



ANNUAL REPORT
1985-86

Presented by

Dorothy J. Engel
Co-Chair

Brook A. Hubbell, Ed.D.
Acting Co-Chair

July 1986

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DISTRICT 1 - SUSAN LACEY, SUPERVISOR

Lauren Anderson, Ventura
Arleen Rosenfield, Ventura
Vacancy

DISTRICT 2 - ED JONES, SUPERVISOR

Raymond C. Clayton, Thousand Oaks
Virginia M. Connell, Thousand Oaks
Marlene Alexander, Thousand Oaks

DISTRICT 3 - MAGGIE ERICKSON, SUPERVISOR

Lillian Goldman, Camarillo
Alicia Ramirez-Brewer, Ed.D., Fillmore
Sandra Smith Ryder, Camarillo

DISTRICT 4 - JIM DOUGHERTY, SUPERVISOR

Dorothy J. Engel, Thousand Oaks
Brook A. Hubbell, Ed.D., Simi Valley
Candace L. Matson, Simi Valley

DISTRICT 5 - JOHN FLYNN, SUPERVISOR

Tila Estrada, Oxnard
Meredith Sheehan, Oxnard
Martha Sheffey White, Oxnard

Other members of the Commission who have served during the past year are:

DISTRICT 1

Jean Bush
Mary Silverman

DISTRICT 2

Louise Grethel

DISTRICT 3

Julie Elliott

DISTRICT 5

Mary Jane Johns

A new appointee to the Commission is:

DISTRICT 4

Bonnie Warrington

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VCCFW

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This year has been a year of reorganization. Rather than a linear structure, the Commission has become a nucleus for the implementation of the Five Year Plan by developing a set of task forces. Each task force focuses on an issue identified by the needs assessment survey.

The goals and accomplishments of each of the task forces have been formulated. In spite of changes in Commission personnel, time lapses between resignations and appointments and Commissioners' commitments, beginning steps were made within the task forces.

Task Force Highlights

- . Child Care - We have developed a cooperative arrangement with United Way. Three Commissioners are serving on the Implementation Committee, focusing on the subcommittee for Employer Assisted Child Care Education. Using this as a vehicle, the task force will be able to attain the goals of contacting employers and offering to make presentations as we continue our efforts to convince local governments and private industry to establish child care programs for their employees. We are continuing to respond to community requests for information and special presentations.
- . Education - This task force focused in on three activities, one new and two continuing. As a result of speakers who appeared at a January Commission meeting, we responded to their request to sponsor a public forum on Women in Agriculture in Ventura County.

Working with the Ventura County Women's Equity Coalition, we continued providing leadership for Women's History Week. This involved teacher training programs, participation in a sex equity leadership seminar and presentations of dramatic programs and films about women.

A highly successful and well attended 4th Annual Awards Banquet was held on October 30, sponsored by the Friends of the Commission, to honor thirteen notable women for their contributions to Ventura County.

- . Divorced Women/Female Heads of Households - One of our newer Commissioners, Arleen Rosenfield, has met with District Attorney's office personnel to discuss a "wish list" developed by task force members. A favorable response was received. The task force is working on a brochure to be printed by the Commission in the coming year. This brochure will provide information on "What Every

Woman Should Know and Do Before An Actual Divorce Action Is Filed."

- . Housing - As a beginning step, the Housing task force has enlisted the help of members of other groups to develop an awareness of the dimensions of the problems of affordable housing and homelessness in Ventura County. At the same time, they have monitored particular issues on the local level. Task force plans are to focus on educating the general public on housing issues, particularly rental issues affecting women and their families.
- . Counseling - Two recent Commissioners, Lillian Goldman and Lauren Anderson, have been assigned to monitor the Domestic Violence Services contract for the County.

Friends of the Commission

Just as we have had a year of reorganizing, so have The Friends of the Commission. Although their goals remain the same, the members of The Friends have accepted responsibility for producing a fundraising brochure, recruiting new members for their group and ongoing banquet planning and implementation. They have provided financial support for the needs assessment, the Commission newsletter and other Commission expenses not budgeted. Their support has been greatly appreciated by the Commission, which honored them with a special tea in the spring.

Because of the increase in attendance at the banquet, the next awards banquet will be held at the Westlake Plaza Hotel.

As an outgrowth of the Five Year Plan, a joint committee has been formed by the Commission and The Friends to explore the possibility of establishing a women's center in Ventura County. As a final project, our needs assessment consultant, Dawn Hodson, has been asked to develop a questionnaire to be sent to women's centers throughout the United States. The results will be compiled and presented at a future Commission meeting.

Communications

The newsletter continues to be our major vehicle for informing others of our activities. GTE has provided supportive services to produce the newsletter. We plan to utilize our new computer to produce a newsletter on a more frequent basis next year.

GTE has agreed to underwrite special projects next year which will include a brochure describing the Commission and its work.

