivity, and supports healthy habits. The commission is involved in Gov. Perry's Texas Round-Up, a statewide health and fitness program which includes an online training program, and an annual 10K run and festival.

Our mission is to promote opportunities for women through outreach, education, research and referral.

For more information about the Governor's Commission for Women and our work, please visit us at www.governor.state.tx.us/women



Honoring.

The Texas Women's Hall of Fame

The Texas Women's Hall of Fame was created by the Governor's Commission for Women to honor Texas women — from former first ladies Lady Bird Johnson and Barbara Bush to Olympic basketball player Sheryl Swoopes — who have made significant contributions in areas such as the arts, athletics, business, education, health and leadership.

The commission partnered with Texas Woman's University (TWU) to establish a permanent, physical Hall of Fame in TWU's Hubbard Hall.

The Texas Women's Hall of Fame is open to the public weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., except during university holidays. Admission is free.