

VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

county of ventura

Public Social Services Agency
3161 Loma Vista Road
Ventura, CA 93003
(805) 654-3109

June 27, 1984

Commission Members:

District 1

Lauren A. Anderson
Lupe Gonsalves
Jo Anne Le Fils-Moore

District 2

Virginia M. Connell
Carol Keochekian
Stephen T. Wiman

District 3

Yvonne Gallegos Bodle
Sandra Smith Ryder
Erin Healy Sheffield

District 4

Mary Baird
Dorothy J. Engel
Brook A. Hubbell

District 5

Mary Jane Johns
Ida M. Richardson
Tila Estrada

SUBJECT: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that your Board receive and file the attached 1983-84 Annual Report of the Ventura County Commission for Women .

DISCUSSION:

The Ventura County Commission for Women requests time on the July 3, 1984 Board of Supervisors' Agenda to present our Annual Report. At that time, we will be prepared to discuss the past year's activities. The Commission is very proud of its accomplishments during the past year and of the strong support and working relationship with the Board of Supervisors.

If you have any questions concerning the Annual Report, please feel free to raise them during our presentation.

Sincerely,

Erin Sheffield

ERIN HEALY SHEFFIELD
Co-Chair

Jo Anne Le Fils-Moore

JO ANNE LE FILS-MOORE
Co-Chair

EHS:JLM:mjb

VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

VCCFW

ANNUAL REPORT

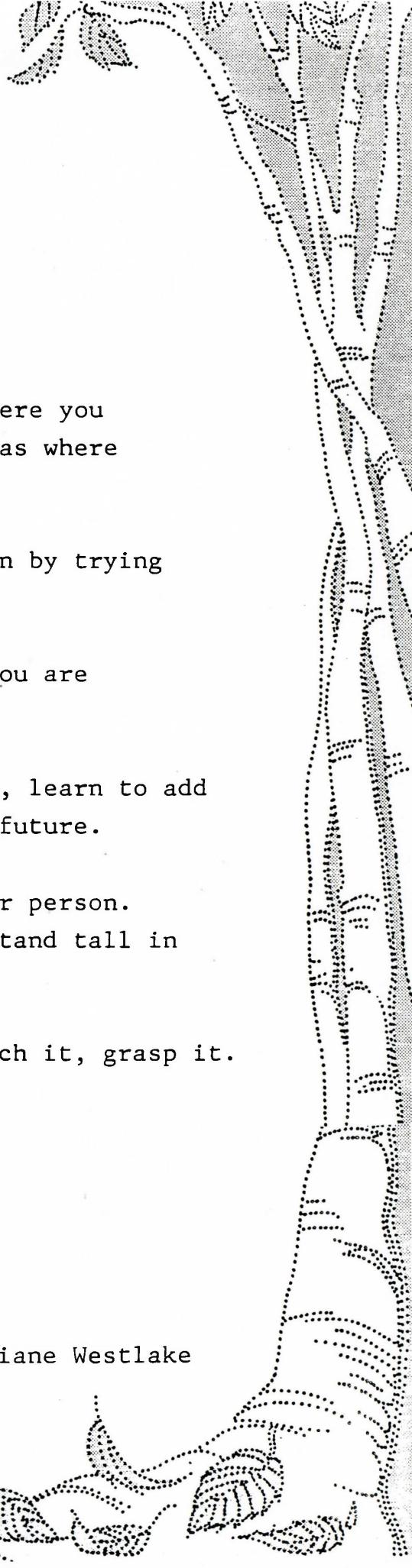
1983-84

Presented by

Erin Healy Sheffield
Co-Chair

Jo Anne Le Fils-Moore
Co-Chair

June 1984



You are equal to all others.

Some may have greater talents and power where you are lacking, but you are greater in areas where they cannot go.

Do not stop your own growth and progression by trying to emulate or follow anyone.

Step out with courage. Develop all that you are meant to be.

Look for new experiences. Meet new people, learn to add all new dimensions to your present and future.

You are one of a kind, equal to every other person. Accept that fact. Live with it, use it. Stand tall in belief of who you are.

Reach for the highest accomplishment. Touch it, grasp it. Know it is within your ability.

Live to win in life, and you will.

- Diane Westlake

VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

VCCFW

ANNUAL REPORT
1983-84

DISTRICT 1 - SUSAN LACEY

Lauren Anderson - Ventura
Lupe Gonsalves - Ventura
Maggie Mireles - Ventura - Appointed to fill vacancy
created by resignation of Lupe Gonsalves
Jo Anne Le Fils-Moore - Ventura

DISTRICT 2 - ED JONES

DISTRICT 3 - MAGGIE ERICKSON

Yvonne Gallegos Bodle - Ventura
Dr. Alicia Ramirez-Brewer - Fillmore - Appointed to fill
vacancy created by resignation of Yvonne Bodle
Sandra Smith Ryder - Camarillo
Erin Healy Sheffield - Camarillo

DISTRICT 4 - JIM DOUGHERTY

Mary Baird - Simi Valley
Dorothy J. Engel - Thousand Oaks
Dr. Brook A. Hubbell - Simi Valley

DISTRICT 5

Mary Jane Johns - Oxnard
Ida M. Richardson - Oxnard
Tila Estrada - Oxnard

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New faces, new responsibilities marked the past year for the Ventura County Commission for Women, tasked by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors with serving in an advisory role to the Board on issues relative to women across Ventura County.

