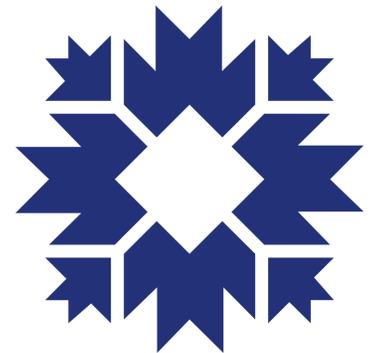


City of Bloomington
Commission on the
Status of Women



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
Commission on the
Status of Women

2024
Annual
Report

PREPARED BY :

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Women

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CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

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BLOOMINGTON.IN.GOV/BOARDS/STATUS-OF-WOMEN

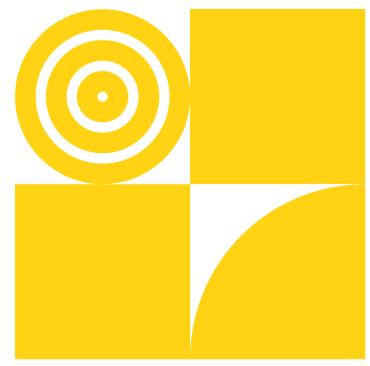


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City of Bloomington

Commission on the Status of Women

Message from the Chair

Landry Culp

In 2024, we, as the Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women (BCSW), banded together to provide multiple local events and opportunities to uplift and educate those who identify as a girl / woman in women-focused environments that align with our values.

Reflecting Back

The BCSW kicked off the year planning for the 2024 events starting with the Women's History Month luncheon in March that had 261 attendees and 15 vendors. We also recognized our 2024 Women's Achievement Award winners.

The Commission's next event was the Women's Market where we had 32 vendors and was a zero cost event from the Commission. This has been a great opportunity for people attending to put money into the pockets of local women-owned businesses and artists.

Our final event of the year was the Young Women's Leadership Summit. This year we had 82 attendees, 3 presenters, and funded the program solely on donations and grant sponsorships.

Looking Forward

After gathering community feedback and evaluating areas for growth, the Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women (BCSW) has identified key priorities for 2025. These include:

- Proactively seeking opportunities to support and collaborate with other identity-focused commissions, with an emphasis on intersectionality (e.g., participating in events like the Black Market).
- Continuing to plan and implement meaningful events, using community feedback to shape and guide our direction.
- Assessing the need for additional informative and educational programming that aligns with the Commission's mission and long-term vision.



“There is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish.”
– Michelle Obama

City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women

Commission Purpose

2024 Annual Report

The Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women is dedicated to advocating for equity and improving opportunities for all who embrace a female identity. We do this by understanding the needs of women, monitoring and reviewing policies (on the federal, state and local levels), encouraging legislation and engaging with our community. Our commission welcomes everyone who identifies as a woman and those who feel our women-focused environment aligns with their values.



The Women's History Luncheon, Women's Market, and Young Women's Leadership Summit all align with the statement above in identifying and assessing needs of local women and providing opportunities to intentionally engage.

City of Bloomington

Commission on the Status of Women

■ Chair

Organizational Overview

2024 Annual Report



Nicole Bennett
Chair, Legislative Subcommittee
Appointed by: Mayor
Term Expires: 1/31/2026



Eliza Carey
Appointed by: Common Council
Resigned: January 2025



Hannah Chudleigh
Chair, Communications
Subcommittee
Appointed by: Mayor
Term Expires: 1/31/2027



Marisa Churchill
Appointed by: Mayor
Resigned: December 2024



Landry Culp
Commission Chair
Appointed by: Common Council
Term Expires: 1/31/2027



Shayla George
Appointed by: Common Council
Term Expires: 1/31/2026



Ashley Hazelrig
Chair, Community Partnerships
Subcommittee
Appointed by: Mayor
Term Expires: 1/31/2026



Debby Herbenick
Appointed by: Mayor
Resigned: December 2024



Patty Moon
Appointed by: Common Council
Term Expires: 1/31/2026



Marissa Parr-Scott
Staff Liaison

City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women

Organizational Overview

2024 Annual Report

Communications Committee

Chair: Hannah Chudleigh

Members: Patty Moon, Landry Culp

Committee Goal:

To inform the Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women of opportunities, legislation, and local happenings that impact women in our community.