The Communications Committee has developed a working relationship with KTIE-TV to cosponsor a series of public affairs spots of particular interest to women and their families.

Legislation

Legislation continues to be a major concern for the Commission. Each task force is responsible for monitoring pertinent legislation and reporting to the Commission when action is desired. A more detailed list of bills encompassing the legislation acted upon at Commission meetings is enclosed.

As productive as this year has been, we anticipate that next year's achievements will be more outstanding now that we have increased staff, including an administrative aide and the use of a computer to more closely track the progress of the task forces and to produce the newsletter.

Dot Engel, Commission Co-chair
Brook Hubbell, Acting Co-Chair

The Ventura County Commission for Women has served the County well during the past year.

Commission members have worked over 1,800 hours, driven almost 10,500 miles and spent \$1,232 of their own money to accomplish Commission goals.

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 \$22,333.16 of in-kind support and cash to further its work.

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 The Friends of the Commission or the many other volunteers and supporters throughout the County; nor do the figures include cash contributions to sponsor the newsletter (\$125.00) or contributions of services from large and small firms in the county to support the newsletter and other Commission projects.

Your Commission has been efficient in using its allotted funds to accomplish its goals.

Commissioner Martha S. White

FINANCIAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

VCCFW

1985-86

NAME	TIME (HOURS)	EXPENSES	MILEAGE	MILEAGE COSTS
Marlene Alexander	33		175	\$ 49.00
Lauren Anderson	24		130	\$ 36.40
Raymond Clayton	36		360	\$100.80
Ginny Connell	410	\$185	1650	\$462.00
Dot Engel	240	\$152	1262	\$353.36
Tila Estrada	21		221	\$ 61.88
Lillian Goldman	30.5		160	\$ 44.80
Brook Hubbell	158.5	\$175	1146	\$320.88
Candace Matson	195	\$259	1533	\$429.24
Alicia Ramirez-Brewer	12		100	\$ 28.00
Arleen Rosenfield	138	\$28	493	\$138.04
Sandra Ryder	70	\$100	423	\$118.44
Meredith Sheehan	9		175	\$ 49.00
Martha White	128	\$5	986	\$276.08
FORMER COMMISSIONERS:				
Jean Bush	161.5	\$240	848	\$237.44
Julie Elliott	18	15	45	\$12.60
Louise Grethel	9		86	\$24.08
Mary Jane Johns	3.5		20	5.60
Mary Silverman	53		380	\$106.40
STAFF:				
Martha Baskerville	69	\$73	204	\$57.12

TOTALS	1,819	\$1,232	10,397	\$2,911.16
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x \$10/hour
\$18,190.00
+ 1,232.00
+ 2,911.16
\$22,333.16

TOTAL IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

The highlight of the year was our participation in the United Way Child Care Task Force and the Implementation Committee, both chaired by Berta Steele of the National Council of Jewish Women. Recommendations were completed and approved by the United Way Board of Directors comparatively unchanged. Since this approval, the ensuing Implementation Committee formed subcommittees: (1) Child Care Congress, (2) Employer Assisted Child Care Education, and (3) Child Care Trust Fund. Commissioners Hubbell, Alexander and Warrington are actively working on Committee #2, whose consensus is to continue the thrust initiated by the Commission for Women. Tentatively, in September a breakfast hosted by Arco Solar will be held for CEO's of major corporations to raise their awareness of the need for employer assisted child care. Each committee member will identify those influential employers who will become part of a core group which could sponsor workshops and seminars to inform and influence more employers county-wide. The full Implementation Committee is scheduled to meet on July 9, 1986, with more detailed plans for the coming year.

Requests for our KISS brochure and symposium proceedings continue to be received.

Other communities and organizations have been studying employer assisted child care and several commissioners are attending their meetings or are following their progress in other ways. They are:

1. Ventura Unified School District Child Care Task Force, chaired by Dr. Michael Sellwood, Director of Special Services.

When the School Age Community Child Care Services Act passed last year, funding enabled the YMCA and a PTA to provide after school programs. The Ventura School Board asked the task force for guidelines for groups who had applied for the use of school facilities for after school child care. The task force submitted a list of recommendations to the board and the board accepted extending YMCA use of Poinsettia, Loma Vista and Montalvo schools for the 1986-87 school year. The pilot programs will be evaluated at the end of the school year and future after school programs will be open to competitive bid for the 1987-88 school year. Additional recommendations will be studied further by the school board.

2. Commission on Human Concerns will become more actively involved in Children's Services. Since Commissioner Bonnie Warrington is a staff member of CHC, she has been given the responsibility for participation in

consulting sessions for employers.