What didn't change was a continued commitment by commissioners and countless volunteers throughout the county to uphold the commission's umbrella role in support of women's issues. During 1983-84, for example, the commission's 15 members donated over \$25,000 in in-kind support in financial contributions and time.

These efforts were matched by community contributions of time and effort through committee work and involvement in projects under the guidance of the chairpersons of the various committees of the Commission and also through the newly-formed Friends of the Commission.

Erin Healy Sheffield of Camarillo, appointed by Supervisor Maggie Erickson, and Jo Anne Le Fils-Moore, appointed by Supervisor Susan Lacey, were named as co-chairs for 1983-84.

Sheffield is producer/owner of her own company which specializes in slide and sound presentations. She is active in American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO), Mesa Union School Fine Arts for Youth and serves on the General Plan Review Committee for the City of Camarillo.

Moore is project director for the Ventura County Commission on Human Concerns and has served as president of the Ventura Business and Professional Women's Club (BPW).

Serving as finance officer for the past year has been Virginia Connell of Thousand Oaks, a marriage and family therapist in private practice and a past co-chair of the Commission.

Lauren Anderson of Ventura extended her term as executive secretary.

The Child Care Project initiated by the Commission at the request of County Supervisors to encourage private industry to offer day care options for their employees saw some positive action this past year as a result of previous hard work.

As a direct result of their successful symposium in 1983 entitled "Working Parents: An Employers' Symposium on Child Care," at least one company, Great Pacific Iron Works in Ventura, has opened a day care center. A needs assessment has been completed in the County of Ventura to determine the feasibility and interest in child care facilities for county employees.

The Commission also felt other positive ramifications of the Symposium in follow-up contacts, calls and interest on the part of the county's major employers. The initial goal of the symposium was to provide employers with information and raise awareness of how business is becoming more involved with child care. An outgrowth of the child care project and the first conference of its kind in the county, the symposium attracted more than 100 representatives from top firms throughout the county.

This past year, the Commission expanded its umbrella role for women's interests by requesting and receiving permission to begin monitoring the funds allocated by the county for domestic violence services throughout the county.

In April 1984, the Commission launched a major new effort to survey women throughout the county to determine if their needs are being met. Under the direction of Dr. Alicia Ramirez-Brewer, a committee is examining directions and strategy for a needs assessment telephone survey, a survey of services available to women throughout the county, analysis of demographic data and qualitative data gathered through a public hearing process scheduled to begin in September 1984.

The Commission's increased involvement in National Women's History Week generated growing county-wide interest and support and led to many varied Women's History Week observances. In cooperation with the Women's Equity Coalition, the Commission assisted in promoting the distribution of information packets to teachers, developing a weekend credit workshop through California Lutheran College, and providing other in-service training programs for school officials involved in curriculum selection throughout the county.

The year culminated with the formal incorporation and launching of the nonprofit Friends of the Ventura County Commission for Women. The goals of the new group are to provide financial and service support for research, fund raising and public relations efforts on behalf of the Commission.

The Commission gained a new office manager this past September in Martha Baskerville, a Camarillo resident since 1978 who has a special interest in promoting the inclusion of the study of women and women's history in school curriculum. She is active in the Camarillo Branch of the American Association of University Women as chair of the Committee on Women and currently, as chair of the Advocacy Networks Issue involved in the Women's Vote Project. She is the recording secretary for the Ventura County Women's Equity Coalition.

As in past years, the Commission continued its work on sub-committees including legislative analysis, speakers' bureau, sexual harassment and others. In addition, the Commission offers its co-sponsorship and support of a number of activities throughout the county such as "Dia De La Mujer" (Day of the Woman) at Oxnard College, Camarillo Women's Day, California Lutheran College's Creative Options Day, A Day for Women and Men at Ventura College and USC Office of Continuing Education's BusinessWomen West Conference.

Once again the Ventura County Commission for Women has served the County well by achieving its accomplishments while spending less than its budget. As of May 25, 92 per cent of the fiscal year had elapsed but only 81 per cent of the funds had been expended.

The Commission members have worked almost 2,200 hours, driven almost 8,000 miles and spent more than \$1,200 of their own money to accomplish Commission goals. The community has likewise been generous in its response, contributing \$135 to sponsor our newsletter.