Relevant Bylaws:

- Code 2.23.060, Section 1a: To identify the needs of women in the City, the available resources and services meeting those needs, and the gaps in existing services.
- Code 2.23.060, Section 1d: To issue publications, educational materials, and the results of research, legislative reviews, and investigations in order to educate the community about the aims and goals of the Commission.

2024-2025 Objectives:

1. Develop a quarterly communication plan focused on transparency, community-building, and uplifting the voices of women.
2. Identify and implement opportunities to promote the Commission's work, expanding public awareness and engagement.
3. Collaborate with the Head of Community Partnerships to highlight and celebrate the contributions of women in Bloomington.
4. Assess and address gaps in services and support systems that impact local women.



City of Bloomington

Commission on the Status of Women

Organizational Overview

2024 Annual Report

Legislative Committee

Chair: Nicole Bennett

Members: Debby Herbenick, Eliza Carey

Committee Goal:

To stay informed and responsive to legislative issues affecting women at the local, state, and national levels in order to make intentional decisions on how the Commission can support and inform women in Bloomington.

Relevant Bylaws:

- Code 2.23.060, Section 1b: To monitor and review federal, state, and local policy for its impact on City women, and to make recommendations to the Human Resources Department to ensure women's equity.
- Code 2.23.060, Section 1c: To stimulate and encourage legislation for the development of human resources that particularly benefit women in the City and the State.

2024–2025 Objectives:

- Create position documents for Commission vote on whether to support or oppose significant legislation affecting women.
- Identify participation opportunities for Commission members to engage in legislative advocacy or events.
- Explore legislative pathways the Commission can use to create direct, positive impact on the lives of women in Bloomington.
- Develop educational programming aligned with the needs identified by both the Legislative and Communications Committees.

Planned Events:

- Educational programming aligned with legislative priorities and community needs.

City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women

Organizational Overview

2024 Annual Report

Community Partnerships Committee

Chair: Ashley Hazelrig

Members: Marisa Churchill, Shayla George

Committee Goal:

To collaborate with local individuals and organizations to understand the needs of women and allies and build meaningful relationships that support community well-being.

Relevant Bylaws:

- Code 2.23.060, Section 1e: To establish and maintain a close working relationship with, and support the efforts of, the Bloomington Human Rights Commission, the Bloomington League of Women Voters, and other relevant city and county commissions, including the Monroe County Women’s Commission (MCWC).
- Code 2.23.060, Section 1f: To maintain close liaison with other women’s commissions throughout the state; state women’s advocacy groups; and other local, state, or federal programs that address the needs, challenges, and opportunities of women



2024–2025 Objectives:

1. Build and strengthen relationships with community members and organizations that serve or impact women.
2. Maintain a continual awareness of local events and initiatives relating to women, and identify ways for the Commission to engage and provide support.
3. Deepen collaboration and partnership between the BCSW and the Monroe County Women’s Commission (MCWC).

Planned Events:

- Women’s History Month (WHM) Luncheon
- Women’s Market
- Educational Programming (as identified)
- Young Women’s Leadership Summit (YWLS)

City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women

Key Achievements and Impact

2024 Annual Report

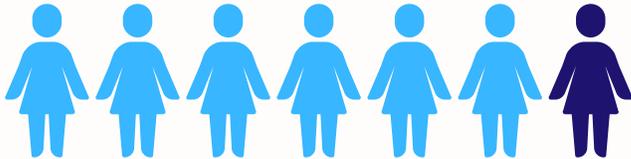
2024 Women’s History Month Luncheon

- The 2024 Women’s History Month Luncheon took place on Thursday, March 28th at the Monroe Convention Center. The national Women’s History Month theme was *“Women who Advocate for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion,”*



Successful Women’s Market

The second annual Women’s Market was held at City Hall inside the atrium and Council Chambers with over 30 local female identifying vendors and artists



Young Women’s Leadership Summit

- The Commission hosted it’s first Young Women’s Leadership Summit, with 82 attendees from middle and high schools in Bloomington and Monroe County

Implementation of BCSW Subcommittees

- In 2024, the BCSW rolled out sub-committees that align directly with our bylaws and the vision/intent of this commission. The plan is to continue to strategically move forward with these sub-committees and ensure our commission is continually maintaining focus on the WHY rooted in our foundations in order to prioritize and move important work forward.
-

“The award recipients and keynote speaker were powerful, inspiring and empowering. Kudos to the Commission on the Status of Women and City staff for an excellent event.”