3. Thousand Oaks Chamber of Commerce
Commissioner Engel made a presentation to the Industrial Committee in January 1986 at which several local business leaders requested our child care materials. Commissioner Alexander will be appearing before them again this year.
4. Maintenance of Effort for Ventura County
Commissioner Bush served on the committee reviewing the continuation of the sole source funding contract with the Ventura YMCA for 1986-87. Consensus was to continue the allocation of \$28,845 contract for the coming year.
5. Conejo Future Foundation Child Care Task Force
Commissioners Engel and Alexander have attended meetings of this task force which is chaired by Lori Kissinger. The group is studying a consortium model being used at the Warner Center in Woodland Hills. Subcommittees were formed to research local needs and resources. Their major thrust so far seems to be to adapt the consortium model to the Conejo area.
6. Pleasant Valley Hospital in Camarillo and the Camarillo Health Care District are working together on the possibility of providing a child care program, possibly for infants and sick children. Former commissioner Carol Keochekian, an employee of the hospital, has been keeping us informed of their progress.
7. Thousand Oaks City Council
At their request, Commissioner Hubbell made a presentation on employer assisted child care to the Council in January, 1986.
8. Ventura County Employee Assistance Program
Raji Bishnoi, Child Care Information and Referral, receives regular meeting notices and minutes from the Commission.
9. Business and Professional Women State Conference
Commissioner Hubbell spoke to delegates in Solvang in September, 1985, on employer assisted child care.

Members of the Commission's Child Care Task Force are pleased to see their efforts have caused more people to investigate the advantages of employer assisted child care.

Commissioners Brook Hubbell and Dot Engel

TASK FORCE

Coordinated by Commissioner Arleen Rosenfield, this task force was assigned three specific tasks in the five year plan which resulted from the county-wide needs assessment:

1. To Cooperate with the District Attorney's office to improve services offered through the child support division.
2. To develop a checklist of the basic legal rights separated women have and those rights they might want to obtain as a result of a divorce settlement.
3. To investigate existing legislation which enforces spousal support and develop a court monitoring system.

Task force members are pleased to report that efforts have been initiated in all three areas.

After an initial meeting between Ms. Rosenfield and O. Guy Frick, Senior Attorney for the District Attorney's Child Support Division, task force members compiled a "wish list" to present to that division for steps that could be taken by both parties to provide support and assistance to the other. The items suggested were:

1. Checklist - a simple yet technical brochure that takes a custodial parent step-by-step through the process of obtaining child support.
2. Contact People - One of the biggest problems clients/potential clients face is the inability to be able to talk to someone who could shed some light on their case. Three positions would be extremely helpful:
Night Deputy - would be able to meet with the working custodial parent after normal work hours to discuss minor problems and answer questions. This would alleviate the need for parents to take time off from work to investigate their support problems. Status Clerk - would be able to look up a particular case number in the computer system and relay via telephone the status of a case. Ombudsman - would follow up on calls requiring more involved solutions and assist the custodial parent in solving those problems.
3. Follow up - The custodial parent needs information regarding hearing dates, results of hearings and the name and phone number of the noncustodial parent's probation officer. A form postcard would suffice.

TASK FORCE (CONTINUED)

Providing this information to the custodial parent will enable them to direct status questions directly to the probation officer and would, thereby, reduce the number of calls received by the Child Support Division.

4. Speakers - The Commission may at some time in the future sponsor educational workshops for custodial parents on "How to Follow Your Own Child Support Case." Experts on this subject from the District Attorney's office to participate in the workshops would be most helpful.
5. Liaison - The Ventura County Commission for Women is interested in keeping open the lines of communication between itself and the District Attorney's office. It is our goal to establish a liaison between the two to enable us to work together effectively to help the women of Ventura County.

We are pleased that a brochure explaining the steps involved in obtaining child support is already being prepared by the Child Support Division. The other items were positively received by Mr. Stan Trom, Director of the Child Support Division, and will be responded to by him separately.

Task force member Sandra Ryder secured the assistance of attorneys from Stilz, Boyd and Levine, a Century City law firm with divorce, child support and custody expertise, to prepare information on the legal rights of women obtaining a divorce. This information, currently titled "What Every Woman Should Know and Do Before An Actual Divorce Action is Filed", will be the basis for a brochure to be printed by the Commission for Women in the coming year. Other informational brochures are being considered by the task force for additional future projects.

Task force member Raymond Clayton has been researching existing legislation regarding spousal support. The development of a court monitoring system with a specific focus on child and spousal support awards is in the planning stages.

Commissioner Arleen S. Rosenfield

EDUCATION TASK FORCE

VCCFW

PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

The Education Task Force was developed to address one of the five major areas of concern targeted by the Five Year plan which resulted from the county-wide needs assessment project conducted in 1984-85. The stated overall purpose of the task force is to "advise on and advocate for more educational opportunities for women which enhance their income earnings."

One of the primary ways in which the Education Task Force plans to accomplish this goal is through conducting public workshops on a variety of topics. The first such event was a forum on Women in Agriculture in Ventura County. The forum, which took place on May 31, featured a number of speakers representing various backgrounds and perspectives. All of the forum presentations were made in both English and Spanish.