Allowing \$.28 per mile and valuing our time at \$10 per hour (as approved by the Board at the time of the establishment of the Commission), the Commission has donated \$25,379.59 of in-kind support and cash to further its work. Since our budget was only \$11,200 for this past year, this means that the County received over \$2.25 of in-kind support for each dollar it spent.

These figures represent in-kind support from Commissioners and staff only and do not include the many hours spent, miles driven and out-of-pocket expenses of so many volunteers and supporters throughout the county.

All together, your Commission has been as efficient in using money allotted to it as it has been in accomplishing its goals.

Virginia Connell

FINANCIAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

VCCFW

1983-84

NAME	TIME	MILEAGE	EXPENSES	MILEAGE COSTS
Lauren Anderson	65 hours	174		\$ 48.72
Mary Baird	124 hours	500	20.00	140.00
Alicia Ramirez-Brewer	98 hours	626		175.28
Ray Clayton	24 hours	160	200.00	44.80
Ginny Connell	425 hours	1650	180.00	462.00
Dot Engel	84 hours	674		188.72
Tila Estrada	45 hours	204		57.12
Louise Grethel	33 hours	364		101.92
Brook Hubbell	60 hours	480	22.00	134.40
Mary Jane Johns	203 hours	421	20.25	117.88
Maggie Mireles	14 hours	105		29.40
Jo Anne Le Fils-Moore	587 hours	1308	229.50	366.24
Ida Richardson				
Sandra Ryder	50 hours	257	20.00	71.96
Erin Healy Sheffield	235 hours	543	481.00	152.04
Lupe Gonsalves	45 hours	180		50.40
Carol Keochekian	12 hours	50		14.00
Steve Wiman	14 hours	132		36.96
Martha Baskerville	80 hours		35.00	
TOTALS	2,198 hours	7,828	1,207.75	\$2,191.84
	<u>x \$10 per hour</u>			
	\$21,980.00			
	+1,207.75			
	<u>+2,191.84</u>			
	\$25,379.59	Total In-Kind Contributions		

The Communications Committee, consisting of Lauren Anderson and Ginny Connell, prepared four issues of the Ventura County Commission for Women Newsletter for distribution to women's organizations and interested individuals throughout the county.

For each issue, 1,000 copies were printed. Expenditures for each issue averaged \$210, which included printing, folding, screening of photographs for reproduction and postage, for an approximate annual cost of \$838. Sponsors contributed throughout the fiscal year to assist in the continued publication of this newsletter. Sponsors for the 1983-84 year included:

- Soroptimist International of the Conejo
- National Council of Jewish Women, Camarillo Section
- Supervisor Maggie Erickson
- Dr. Priscilla Partridge-Rankin
- Evangelical Women's Caucus, Southwest
- Judy Wong

The Communications Committee focused on the need to minimize costs in the printing process of this widely-read newsletter while recognizing the need to maintain quality, which has always been an important factor for the Committee.

The Committee also focused on issues/articles of interest to women, information which will aid, nurture and assist in the further development of women within Ventura County.

Lauren Anderson

The "Salute To Women" awards banquet sponsored by the Friends of the Ventura County Commission for Women attracted, for the second year in a row, an overflow crowd who came to watch as awards were given to the county's outstanding women.

Keynote speaker Assemblywoman Gloria Molina (D-Los Angeles) was unable to attend due to a last-minute scheduling conflict. She was replaced by Pat Allen, Ph.D., author, lecturer and psychologist, who spoke on the topic "Women as Decision Makers." Singer Montenia Schider of Los Angeles provided background musical entertainment.

A total of 12 awards were presented by the Commission to outstanding women in various fields of endeavor. A special award was given to Yvonne Bodle, co-chair of the Commission for its first two years, in recognition of her service to the Commission. She resigned to complete a doctorate in education.

This past year's recipients of "Salute To Women" awards were:

- * Byrdenne Bryan Johnson of Oxnard, honored as a homemaker for her 35 years of marriage. She has four daughters, seven sons, 20 grandchildren and two Apache foster sons. She braids rugs, refinishes antique furniture and designs Christmas cards.
- * Barbara Garcia-Weed of Ventura, honored for political action. She has spent 15 years as an advocate for senior citizens and was responsible for assisting in the formation of a low-cost medical clinic for senior adults, among many other related accomplishments on behalf of the elderly.
- * Deanna Hackman, a Thousand Oaks resident also honored for political action. Since 1979 she has fought for the Equal Rights Amendment and helped to form the Ventura County Women's Equity Coalition. Since 1981, she has been involved in efforts to organize countywide observances of National Women's History Week.
- * Julie Reinhart Coburn of Thousand Oaks, honored for humanitarian actions. Managing to combine her practical experience and education background to provide public service in diverse areas, she helped Southeast Asian refugees assimilate into the U.S. She assisted with the initial organization of Hospice of the Conejo Valley which led her to write a booklet, "Death and Living."