-Event feedback, Women’s History Month Luncheon

““Thank you for the event, it was perfect. I had a great experience and it was my first time coming.”

-Event feedback, Young Women’s Leadership Summit

City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women

Program and Project Highlights

2024 Annual Report

The 2024 Women’s History Month Luncheon took place on Thursday, March 28th at the Monroe Convention Center. The national Women’s History Month theme was “Women who Advocate for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion,” thus our keynote speaker was Karrah Herring, J.D. Ms. Herring was Indiana’s first ever Chief Equity, Inclusion and Opportunity Officer.

The Commission also recognized the annual Women’s Achievement Award Winners - 2024 Woman of the Year, Marsha Lovejoy; and 2024 Toby Strout Lifetime Contribution, Renee Bridgewaters-Carter.

The 2024 Women’s History Month Luncheon had a total of 261 attendees, and had 15 exhibit tables from local organizations and businesses such as Monroe County NOW, Middle Way House, The Persistence Workshop, and All-Options Pregnancy Resource

Center, to name a few. Between sponsorships, ticket sales and exhibit table registrations, the BCSW was able to bring in a revenue of \$13,270. Unfortunately, the total cost of the event was \$16,177.56, leaving us with a deficit of \$2,907.56.

TOP 3 HIGHLIGHTS

- **The event featured a powerful keynote address by Karrah Herring, J.D.**
- **The BCSW recognized it’s 2024 Women’s Achievement Award winners, Marsha Lovejoy and Renee Bridgewaters-Carter**
- **The luncheon featured 15 exhibit tables from local organizations and businesses**



Due to rising event costs across the board (food, venue, tech support, etc.), funds were by far our biggest challenge. We have established a remediation plan for 2025 that includes increasing the price of tickets, and revamping our sponsorship packages.

City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women

Program and Project Highlights

2024 Annual Report

“The ease of set up was great, thank you for providing a table & indoor space. Hours are great, women supporting women is always a good vibe, and pretty consistent traffic from the farmer’s market was good exposure.”

-Event feedback, Women’s Market

The second annual Women’s Market was held at City Hall inside the atrium and Council Chambers on Saturday, July 27th. After hosting the Women’s Market for the first time in August 2023, the feedback was so overwhelmingly positive that we knew we’d have to bring it back in 2024.

Held on a Saturday morning inside City Hall, while the Bloomington Farmers Market took place outside, the Women’s Market was able to bring together 32 local female identifying vendors to support one another while engaging with the community. Based on feedback, we’ve heard that this market has created a space where vendors feel welcome and at ease, largely because there is no juried application and we do not require a registration fee.

This has event garnered a lot of praise as being one of the only “women focused” art markets in town.



Since this event does not cost money to host, our main challenge is space! We can only fit so many vendors within the atrium and Council Chambers, so we may look at alternate, larger event spaces in the years to come.