State Senator Gary Hart was present to congratulate the Commission on its efforts and plans for the day and to encourage community cooperation in addressing issues. Morning presentations were also made by Dolores Huerta, Vice President of United Farm Workers, and by eight women agricultural workers from local packing sheds.

The afternoon program included:

- . Kim Hocking, Planner for the County of Ventura and the City of Oxnard
- . W. Earl McPhail, Agriculture Commissioner, Ventura County Agriculture Department
- . Roz McGrath, President, local chapter of California Women for Agriculture
- . Don Rodrigues, Chair, Agriculture Department of Ventura College
- . Ellen Brokaw, Vice Chair, Private Industry Council
- . Cliff Rodrigues, Coordinator of Special Programs and Bilingual Education, Superintendent of Schools Office
- . Burt Corona, union organizer since 1938
- . Gary Orthuber, attorney
- . Lupe Martinez, deputy, Attorney General's office
- . Jim Demaegt, attorney

The specific goal of the forum was to enhance the visibility of women in agriculture and to increase public awareness regarding their special concerns. The Commission believes that the forum will result in just such an outcome. It is our hope that the public dialogue will give way to constructive action that will satisfy the needs of Ventura County agricultural workers, growers and consumers alike.

EDUCATION TASK FORCE (CONTINUED)

VCCFW

PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

During the coming year, the task force will develop other public workshops appropriate to the Five Year Plan.

Commissioner Candace Matson

During the 1985-86 fiscal year, the Commission organized its Housing Task Force. Commissioners Ginny Connell (Chair), Ray Clayton, Tila Estrada and Martha White are members. In addition, various meetings of the task force have been attended by:

Bonnie Warrington, Commission on Human Concerns, prior to her appointment to the Commission for Women

Nancy Grasmehr, land use consultant in Thousand Oaks and board member of Many Mansions

Ruth Hibbard, chair of the housing study conducted by the League of Women Voters

Rochelle Stephens of the Area Housing Authority

Karen Flock, Project Manager for Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation

Meetings have been held once a month with an emphasis on informing ourselves of the dimensions of the problems with affordable housing and homelessness throughout the county. Input from each of the resource persons above has been most helpful in this learning process. In addition, the program on housing provided by Supervisor Susan Lacey on April 30 was very valuable to us.

Beginning in late September, Commissioners Connell, Clayton, Grethel and Friends President Lee Anderson watched the progress of a petition drive in Thousand Oaks aimed at curtailing the building of apartments and condominiums. The campaign for a five-year moratorium on such building was intended to put a measure on the November 1986 ballot, but it failed to obtain sufficient signatures by February.

During May, Commissioner Estrada set up a program on "Housing for the Homeless" for the Oxnard Harbor Board of Realtors, of which she is a member. The program took place on June 12, 1986 with Supervisor John Flynn, Rev. Jim Gilmer and John Sharp as speakers.

The task force is presently exploring the best format for educating the general public on housing issues, particularly rental issues which affect women and their families. We would like to present such information in a half-hour video program on local TV channels instead of persuading people to attend an event for the same purpose.

Commissioner Ginny Connell

This project is a joint effort of the Education Task Force of the Commission for Women and the Ventura County Women's Equity Coalition. Active members during 1985-86 were Commissioners Ginny Connell, Candace Matson, Marlene Alexander, Commission Staff Martha Baskerville and Deanna Hackman, Erica Neville, Cathy Sluter and Jo Ellen Heil of the Women's Equity Coalition.

The following are highlights of this year's activities:

- . August 2,3,4, 1985 Sex Equity Leadership Seminar, co-sponsored by Project SEE (Sex Equity in Education) of the California State Department of Education, and the Center for Educational Equity. The seminar took place in Sacramento and was attended by Commissioner Connell. The goal of the seminar was to enhance the skills and impact of community leaders, provide information and training on current education and equity issues and evolve a plan of action supportive of equitable educational excellence in local communities.
- . August 19-22, 1985 Summer Workshops for Ventura County Teachers. In addition to our regular display of Women's History Project materials and filmstrip in the exhibit hall, Jo Ellen Heil presented two workshops: American HERstory, Colonial Times to the Civil War and American HERstory, 20th Century.
- . September 11, 1985 Ventura County Superintendent of Schools Curriculum Council Meeting. Commissioner Connell and staff Martha Baskerville reviewed the purposes of National Women's History Week, explained our workshop for teachers and showed the film, "One Fine Day."
- . October 11-12, 1985 Teachers' Workshop at the Ventura County Superintendent of Schools Conference Facility at Camarillo Airport. This years' accredited workshop was attended by twelve teachers, three of whom went on to write a successful grant proposal to develop women's history materials and activities and provide an extensive program at Sequoia Intermediate School in Newbury Park. The workshop was entitled "Make Women in History Come Alive in Your Classroom" and was taught by Molly MacGregor of the National Women's History Project in Santa Rosa, California.
- . November 11, 1985 Presentation on the Women's History Project at a program meeting of the National Council of Jewish Women, Camarillo Section, by Commissioner Connell.