- * Honored for her contributions in science/health was Dr. Joane Goforth Baumer of Ventura, physician in charge of the West Ventura Family Care Clinic. She was responsible for establishing a satellite clinic of Ventura County Medical Center in the Avenue area.
- * Leona Lee of Camarillo was honored as an outstanding senior citizen. The oldest person ever to attend Oxnard College, she has worked for many years and was still working, at age 88, as a babysitter. She was honored with a plaque on her 90th birthday by the United Methodist Church of Camarillo where she serves as hospitality hostess.
- * Honored for her role in law/law enforcement was Colleen Toy White, who has made major contributions to crime victims and domestic violence programs through the Ventura County District Attorney's Office. The Ventura attorney helped establish the Ventura County Shelter for Battered Women and Children and the Rape Awareness and Prevention Program.
- * Carol Haverty of Camarillo operates her own business, Business Support Systems, and also serves as an accounting instructor. Active in leading workshops for women throughout the county in the field of business, she was honored for her contributions as a role model to women in business.
- * Lillie Watkins of Oxnard, a teacher for 25 years, was honored in education. She is a founding member of the Professional and College Women's Organization which has raised thousands of dollars for scholarships for Oxnard students.
- * Lee Riggan of Thousand Oaks is credited with keeping two much-needed, but financially strapped, community organizations in operation - the Commission on Human Concerns (CHC) and the Coalition Against Household Violence (CAHV). She was honored for community service as a professional.
- * Evelyn Brubaker of Ventura, a community volunteer since 1965, has assisted through Camarillo State Hospital, the California Association for Neurologically Handicapped, Easter Seal Society and Assistance League. She was honored for community service as a volunteer.
- * Madame Luisa Franceschi-Runge of Ventura was 83 when she was honored for her contribution to the arts. Her 65-year career in music spans performances in the Ziegfeld Follies, years of operatic training and performing, and later teaching many prominent students.

After all the thank-you's and letters of appreciation were sent to the Employer Symposium steering committee members and participants, the Child Care Project Committee received \$500 from the Board of Supervisors to duplicate and mail a synopsis of the Symposium to all those who had attended. During the months following, volunteers Denise Honeycutt and Lisa Carpenter transcribed the Symposium tapes and obtained permission from the speakers to reproduce their remarks in a "Proceedings" booklet which was released in May 1984. Since the county has underwritten the printing, a policy has been adopted (1) to provide one courtesy copy to any government agency request, (2) to charge \$2 per copy for additional copies to those agencies, and (3) to charge \$2 per copy for all other requests. All proceeds will be payable to the County of Ventura.

A copyright from the Library of Congress has been received for the brochure entitled "Kids, Industry: Success Story" (KISS) listing Brook Hubbell and Mary Baird as authors. After consultation with the Private Industry Council which agreed to underwrite a second printing of the brochure, a policy was adopted to charge \$1.50 per copy with discounts for quantity purchases. Payment will be made to the Commission for Women. One courtesy copy will be given to any government agency requests.

In December 1983 at a tri-county Commission meeting with Santa Barbara County and San Luis Obispo County Commissions for Women, the Child Care Project was presented as part of the program. In addition, Brook Hubbell has made other presentations on behalf of the Commission's child care project as well.

Plans are being made to publicize both the Proceedings and the KISS brochure with news releases and notices to Chambers of Commerce and new companies moving to Ventura County.

On March 8, 1984, Dr. Kathleen Ralph invited members of the Child Care Project Committee to attend the grand opening ceremonies at the Great Pacific Iron Works (GPIW) child care center in the city of San Buenaventura. Dr. Ralph served as a professional consultant to the owners, Yvon and Malinda Chouinard, who attribute much of their successful preparation for the center to having attended the Commission's Symposium. Supervisors Lacey and Erickson were notified of the opening and Supervisor Erickson presented a resolution to the Chouinards commending them for serving as a model to other employers. GPIW has agreed to permit employer representatives to visit the center by appointment. A parent handbook and other information is available upon request.

Three commissioners are serving on the County Employees' Needs Assessment Committee on Child Care: Dot Engel, Mary Baird and Brook Hubbell. The committee completed its work in designing a survey form, field testing the form in the Clerk-Recorder's office and in PSSA, and devising a procedure for gathering information from county employees on their child care needs. In December, the Board of Supervisors received a progress report and copies of these materials from Clinton Tatum.

On March 15, the survey forms were distributed to employees with their paychecks, to be collected by March 23. An astonishing 29% was returned. Of the 1,460 forms received as of April 17, 513, or over 10% responded to all four pages, making it necessary to develop an automated system to tabulate and evaluate the data.

At this time, all data has been entered and a program is being tested. We anticipate the results will be available for committee consideration and a report to the Board of Supervisors will be made in the next few weeks.

Meanwhile, the Committee is arranging to visit the San Diego County Employee Child Care Association's center. Members are gathering cost information and reading other information provided by the Department of Motor Vehicles, Junior League of Santa Barbara and other new articles as they appear in current periodicals.