City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women

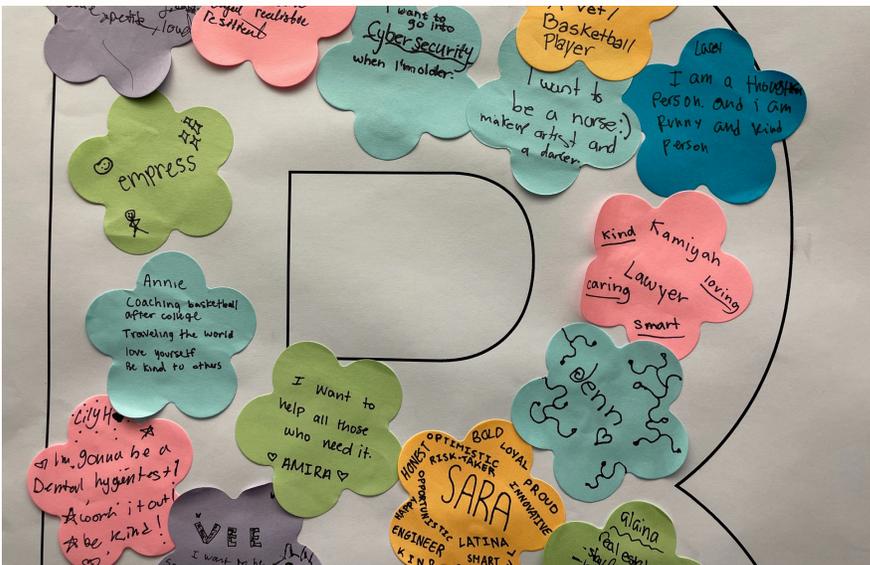
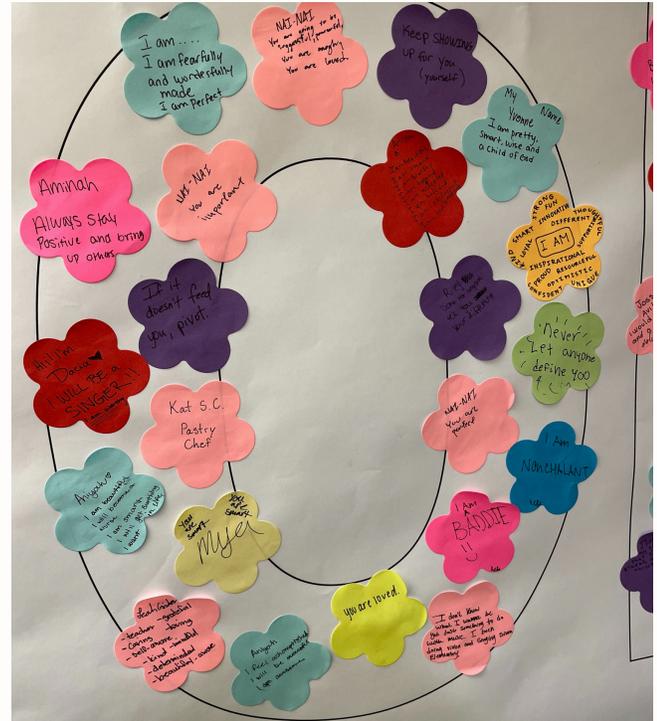
Program and Project Highlights

2024 Annual Report

First implemented as a Safe and Civil City program in 2019, the 2024 Young Women’s Leadership Summit was the first summit hosted by BCSW.

The summit took place on Thursday, November 14th in Council Chambers, and was attended by 82 middle and high school students from MCCSC and Lighthouse Christian Academy.

The theme was “BLOOM” Growing Into Your Best Self,” and was broken up into 3 different workshops focused on goals, values, supporting one another, and building one’s own future self.



“You guys were amazing. I wouldn't change a thing. Keep up the amazing and encouraging words because it's helped me a lot”

Young Women’s Leadership Summit Attendee

After sessions with local business woman and IU doctoral student Danielle Willis, and Community Engagement Manager of Girl Coalition of Indiana, Sharan Abdullah, the students collaborated on an art project, where they were asked to identify words that described themselves and dreams they had for the future by writing them on multi-colored paper flowers. They arranged their flowers onto a banner, which was later displayed in the City Hall display case during March 2025 for Women’s History Month.

City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women

Strategic Goals and Initiatives

2024 Annual Report

2025 Women's History Month Luncheon

- To increase revenue for the 2025 Women's History Month Luncheon, the Commission plans to:
 - Restructure the sponsorship package to attract new and returning supporters
 - Adjust ticket pricing to reflect program value while remaining accessible
 - Increase overall attendance through targeted outreach and promotion

2025 Women's Market

- The BCSW will expand advertising and marketing efforts for the 2025 Women's Market. In addition, we will explore creative solutions to increase vendor participation and optimize use of available space.