- . November 14, 1985 Dramatic Program: "Past The Morning Star" by the American Living History Theater. This was a fundraiser to allay expenses of the teachers' workshop. It was held in the Preuss-Brandt Forum at the California Lutheran College (now University) library.
- . January/February, 1986 Contacts with teachers. Some arrangements were made for Community Resource Women to visit local schools. Several teachers used the slide/tape program owned by the Women's Equity Coalition, "History Revisited," for presentations at faculty meetings and in-service workshops.
- . February 28 - March 20, 1986 Women's History Month activities at Cal State University, Northridge. Our Women's History Project was extended to the Northridge campus through the efforts of Cathy Sluter, member of our task force and CSUN student. Cathy organized a series of events for Women's History Month in conjunction with the Women's Center and the Women's Studies Department at CSUN. The presenters included Molly MacGregor discussing the Women's History Project and its goals, Ginny Connell participating in a program on "Women and Therapy", and Cathy Sluter giving an overview of "Women in U.S. History."
- . March 5, 1986 Slide/script program, "Women as Activists: Agents of Change" was presented twice to federal employees at Pt. Mugu Naval Air Station as part of their observance of Women's History Week. Presenters were Bonnie Eisenberg, National Women's History Project, and Commission staff, Martha Baskerville.
- . March 6, 1986 Women's History Week Luncheon
This year's Luncheon honored Erica de Francia Neville, a member of the Women's Equity Coalition and one of the initiators of this project in Ventura County, who died suddenly in January, 1986.
- . March 2-8, 1986 Women's History Week
Commemorative brochures/bibliographies were issued by the Ventura County Library Services Agency and the Thousand Oaks Library.
- . March/April, 1986 Women's History Week Committee was established by the Thousand Oaks branch of the American

Association of University Women through the efforts of Commissioner Marlene Alexander. This committee will be working with Conejo Valley Unified School District personnel in setting up ongoing Women's History Week events with specific programs and Community Resource Women offered to teachers.

Commissioner Ginny Connell

NEWSLETTER

In 1985-86, the Commission launched a new format for its newsletter with corporate assistance from General Telephone Company of California. GTE provided graphic design, typesetting and layout, and printing for 5,000 copies of one issue at no cost to the Commission. GTE also provided graphic design, typesetting and layout for two additional issues of the newsletter. The actual cost to the Commission for each newsletter varied depending on the number of half-tones (photographs), the number of pages and the number of copies. The Fall 1985 issue was large (12 pages) and contained numerous photographs of our award winners.

In early 1986 the Commission investigated ways to reduce newsletter printing costs and explored several alternative ways of producing a newsletter on a computer. The Commission sought and was granted a transfer of funds within our budget to procure a word processing terminal, peripherals, printer and software. That equipment has arrived at the Government Center and we are eagerly awaiting its installation in the Commission's office.

In the meantime, Computer Applications Systems Support (CASS), a computer firm located in Camarillo, offered to contribute, as a donation to the Commission, 16 hours of labor at \$25 an hour per issue to create the Commission's newsletter. Two newsletters have been produced thus far through the assistance of the Camarillo firm.

ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS

General Telephone has agreed to underwrite several projects in 1986 as in-kind contributions to the Commission and the Friends. This will include a brochure describing the Commission and its work.

The Divorced Women/Female Heads of Households Task Force is examining child support and related issues as part of the Commission's five year plan. The task force is preparing a legal rights brochure for women obtaining a divorce with the assistance of Stilz, Boyd and Levine, a noted law firm with expertise in divorce, child support and custody.

KTIE-TV TOUR

In January, 1986, Commissioners and members of the Friends organization toured KTIE-TV (Channel 63), Ventura County's new television

station, after which they met with the General Manager Bob Bradley, News Director Steve Miller and other staff members to discuss mutual goals. The management of KTIE-TV realizes the television station can serve as an invaluable asset in helping the Commission meet its goals on behalf of women throughout the county and Commissioners can serve as resources for the station's public service programming.

To launch a cooperative working relationship between the station and the Commission, KTIE has agreed to co-sponsor a series of public affairs spots with the Commission for Women. The public service announcements will contain information of interest to women and their families. The spots will feature a colorful VCCFW logo and are expected to begin airing later this year. Information on the county resources available to women was provided by Interface Community.

