

Connecticut General Assembly



**PCSW**

**Permanent Commission on the Status of Women**

*The State's leading force for women's equality*

**News  
Release**

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## **ConnGAP Gains Momentum as 70 Groups Sign On**

HARTFORD – Seventy organizations throughout Connecticut have signed on as coalition partners to the Connecticut Government Appointments Project (ConnGAP), a new initiative from the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW) aimed at achieving political parity for women.

ConnGAP asks all Connecticut gubernatorial candidates to pledge to make their best effort to name women to 50 percent of executive-level paid appointments as a way of creating a government that more accurately reflects the population, of which women are 51 percent in Connecticut. Currently, women in the state hold about 37 percent of high-level gubernatorial paid appointments. ConnGAP will provide the Executive Branch with a pool of qualified women from which the new governor can choose when making appointments to about 75 paid positions identified by PCSW, which will then track whether or not the governor has kept that pledge. Women in the pool of job candidates are recommended for their qualifications and not their stance on any particular issues.

The non-partisan ConnGAP coalition runs the gamut from the AARP to Yale University's School of Medicine, and includes several groups not previously aligned with any PCSW initiative. ConnGAP coalition members agree to support ConnGAP's push for political parity for women, and to get the call for resumes out to as many women as possible.

As of Sept. 2, the coalition consists of: AARP CT; A Different Perspective, Inc.; Advanced Decisions, Inc.; Advocacy for Patients with Chronic Illnesses, Inc.; African American Affairs Commission; All Our Kin, Inc.; Budget Printers, Caribbean Women's Network; Center for Women & Families; Citizens for Economic Opportunity; City of Bridgeport; Community Foundation for Greater New Haven; CT AIDS Resource Coalition (CARC); CT American Association of University Women (AAUW); CT Associated Builders and Contractors; CT Chapter of the National Organization for Women; CT Common Cause; CT Community Care, Inc.; CT Democratic Party; CT League for Nursing; CT League of Women Voters; CT Puerto Rican Forum; CT Republican Party; CT Sexual Assault Crisis Services; CT Voices for Children;

CT Women's Education & Legal Fund (CWEALF); CT Women's Health Advisory Council; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; End Hunger CT!; Ethnic Marketing Solutions; Fairfield County Women and Girls Fund; Firm Foundation, Inc.; Foundation for Connecticut Women; Funding Finder Consulting, LLC; General Federation of Women's Clubs of CT; Girl Scouts of Connecticut; Greater Bridgeport Community Enterprises, Inc.; Greater Bridgeport Section, National Council of Negro Women, Inc.; Greater New Haven Chapter, NOW; Griswold Special Care; Hartford Young Professionals & Entrepreneurs (HYPE); Leadership Greater Hartford, L.C. Cragg & Assoc., LLC; Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce; NARAL Pro-Choice Connecticut; National Association of Social Workers (NASW) CT Chapter; On Target Marketing & Communications, LLC; Out of Home America, Inc.; PBIRx; Permanent Commission on the Status of Hartford Women; Planned Parenthood of Southern New England; Roth Associates, LLC; Sexual Assault Crisis Center of Eastern CT, Inc. (SACCEC); Southern CT State University (SCSU) Women's Center; Small Business Administration; Susan B. Anthony Project; TEAM, Inc.; Trinity College Women & Gender Resource Action Center; Universal Health Care Foundation of CT; University of Connecticut Women's Center; University of Connecticut Women's Studies Department; Wells Fargo Private Bank; Women & Family Life Center; Women's Campaign School at Yale University; Women's Center of Southeastern CT, Inc.; Women's Mentoring Network, Inc.; World Affairs Council of Connecticut; WOWPAC; Yale University School of Medicine; Young Women's Leadership Program (YWLP); YWCA Darien/Norwalk; and YWCA Hartford Region.

*About the PCSW: The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women was formed in 1973 under Sec. 46a of the Connecticut General Statutes to study and improve Connecticut women's economic security, health and safety; to promote consideration of qualified women to leadership positions; and to work toward the elimination of gender discrimination. As a non-partisan arm of the General Assembly, the agency monitors, critiques and recommends changes to legislation in order to inform public policy, and assesses programs and practices in all State agencies for their effect on the state's women. The PCSW serves as a liaison between government and its diverse constituents, and convenes stakeholders, including the business, non-profit and educational communities, local governments and the media, in order to promote awareness of women's issues.*