2025 Young Women's Leadership Summit (YWLS)

- Building on attendee feedback from the previous year, the BCSW aims to host an even more impactful summit in 2025. A key focus will be increasing collaboration with MCCSC to ensure students at all local middle and high schools are aware of and feel welcomed to attend the event.

Continued Implementation of BCSW Subcommittees

- Communications: The Commission will continue monitoring local opportunities, legislation, and events that impact women in our community, ensuring timely and transparent communication.
- Legislative: The Commission will maintain an active focus on legislative issues affecting women at the local, state, and national levels, and will make informed recommendations to support women in Bloomington.
- Community Partnerships: The Commission will strengthen partnerships with local individuals and organizations to better understand community needs and foster lasting relationships with women and allies.



City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

2024 Annual Report

The Commission would not have been able to do the work they did in 2024 without the support from our key partners and collaborators.

- The City of Bloomington Community and Family Resources Department
- The City of Bloomington Office of the Mayor
- The City of Bloomington Clerk's Office
- SCCAP
- Cook Medical
- Indiana University
- Monroe County Women's Commission
- Local non-profit organizations serving the needs of women (Girls, Inc of Monroe County, Middle Way House, Tandem Birthing Center, Monroe County NOW, All-Options Pregnancy Resource Center, My Sister's Closet)
- Local businesses (PizzaX, Bloomingfoods)
- Buskirk-Chumley Theatre
- Monroe Convention Center



City of Bloomington
Commission on the Status of Women

2024 Financial Review - Donors and Sponsors

2024 Annual Report

Community Support and Program Funding

Women's History Month Luncheon

City of Bloomington Office of the Clerk - \$1,000

City of Bloomington Community and Family Resources
Department - \$1,000

City of Bloomington Office of the Mayor - \$1,000

Cook Medical - \$1,000

South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP) - \$1,000

Girls, Inc. of Monroe County - \$500

The Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce - \$300

Indiana University Office of the Vice President for Diversity,
Equity and Inclusion - \$300

Young Women's Leadership Summit

Pizza X/One World Catering - \$200

Fresh Thyme - \$200

Bloomingsfoods - \$200

Monroe County Circuit Court Probation/JDAI - \$750

City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women

2024 Financial Review - Expenditures and Revenues 2024 Annual Report

EXPENSE	EVENT	AMOUNT
Catering - Monroe Convention Center	WHM Luncheon	\$7,956.00
Equipment - Markey's Rental and Staging	WHM Luncheon	\$4,671.56
Room Rental - Monroe Convention Center	WHM Luncheon	\$1,575.00
Vivid Designs	WHM Luncheon	\$1,351.00
The Award Center	WHM Luncheon	\$144.00
Girl Scouts of Central Indiana (Girl Scout Cookies)	WHM Luncheon	\$480.00
	TOTAL	\$16,177.56
REVENUE	EVENT	AMOUNT
Sponsorships	WHM Luncheon	\$6,100.00
Exhibits	WHM Luncheon	\$390.00
Ticket sales	WHM Luncheon	\$6,780.00
	TOTAL	\$13,270.00

City of Bloomington
Commission on the Status of Women

Call to Action

2024 Annual Report

Get Involved!

To stay in touch with the BCSW and to receive email communication, opt-in here:
<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/a46Teg6/BCSW>

For volunteer or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Marissa at marissa.parrscott@bloomington.in.gov

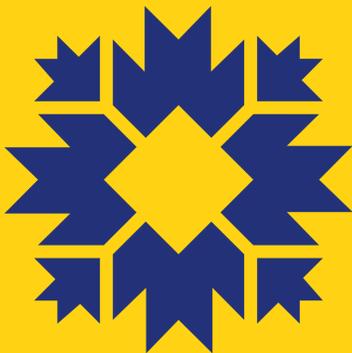
City of Bloomington
Commission on the Status of Women

Contact Us

2024 Annual Report

Thank you!

Join the Commission on the Status of Women for our monthly meeting on the first Thursday of each month from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Hooker Conference Room (Room #245).



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
Commission on the
Status of Women

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bloomington.in.gov/boards/status-of-women

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