The following will be shared with the community:

- Can't find affordable child care? Don't know where to look for licensed child care providers? Call the Child Care Resource and Referral Center at (805) 487-0784 or 659-1413.
- For low-cost or free legal services, contact:
Ventura: Lawyers' Referral Service, 653-5252 or 983-6667
Oxnard: Channel Counties Legal Services, 487-6531
Thousand Oaks: Thousand Oaks Legal Clinic, 497-3575
Simi Valley: Simi Legal Clinic, 522-3733
- Looking for affordable housing? For rental subsidy programs and other information, contact:
Ventura: Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura, 648-5008
Oxnard: Oxnard Housing Authority, 984-4629
Remaining areas of the county: Area Housing Authority of the County of Ventura, 482-2791, 529-2126 or 644-8459.
- Have you been the victim of physical or emotional abuse in your home? Are you afraid you might be? To talk about it, call the Domestic Violence Services of Interface Children, Family Services, at 498-6643, 529-0975 or 647-7855, or the Coalition Against Household Violence, 656-1111.
- If you're pregnant or have children under five years old and are finding it tough to make ends meet, call the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Voucher Nutrition Program, a food program for low income women, infants and children, 652-5932, or 656-1500, ext. 5932.

Commissioners Arleen Rosenfield, Ginny Connell and Marlene Alexander review and report on proposed legislation. During the past year, the Commission has voted to support the following bills in the California legislature:

<u>Number, Author</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Status</u>
. AB 635 (Hughes)	Child Care:Adult Child Care Training Pilot Project	Pending
. AB 1523(O'Connell)	Child Care	Failed
. AB 3572 (Hayden)	Child Care	Pending
. SB 792 (Green)	Educational Equity	Vetoed
. SB 864 (Hart)	Income Taxation: credits: child care assistance	Vetoed
. SB 1029 (Lockyer)	Child care: pilot projects	Vetoed
. SB 1071 (Lockyer)	Community Property	Pending
. SB 1167	Displaced Homemakers Emergency Loan Act	Passed
. SB 1750 (Hart)	Family Law	Failed
. SB 1751 (Hart)	Child Support	Pending

Commissioners have received information and updates on the following federal bills, together with requests to contact our own Senators and Representatives:

S 519 -Federal Employee Anti-Sex Discrimination Act of 1985

HR 700-Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1985

HR 3008-Federal Pay Equity and Management Act of 1985

HR 2369 and SR 881 - Title X of the Public Health Services Act
Family Planning Funding

Interface, Children and Family Services and the Coalition Against Household Violence provide services to victims of domestic violence and their children in Ventura County. Each organization has been awarded a contract by the County of Ventura for the provision of those services in accordance with Chapter 146 of the Statutes of 1980, Welfare and Institutions Code Section 18290 et seq. Funding for the contracts comes through the County Domestic Violence Programs Special Fund. Commonly referred to as the Presley money, or the Presley bill, state legislation was enacted several years ago to encourage counties to establish local programs to provide domestic violence services. Contracts for the services are awarded and monitored by the Public Social Services Agency. Members of the Commission for Women assist in monitoring the contracts through on-site visits to the shelters, review of statistical reports and discussions with the directors of services. They make reports to the full Commission and to PSSA's program manager, currently Irma Mejia.

Prior to the end of fiscal year 1984-85, Commissioners Mary Jane Johns and Louise Grethel met with Nancy Steinhilper, PSSA Director of Adult Services, to review contract proposals for 1985-86. During the past year, there was a significant turn-over in the membership of the Commission which resulted in vacancies in the Domestic Violence Services Monitoring Committee. Commissioner Mary Silverman did visit the shelter operated by the CAHV in early 1986.

Two recent appointees to the Commission, Lauren Anderson of Ventura and Lillian Goldman of Camarillo, will serve as the new monitors for this committee and will visit the shelters on a regular basis. They will coordinate their visits with the PSSA program manager.

When Lee Anderson, President of The Friends of the Ventura County Commission for Women, described her board as "a synergistic group that operated out of consensus of opinion and a sense of individual responsibility," she captured the essence of the contributions The Friends has made this past year. The Friends has developed into a strong supporting arm of the Commission and an exciting, active group in its own right. It has continued to address each of these goals:

- . to independently support the goals and objectives of the Ventura County Commission for Women
- . to encourage involvement of women in financial service and 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.

The highlight of the past year was a very successful annual "Salute To Women" Awards banquet. The banquet is organized and facilitated by The Friends. Since the banquet is the major fundraising effort of The Friends, it is gratifying to realize that the attendance continues to grow and that after the last banquet a balance of \$4299.72 existed after all bills were paid.

Other activities included:

- . the first Annual Meeting of The Friends
The meeting was held on November 19, 1985 and included the election of directors and officers. They are:

President: Lee Anderson, corporate and personal insurance

Vice-President: Bonnie Warrington, Coordinator, Community Service Programs, Commission on Human Concerns

Secretary: Isabel Wright, Ph.D., Senior Research Associate, California Lutheran University

Treasurer: Anne Fischer, attorney-at-law, partner in the firm of Fischer and DiFabbio

Director: Margarita Corral, counseling facilitator at
Oxnard College

Director: Priscilla Pike, owner, Pike Court Reporting
Service

Director: Paula Shain, Long Term Care Coordinator, Ventura
County Department of Mental Health

- . California Lutheran University's Creative Options Day
Members of The Friends staffed a table with information
about The Friends and the Commission for Women.
- . Ventura County Professional Women's Network Business Faire
Again, members of The Friends provided information
about their organization and the Commission for Women
to Business Faire participants.
- . Brochures to describe The Friends and to publicize the
awards banquet have been formalized.
- . Special funding requests made by the Commission have been met.
- . In continued support of the Commission's Five Year Plan,
The Friends have agreed to investigate being the service
agency for funding should a Ventura County Women's Center
be considered in the future.

