



News Release

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PCSW Ready to Deliver ConnGAP Candidates to Governor-Elect

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HARTFORD -- The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW) is ready to turn over a binder full of names and resumes of women qualified for about 40 top-level appointed positions in the new State administration. The PCSW is prepared to meet with the governor-elect and his transition team as soon as the gubernatorial election results are made official so the agency can fulfill its promise to help the new administration find highly qualified women to serve in executive-level positions.

Through its Connecticut Government Appointments Project (ConnGAP), the PCSW is fulfilling its mandate to promote qualified women to leadership positions. The agency met with all three gubernatorial candidates before the recent election and each signed a pledge to do his best to name women to half of his administration's executive-level appointments. Each gubernatorial election cycle, the newly elected governor names dozens of people to appointments in the Executive Branch. The ConnGAP binder contains the resumes of 61 women (culled from nearly 100 original applications) who are qualified to serve in a number of these high-level positions.

ConnGAP's Executive Search Committee used a criteria rubric for moving the names of prospective appointees forward based on the candidates' professional and supervisory experience; management, leadership, technical and communication/interpersonal skills; financial and business acumen; and problem-solving ability.

Through ConnGAP, the PCSW will monitor the gender composition of the new administration's appointees and will announce its first report on March 9, 2011 at the agency's annual Women's Day at the Capitol.

"In Connecticut, women are 51 percent of the population and 37 percent of paid executive level positions," said Teresa C. Younger, executive director of PCSW and ConnGAP chair. "To her credit, Gov. Rell brought that number up to its current level and we look forward to

working in partnership with the governor-elect to keep that momentum going. After all, in moving toward true gender parity and the elimination of gender discrimination, there's no better place to start than in our own halls of power.”

Nearly 80 organizations across the state have signed on as ConnGAP partners. They include: AARP CT; A Different Perspective, Inc.; Advanced Decisions, Inc.; Advocacy for Patients with Chronic Illnesses, Inc.; African American Affairs Commission; All Our Kin, Inc.; Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission; Budget Printers; CAUSA Inc.; 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 Dental Hygienists' Association; 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 and Legal Fund (CWEALF); CT Women's Health Advisory Council; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; End Hunger CT!; Ethnic Marketing Solutions; Fairfield County Fund for Women and Girls; 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 Sect., Nat'l 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 CT; National Association of Social Workers – CT Chapter (NASW); National Association of Women in Construction Hartford Chapter #165; New Haven Free Public Library; 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 Women's Center; Soroptimist International of the Northeastern Region; 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 Dept.; 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.