Dot Engel

Once again, the annual celebration of Women's History Week was the outcome of many months of preparations and events organized by members of the joint Task Force of the Commission for Women and the Women's Equity Coalition.

During the Summer Workshop for Teachers put on by the County Schools Office, the Task Force presented a display of materials on women in American history. Over the three days of the workshop, this display was staffed by volunteers from AAUW, Camarillo and Thousand Oaks Branches; Women's American ORT; Ventura/Oxnard N.O.W. and the National Council of Jewish Women, Camarillo Section.

In September a series of meetings and communications began with Lyn Perino, Director of Curriculum Services for the Superintendent of Schools Office, which resulted in:

- packets of information on the NWHW Project being provided to all members of the Curriculum Council
- development of a credit workshop for teachers through California Lutheran College
- a donation of duplicate kits of Resource Materials to the Curriculum Office in Ventura and the Instructional Materials Display Center at Camarillo Airport by the Women's Equity Coalition
- presentation to the Curriculum Council of a slide program called "History Revisited" encouraging expansion of current curriculums beyond the one-week commemoration of NWHW and
- the weekend workshop for teachers called: "Make Women in History Come Alive in Your Classroom" led by consultants from the State Department of Education who are founders of the NWHW Project, which took place Jan. 27 and 28, 1984.

Community Resource Women volunteers, and teachers and librarians who participated in the workshop were among those who gathered on Sunday evening, Feb. 26, for a relaxed but stimulating program called "Folk Music from American Women in History" featuring Patti Holin.

Requests for proclamations of Women's History Week in Ventura County and in the cities of the county and the Community College District continued to be enthusiastically responded to. Also, media coverage of the various activities before and during the week of March 4 - 10 again contributed to public awareness.

As a result of all of the above, actual in-school experiences during National Women's History Week expanded noticeably this year with essay and poster contests, films, presentations by Community Resource Women, displays and discussions. Since this is "the heart of the matter," the Task Force looks forward to even greater participation in Women's History Week in 1985.

Virginia Connell

The Needs Assessment Steering Committee began its activities in April 1984, after the Commission for Women had approved its formation and activities. Since then, the committee has dealt with:

- gathering information
- training committee members
- identifying resources
- writing a draft plan
- approving the plan, and
- identifying subcommittee chairpersons.

The result of these activities is a draft plan which was presented to the Commission on May 23. The draft plan incorporated information about tasks, resources, timelines, and lines of responsibility.

The committee is currently attempting to complete identification of subcommittee chairpersons, to identify financial resources, and to assess general support for the project.

Committee members include Ginny Connell, Mary Baird, Tila Estrada, and Dr. Alicia Ramirez-Brewer. The Commission for Women networks with the Commission on Human Concerns, which has two members participating on the Needs Assessment Steering Committee: Board Chairperson Bonnie Warrington and Executive Director Lee Riggan.

Four areas of concentration in the needs assessment plan, inclusive of task clusters, are (1) a needs assessment telephone survey using a random sample; (2) a survey of services available to women in the community; (3) analysis of demographic data provided by the Census Bureau; and (4) qualitative data gathered through the public hearing process.

Subcommittees for the needs assessment include:

- Women's Services Survey - Bonnie Warrington
- Census Data - Lee Riggan, Chair; Ginny Connell
- Telephone Survey - Alicia Ramirez-Brewer
- Public Hearings - Ginny Connell, Chair; Tila Estrada, Ray Clayton
- Computer - Maggie Mireles, Chair
- Public Relations - Sandy Ryder

CLUSTERS OF TASKS

I. THE DOCUMENT

A. Plan of Action

1. To review draft action plan - May 1984
2. To give assignments - May 1984
3. Recommend action plan to full Board - June 1984
4. Give progress report to CHC Board - May 1984
5. To identify monitor of plan - May 1984

B. Mechanics

1. To identify typist - June 1984
2. To identify editor - June 1984
3. To identify proofreader - June 1984
4. To identify reproduction capacity - June 1984
5. To send for reproduction and collation - May 1985
6. Get bids for reproduction of Document - March 1985
(Check with County Graphics Department.)

C. Written Document

1. To send 1st typed draft to full committee - Feb. 1985
2. To send to editor to edit - January 1985
3. To send to proofreader to proof - January 1985
4. To disseminate to CBOs, supervisors, cities - June 1985
5. To write outline of chapters of Document - June 1984
6. To write methodology narrative - May, June 1984
(Background problem method)
7. To identify findings - December 1984, February 1985
8. To draw conclusions - December 1984, February 1985
9. To write recommendations - December 1984, February 1985
(e.g. services, education, inservice, institutional changes)
10. To write conclusions - December 1984, February 1985
11. To set priorities drawn from recommendations - Board action - January 1985
12. To write abstract - December 1984, February 1985

D. Art Work

1. To identify designer for final document - July 1984
2. To commission art work - December 1984
3. Approve art work - January 1985