The 1986 "Salute To Women" Awards banquet will be held at the
Westlake Plaza Hotel in Westlake Village on October 29. We look
forward to seeing you there!

Lee Anderson, The Friends
Commissioner Brook Hubbell

SPEAKERS AT MONTHLY COMMISSION MEETINGS

VCCFW

1985

- July Dawn Hodson, Hodson & Associates, and Maureen Hooper-Lopez, Advance Marketing Services, were present to continue working with Commissioners to develop the Five Year Plan.
- September Sally Newell, President of Ventura County Human Services Association, described the formation of the Association and the services provided. Ms. Newell is also the founder and Executive Director of CAAN, Inc., Child Abuse and Neglect. She described programs and services provided by CAAN.
- Margaret Roberts spoke about her experiences at the Nairobi Conference to mark the End of the Decade for Women.
- October Jean Bush presented information and led a discussion on the processes involved in short- and long-term planning.
- November Joanne Norton, Monitor of the Older Workers Program, described the services provided by the program and the relationship with the Commission on Human Concerns and the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).
- December Barbara Olivier, Benefits Manager for the County of Ventura Personnel Department, described the County's efforts to assist employees with child care concerns.

1986

- January Raji Bishnoi explained her work as the Child Care Specialist for the County's Employee Assistance Program.
- Berta Steele, Chair, Ventura County United Way Task Force on Child Care, reported on the work of the Task Force.
- Fritz Conle, United Food and Commercial Workers, Local 78-A, described the hiring and job practices of the lemon packing associations in Ventura County and how they discriminate against women workers.

- February Judi Christiansen described efforts to form a support group for mothers of children who are victims of incest or other molestation.
- March Jean Bourbeau, Executive Director, Ventura County Campfire, provided information on Campfire's successful proposal for "latch key" funds for an after-school child care program.
- April Creda Knowlin, Executive Director, Child Development Resources, Inc., described the programs and services they provide.
- May Ruth Irussi, Public Social Services Agency Administrator for GAIN, Greater Avenues for Independence, explained the programs being developed in accordance with changes in the welfare codes mandated by the California legislature.

Marlene Alexander, appointed in May 1986 by Supervisor Ed Jones, is one of the most recent members of the Commission. Her community involvement spans more than twenty years and includes charter membership in the Thousand Oaks Branch of the League of Women Voters. She has served on the Board of Directors of the Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Alexander is the Women's Issues Chair for the Thousand Oaks Branch of the American Association of University Women and is AAUW's representative to the Ventura County Women's Equity Coalition and the California Lutheran University Women's Resource Center Board of Directors. She is actively involved in the Women's History Project and the Employer Assisted Child Care Project. Ms. Alexander has a masters degree in psychology and is a licensed marriage, family and child counselor.

Lauren Anderson was appointed to the Commission by Supervisor Susan Lacey in April 1986. Ms. Anderson is a charter member and past president of Channel Islands Business and Professional Women and is also active on the district and state level of BPW. She is a past member of the Board of Directors of the Coalition Against Household Violence and has served as a volunteer for the Ventura County District Attorney's Victim-Witness Unit. Currently, Ms. Anderson is a full time student at California State University, Northridge, majoring in journalism with plans to graduate in the spring of 1987.

Lillian Goldman was appointed in December 1985 by Supervisor Maggie Erickson. Ms. Goldman attended extension courses from Indiana University in speech and drama. She worked for many years as executive secretary to the Associate Chief of Staff for Education at Wadsworth VA Hospital in Los Angeles. She was the office manager for Beverly Hills B'nai B'rith and Women For:, a political activist organization. She is a past president of the National Council of Jewish Women, Camarillo Section and is the current co-president of the Leisure Village Current Issues Forum.

Arleen S. Rosenfield was appointed in October 1985 by Supervisor Susan Lacey. Ms. Rosenfield has a background in accounting and computers and is currently the office manager for Uniforms, Etc. in Ventura. As a single mother of two small children, Ms. Rosenfield brings personal knowledge and experience to her work on the commission as the coordinator for the task force on Divorced Women/Female Heads of Households. She is also the chair of the Legislative Analysis Committee.

Meredith Thomas-Sheehan is another recent addition to the Commission, having been appointed in April 1986 by Supervisor John Flynn. Ms. Thomas-Sheehan has been the recreation director at the CBC Navy Base in Port Hueneme for the past eleven years. Prior to that position, she worked in both municipal and private recreation programs and served in the American Red Cross Recreation Hospital Program in Okinawa during the Vietnam war. She is a graduate of Portland State University and was active in Oregon state politics while still a student. More recently, she has been active in organizing the harbor's annual Parade of Lights and is involved in marine conservation through the National Coalition for Marine Conservation and the United Anglers.

