



MISSION

The mission of the N.C. Council for Women/Domestic Violence Commission is to advise the governor, the North Carolina legislature and the state departments on the special needs of women in North Carolina by:

- Identifying and assessing needs
- Collecting and distributing information about the status of women
- Acting as a resource for local Councils/Commissions for Women
- Collaborating with other groups and individuals working on behalf of women
- Identifying and assessing statewide needs, including domestic violence
- Assuring that necessary services, policies, and programs are provided to those in need and strengthening existing programs

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NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL FOR WOMEN/ DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMISSION



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State of North Carolina

Secretary Britt Cobb
N.C. Department of Administration

Kevin McLaughlin
Chief Operating Officer/
General Counsel

June W. Michaux
Deputy Secretary

Jill Dinwiddie
CFW/DVC Executive Director



HISTORY

The Council was created by Executive Order of the Governor in 1963. Funds were appropriated in 1973. The Domestic Violence Commission was created in 1999 by Executive Order. Funds were appropriated in that year. The agencies consolidated in 2001. Both the Council and the Commission rely on the services of many private citizens concerned about the work of each.



STATEWIDE BOARDS

Domestic Violence Commission

The 39-member Commission assesses statewide needs related to domestic violence, collaborates with the Council to strengthen existing domestic violence programs and examines the status and needs of families in their effort to live in a violence-free environment.

N.C. Council for Women

The 20-member Council addresses issues concerning the education and employment of women in North Carolina.



PARTNERSHIPS

The N. C. Council for Women/Domestic Violence Commission collaborates with the following statewide networks in an effort to provide technical assistance to its local programs:

- N.C. Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- N.C. Coalition Against Sexual Assault



PROGRAMS

Abuser Treatment Program

In 1995, the General Assembly amended statute 50-B to require courts referring domestic violence offenders, as part of a protective order action, to only refer to programs approved by the N.C. Department of Administration.

Displaced Homemaker Program

Although legislation passed in 1979 calling for the Council to provide services for those needing to enter or re-enter the job market, funding was not available until 1993. It was augmented by a rise in the divorce filing fee, and the funds partially support 35 programs designed to help women recognize their skills and train or re-train if necessary to support their entry into the workplace.

Domestic Violence Program

There are domestic violence programs serving all 100 counties, funded in part by the state. The Council provides oversight for the funds appropriated by the General Assembly for this service. Programs for children who have witnessed violence and transitional housing opportunities contribute to the process of helping families live in a violence-free environment.

Sexual Assault Program

The Council called for a random survey in 1978 that showed the hidden prevalence of rape in our society. Funds were approved by the legislature to support the first Rape Crisis programs in FY 1987-88. Programs currently provide services statewide.



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REGIONAL OFFICES

The Council provides assistance and information for women across North Carolina through six regional offices. Staff provide valuable information and technical assistance to the public and local organizations by educating them on the status of women in North Carolina and working with them to develop strategies for improvement. Region Directors also oversee state displaced homemaker, domestic violence and sexual assault programs within their regions. Additionally, they are available as resources for individual citizens and for organizations in their respective areas in presenting conferences and workshops.

Contact information for Region Directors is listed on the back.