II. COMPUTER

1. To identify computer committee - May 1984
2. To identify programmer - June 1984
3. To identify resource person with access to computer and programmer - June 1984
4. To develop computer program for service survey - July 1984
5. To develop computer program for needs assessment survey

III. SERVICES TO WOMEN SURVEY

1. To identify subcommittee for services survey - May 1984
2. To identify service providers to be contacted for Services to Women survey - June 1984
3. To write draft of Services to Women survey - July 1984
4. To pretest Services to Women survey - August 1984
5. To correct Services survey - August 1984
6. To mail survey - September 1984
7. To follow up survey using phone - September 1984
8. To tabulate services survey - September, October, November 1984
9. To write narrative for services survey - November, December 1984

IV. SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

1. To send Ventura County Census data letter of request to U.C. Davis (needed by letter) - May, June 1984
2. To get County Census data - August 1984
3. To send letter of request to County for Vital Statistics - May, June 1984
4. To get County Vital Statistics - June 1984
5. To identify socio demo charts desired, and to request charts to receive them from UC Davis - August 1984
6. To write narrative for socio demo component - September 1984

V. INDIVIDUAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

A. To research random dialing - June 1984

1. Use of random dialing
2. Random dialing capabilities and cost
3. Volunteers with random dialing system
4. To check telephone company hand or machine

B.

1. To set date to write needs assessment with J. Cohn - June 1984
2. To identify needs assessment subcommittee - May 1984
3. To identify technician - needs assessment - June 1984
4. To write draft needs assessment survey questions - June 1984
5. To submit draft needs assessment to full committee - July 1984
6. To pretest needs assessment instrument - July, August 1984
7. To correct needs assessment survey - September, October November 1984
8. To conduct telephone needs assessment survey - September, October, November 1984
9. To identify volunteers for telephone needs assessment survey - July, August 1984
10. To train volunteers for telephone needs assessment survey - August 1984
11. To write script to use for telephone survey - August 1984
12. To identify phones to be used - June 1984
13. To make calls and collect data using process - September, October, November 1984
14. To tabulate needs assessment survey - October, November, December, 1984
15. To compile and write narrative for needs assessment survey - November, December 1984

VI. PUBLICITY

1. To identify publicity committee - May, June 1984
2. To publicize Document and results of study - 1985
3. To publicize Study - Start up to completion - June 1984 - June 1985
4. Schedule of press releases with frame for public hearings - June, July 1984

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. To develop Public Hearing format - June, July 1984
2. Publicize meeting goals, issues - Request response to issues in writing and RSVPs - August, September 1984
3. Identify location, date - July 1984
4. Agenda construction - July 1984
5. Materials and tape recorders, recording secretary - August 1984
6. To identify a recording secretary - May 1984
7. To forward publicity to CBOs et al. - August 1984
8. To identify local groups to sponsor Hearing - July 1984
9. To "invite" persons to testify - July, August, September, 1984
10. To implement Public Hearings - September 1984
11. To identify group to set up Public Hearing process - May 1984
12. To write up recorded testimony - September 1984
13. To analyze data regarding Public Hearing testimony - October 1984
14. To write narrative regarding Public Hearing testimony - November 1984

Alicia Ramirez-Brewer

Ventura County Commission for Women felt a need existed for the Commission to help monitor the funds allocated by the county for domestic violence services throughout the county. This need was presented to the Board of Supervisors through Senior Administrative Analyst Clinton Tatum and at the Feb. 7, 1984 meeting of county supervisors, the board agreed to the formation of a Women's Commission committee, provided it remain impartial. Mary Jane Johns and Louise Grethel were selected as committee members to work with the Public Social Services Agency (PSSA) and Chief Administrative Office (CAO).

On April 12 Mary Jane Johns met with Clinton Tatum of the CAO and Nancy Steinhelper of PSSA. The criteria for awarding money were discussed. About May 1 requests for proposals were solicited from local non-profit corporations to provide domestic violence services to victims and their children in accordance with the State Welfare and Institutions Code. These requests were reviewed on June 7 by PSSA, CAO and the two Commission members. Recommendations will be made to the Board of Supervisors for the allocation of funds depending on the numbers of organizations submitting requests and the areas of responsibility served.

Two organizations are currently providing services to victims of domestic violence: Interface, which primarily serves the eastern half of Ventura County, and the Coalition Against Household Violence (CAHV) serving the western half. Mary Jane Johns visited the shelters operated by both organizations in April on behalf of the Commission for Women.

The solicitation of proposals from local private non-profit corporations to provide such services is carried out in accordance with the Welfare and Institutions Code, Sections 18294, 18295, 18296 and 18298. Commonly referred to as the Presley Bill, the legislation encourages counties to establish local programs. The Commission's work will involve drafting requests for proposal, evaluating proposals, making recommendations for award of contract, conducting on-site inspections and doing ongoing evaluations of project effectiveness.