Bonnie Warrington is the newest member of the Commission. Appointed by Supervisor James Dougherty in May, 1986, she officially joined the Commission in June. Ms. Warrington is the Coordinator of Community Service Programs for the Commission on Human Concerns and is a long time community activist. Her involvement ranges from service to youth groups, women's information networks and Board of Directors of the Coalition Against Household Violence, to Simi Valley Christian Foundation for the Homeless. She is the current president of the Ventura County Volunteer Coordinators' Council and is the charter vice president of the Friends of the Commission for Women. She is a member of the Ventura County Information and Referral Network Management Team and the United Way Child Care Implementation Task Force for employer assisted child care.

Members of the Commission for Women continue to be actively involved in their communities and to be recognized for their contributions. The activities described below are in addition to Commission accomplishments already mentioned in this report.

Virginia Connell was elected to another term as Chair of the Ventura County Women's Equity Coalition and also serves as the Chair of the Democratic Central Committee in Ventura County. She has made a number of presentations to groups on the subject of pay equity.

Dot Engel is a member of the board of directors of MANNA, a Conejo area food bank, and is the vice president of Ventura County League of Women Voters. She served on the county-wide planning committee for the National Issues Forum and was a speaker for a panel on latchkey children at the Tri-County Children's Librarian Meeting in Goleta.

Brook Hubbell chaired the speakers committee for a Math-Science Conference for Girls in Simi Valley and also the nominating committee for Delta Kappa Gamma, an honorary education society. She is the contact person at Mountain View Elementary School for children who may have been abused or molested.

Candace Matson served as vice president of the Faculty Senate at Simi Valley High School and was a union representative. She completed her second term as co-coordinator of Simi-Conejo N.O.W. Candace recently resigned from the Commission to attend law school at UCLA.

Arleen Rosenfield is the treasurer for the Ventura County Women's Equity Coalition. She represented the Commission for Women at the Region IX Conference of the National Association of Commissions for Women in Sacramento and was a panelist for a forum on divorce presented by Simi-Conejo N.O.W.

Sandra Ryder spearheaded the formation of a new public relations group in Ventura County, Public Information Communication Association (PICA) and has been elected president of that organization. She participated in the initial formation of the Ventura County Information and Referral Network, a joint effort by many community organizations. Sandra has recently completed work on her master's degree in telecommunications.

Bonnie Warrington was recently honored by the Ventura Soroptimists when she received the Women Helping Women Award for the second year in a row. The award cited her as a Winner Among Winners.

Martha S. White is a member of the 1986-87 Ventura County Grand Jury. She is continuing as president of the Twentieth Century Onyx Club and is on the board of directors of the NAACP, Ventura County Chapter. Martha recently retired from a 32-year career in the federal government and received recognition for her work from the Pacific Missile Test Center, the Pt. Mugu Federal Credit Union which she had served as a member of the board of directors and from the Ventura County Board of Supervisors.

"SALUTE TO WOMEN" AWARDS (CONTINUED)

Because attendance at the banquet continues to grow, the 1986 banquet will be held in the Westlake Plaza Hotel in Westlake Village and will take place on Wednesday, October 29, 1986.

Commissioner Candace Matson

"SALUTE TO WOMEN" AWARDS

VCCFW

The fourth annual "Salute To Women" awards were presented at a banquet held on October 30, 1985 at the Oxnard Hilton Hotel. Again sponsored by the Friends of the Commission, the banquet attendance increased to over 350 people including many distinguished guests representing various political and judicial seats, school and college boards, etc.

The women recognized by the Commission for Women for their outstanding contribution to improving the quality of life in Ventura County were as follows:

The Arts	Harriet Baker, Thousand Oaks
Business/Management	Gwendolyn E. Hunt, Oxnard
Community Service/Professional	Catherine Johnston, Ventura
Community Service/Volunteer	Marian R. Hadley, Ventura
Education	Barbara Derryberry, Ventura
Education	Daisy Tatum, Oxnard
Homemaking	Gig Wishon, Ventura
Law/Law Enforcement	Donna Clontz, Oxnard
Media	Catherine Garnica, Ventura
Philanthropy/Humanitarian Action	Irene Bahn, Thousand Oaks
Political Action	Patricia L. Longo, Ventura
Science/Health	Mary Jones, Ventura
Senior Citizenship	Mabel Assheton, Ventura

The keynote speaker for the evening was the Honorable Melinda A. Johnson, Judge of the Superior Court of the County of Ventura.

A new two-tiered ticket approach was used quite successfully this year by the Friends of the Commission and resulted in substantial fundraising by that organization. The 1986 banquet plans include a similar approach; additionally, the Friends will offer specially priced tickets for students, 21 years and under.