"Friends" was initially established by the Commission for Women to facilitate planning of their annual "Salute To Women" Awards banquet. A bank account was opened and checks for reservations were deposited into this account to cover expenses involved and eliminate the red tape and time required to receive funding of expenses through government channels. This was done in the fall of 1983 for the banquet on October 27.

It was thought that "Friends" could be further developed as a support group to assist the Commission in many areas.

In early 1984 a committee was organized to spearhead the development of the organization. The committee consisted of one commissioner and two actively involved county women. The articles of Incorporation and By-laws were then formed. The two women were named as directors, one being the charter president, Lee Anderson of Westlake Village, the other vice president, Bonnie Warrington of Simi Valley. These women have a strong background of service and interest in women's issues and county involvement. The concept for appointing an additional 3-5 directors was to select:

- interested women from various geographic locations throughout the county,
- women who had been active in community involvement, Commission projects, or women's issues, and
- individuals with strong leadership skills.

A "kick-off" luncheon was planned for April 1984 inviting county women to learn about the organization, introduce the directors, and to develop a nucleus for membership, as well as a fund raiser.

The goals of "Friends" are:

- to independently support the goals and objectives of the Ventura County Commission for Women
- to encourage involvement of women in financial and service support
- to coordinate community resources for women
- to work with the commission on research, media contributions, fund raising and public relations, and

- to act in an advisory capacity to the Commission on issues of women's needs by identifying and making recommendations on such issues.

It should be emphasized that the funding received by the Friends for the work of the Commission will not replace or duplicate any funding now available or which may become additionally available to the Commission but will, rather, fund projects for which there are presently no funds available or projects which would not be possible without such funding through efforts of the Friends.

Current Standing Committees are:

- Commission Activities and Support - Lee Anderson
- Women's Concerns/ Resource Development - Bonnie Warrington
- Financial Support - Carol Keochekian, Carol Haverty
- Budget/ Ways and Means - Carol Haverty
- Membership - Diane Koranda
- Speaker's Bureau/ County Involvement - Margarita Corral
- Public Relations - Judy Capko

The directors met frequently to develop a plan of action for growth, plan the mechanics and objectives of the luncheon. Following the luncheon, regular meetings were utilized to plan a major event to involve women throughout the county, plan the organizing structure of Friends and discuss Commission activities requiring our involvement.

Minutes of Friends meetings are forwarded to the Commission for Women. One of the Friends' directors attends the monthly Commission meeting and provides a report. The Friends have also requested a calendar from the Commission of activities requiring our assistance so that we can plan effectively to obtain the best results.

It is thought that "Friends of the Ventura County Commission for Women" is the first of its kind. We anticipate that this will be a dynamic organization and will pave the way for other Commissions. We are systematically approaching all levels of organization with a goal-oriented attitude and expect to be high-achievers tapping the talents of the many resourceful women throughout the county.

As we progress we intend to develop a detailed organizational

information packet for presentation to interested Commissions throughout the State, which will provide a guide for developing similar support groups.

The Directors of the Friends:

- Lee Anderson, a Westlake Village business woman, is president. In addition to her professional expertise as a licensed life, health and disability insurance agent, she is an ardent supporter of women's rights. One of the primary goals of the Friends, she said, is to make more women and more organizations aware of the Commission for Women and its work.

"The competitive, demanding environment of work outside the home intensifies the need for a strong support group working together to maintain the progress made in improving the quality of life for women, and in recognizing and working to improve the conditions that still exist," Anderson said.

- Bonnie Warrington, freelance legal assistant and chair of the Ventura County Commission on Human Concerns, serves as vice president.
- Carol Keochekian, Director of Special Adult Services for California Lutheran College, serves as secretary. She is a former member of the Commission for Women and was chair of the Employers' Symposium on Child Care; she now serves on the Ventura County Recreation Advisory Committee.
- Carol Haverty, a business and tax consultant through her own firm, is treasurer. She is an accounting instructor at Ventura College and is the AAUW California State Division Chair for Networks.
- Judy Capko, a management consultant and member of the National Association of Female Executives, is public relations chair for the Friends. She is also vice president of Soroptimist International of the Conejo.
- Diana Koranda, owner of Car Connection in Ventura and president of the Ventura County Professional Women's Network, is a Director.
- Margarita Corral, counselor at Oxnard College and a doctoral candidate at USC, is a Director.

Four new appointees were welcomed to the Commission for Women this year.

Appointed by Supervisor Maggie Erickson, Dr. Alicia Ramirez-Brewer, Fillmore, has extensive experience in education on the secondary, community college and university levels. She served as a legislative analyst in the office of the Chancellor of the California Community College system in Sacramento, a program officer for the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education in Washington, D.C. and is currently working with specially funded programs as resource instructor at Fillmore High School. Dr. Ramirez-Brewer holds a doctorate in higher education and administration and a post-doctorate in policy analysis and research. She was appointed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of former co-chair Yvonne Bodle.

Raymond Clayton, Thousand Oaks, is an attorney in private practice. He deals primarily with cases involving public law, business and corporation law. He began his 23-year law career as a public attorney, an assistant district attorney. He was appointed to the Commission by Supervisor Ed Jones to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Stephen Wiman of Thousand Oaks.

Also appointed by Supervisor Jones, Louise Grethel is the current chair of the Thousand Oaks Arts Commission and is active in the American Association of University Women as the Thousand Oaks Branch program vice-president. She is a homemaker, concerned citizen and a much-involved community volunteer. She was appointed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Carol Keochekian.

Appointed by Supervisor Susan Lacey, Maggie Mireles, Ventura, has extensive management experience in government and private business contracting. She has served as a senior administrative analyst for the City of Pasadena in its Employee and Community Services Agency, a project coordinator for various aspects of the Comprehensive Employment Training Act, and a project director for California Women's Employment and Education, Inc. Ms. Mireles has been active in the Ventura County Urban League, Employers Advisory Council of the State Employment Development Department, and the National Hispanic Women's Conference in Los Angeles.

July 16, 1983 Clinton Tatum, Senior Administrative Analyst, discussed the budget process for Ventura County in general and the Commission for Women budget and policy items in particular.

Sept. 10, 1983 Barbara Rogers, USC Office of Continuing Education, and Melanie Wead, Program Manager of the BusinessWomen West '83 Conference, presented information on the Conference which was geared toward women entrepreneurs.

Oct. 15, 1983 Maria Diaz, Ventura County Affirmative Action Officer, spoke to the Commission on the work of the Affirmative Action Office and the Advisory Committee, and efforts to provide training programs to increase employees' eligibility for promotion and programs for employees and managers on affirmative action concepts and policies.

Nov. 12, 1983 Hannah-Beth Jackson, attorney and former Chair of the State Commission on the Status of Women, spoke on one of the key issues of the 1980's - the feminization of poverty. Ms. Jackson identified several areas where women continue to meet resistance which limits economic progress.

Dec. 3, 1983 A joint meeting was held with the Santa Barbara County Commission for Women and the San Luis Obispo County Commission on the Status of Women. Information was shared by members of each Commission on various projects.

Jan. 21, 1984 Virginia Aguirre, City of San Buenaventura Personnel Office representative, spoke to the Commission on the Ventura City Fire Department program for recruiting firefighter trainees with outreach designed to encourage successful applications by women and minorities.

Members of the Commission for Women continued to maintain a very active profile in community involvements this past year.

- Lauren Anderson was elected President of Channel Islands Business and Professional Women.
- Dr. Alicia Ramirez-Brewer was appointed to the Ventura County Community College District Advisory Committee on the Status of Women.
- Dorothy Engel continued as President of the Ventura County League of Women Voters.
- Louise Gretzel was the Named Grant Honoree of the Thousand Oaks Branch of the American Association of University Women.
- Dr. Brook Hubbell was named "Woman of Achievement" by the Simi Valley Branch of the American Association of University Women.
- Jo Anne Le Fils-Moore spoke to the Ventura County Affirmative Action Advisory Committee on behalf of the Commission for Women, gave testimony to the State Fair Employment and Housing Commission concerning the lack of affordable housing for single women in Ventura County, advised Senator Gary Hart's staff regarding child care legislation and was one of the leaders in a workshop at the National Association of Commissions for Women Region IX Conference in Pasadena. She was elected to the Ventura County Democratic Central Committee.
- Erin Sheffield was appointed to the General Plan Review Committee of the City of Camarillo.

Annual Report
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VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

county of ventura

Public Social Services Agency
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Commission Members:

District 1

Lupe Gonsalves
Maggie Mireles
Mary Silverman

District 2

Raymond C. Clayton
Virginia M. Connell
Louise Grethel

District 3

Alicia Ramirez-Brewer
Julie Elliott
Sandra Smith Ryder

District 4

Dorothy J. Engel
Brook A. Hubbell
Candy Matson

District 5

Tila Estrada
Mary Jane Johns
Martha White

July 11, 1985

Board of Supervisors
Ventura County Government Center
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, California 93009

SUBJECT: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that your Board receive and file the attached 1984-85 Annual Report of the Ventura County Commission for Women.

DISCUSSION:

The Ventura County Commission for Women requests time on the July 23, 1985 Board of Supervisors' Agenda to present our Annual Report. At that time, we will be prepared to discuss the past year's activities. The Commission is very proud of its accomplishments during the past year and of the strong support and working relationship with the Board of Supervisors.

A copy of the Annual Report is available to the public in the office of the Clerk of the Board.

If you have any questions concerning the Annual Report, please feel free to raise them during our presentation.

Sincerely,

Alicia Ramirez-Brewer
Alicia Ramirez-Brewer
Co-Chair

Dorothy J. Engel
Dot Engel
Co-Chair

ARB:DE:mjb