
SHIFT TO THE STATES:

*Women Lead
in Maryland*



MLAW Fall
Agenda Conference

November 12, 2022

mdlegagendaforwomen.org

28 YEARS OF ADVOCACY FOR WOMEN'S AND FAMILY ISSUES

1994 - 2022

.....

MLAW was established to **harness the collective power of women** and to **create a statewide, non-partisan, independent coalition of groups and individuals to advocate for progressive legislative initiatives that promote and protect the well-being of women and their families in Maryland.**

This call to action for legislative change has resulted in a coalition almost unique in the United States. The annual legislative conference and other activities have energized thousands of women - and male allies - to become engaged in advocacy for important issues affecting Maryland women and families.

The annual Legislative Agenda has included a broad diversity of issues and the organization's advocacy and collaborative efforts have resulted in the **passage of over 100 pieces of legislation enacted by the Maryland General Assembly in the last 28 years.**

This extraordinary success has made a **significant difference for women and families.** It has established MLAW as a **powerful voice for women and their priorities in Maryland.**

MLAW provides visibility for legislation affecting women and families. The fall conference develops our MLAW Legislative Agenda and a legislative briefing during the legislative session introduces the Agenda to advocates and legislators. These events focus legislators' attention on our issues and raise their visibility throughout the state. We distribute the annual Legislative Agenda to every Maryland legislator. In collaboration with our advocacy partners, we submit testimony, advocate for bills, and promote our Agenda through our large e-mail list, website, and Facebook page.

The Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women is proud of its achievements during the last 28 years, but there is more to be done. **Join us and help us continue to make a difference for Maryland women and families.**



CONFERENCE AGENDA

November 12, 2022

9:00-9:30 AM

Registration, Networking and Continental Breakfast

9:30-9:45 AM

Welcoming Remarks

Michaele Cohen, *MLAW President*

Greetings from the Women Legislators of Maryland

Delegate Lesley Lopez, *President*

9:45-10:45 AM

Panel – “Shift to the States: Women Lead in Maryland”

Erin Bradley

Vice President of Public Affairs, Planned Parenthood of Maryland

Laura Weeldreyer

Executive Director, Maryland Family Network

Joanne Antoine

Executive Director, Common Cause Maryland

MODERATOR:

Beth Anne Dorman (Langrell)

President/CEO, For All Seasons

10:45-10:55 AM

Break

10:55-12:40 PM

Legislative Presentations

FACILITATORS:

Angela McDaniel

Shruti Bhatnagar

Michelle Siri

12:40-12:50 PM

Special Presentations

ERA Coalition – Jennifer Tucker

Consultant Senior Policy Analyst, ERA Coalition

National Domestic Workers Alliance - Alana Eichner

DC Lead Organizer, National Domestic Workers Alliance

12:50-1:00 PM

Wrap-Up

Ruth Martin –

Voting process

Join MLAW

Get involved!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2022-2023

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MLAW PUBLIC CONTACT INFO



305 W. Chesapeake Ave #201
Towson, MD 21204



443-519-1005



mdlegagenda4women@yahoo.com



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305 W. Chesapeake Ave #201

Towson, MD 21204

410-321-8761 | jmorgan@wlcmd.org

SPEAKER BIOS

DELEGATE LESLEY LOPEZ

Lesley Lopez represents District 39 in the Maryland General Assembly, where she serves as president of the Women's Legislative Caucus. She serves on the Judiciary Committee and leads on gun bills in the House. In the last session, she led the fight to pass a statewide ban on ghost guns, which earned bipartisan support and an invitation to the White House.

In her non-lawmaking life, she is an advocacy professional with experience on Capitol Hill, campaigns, C-suites and newsrooms. Del. Lopez previously served as Chief Communications and Marketing Officer for the organization Run for Something and the Director of Communications for the National Immigration Forum and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. Prior to her political career, Ms. Lopez was a journalist for nearly a decade, including stints with ABC's This Week with George Stephanopoulos, BBC, CNN, America's Most Wanted and Eurovision.

Ms. Lopez is also an adjunct professor in George Washington University's Strategic Public Relations Program, where she teaches the core writing curriculum. She is an SEIU 500 member and has served on the Montgomery County Board of Social Services and NARAL Pro-Choice Maryland.

She lives with her husband, Richard, and two very young sons in Germantown, Maryland.



LAURA WEELDREYER

Executive Director, Maryland Family Network

Laura Weeldreyer is the Executive Director of Maryland Family Network (MFN), the state's foremost advocacy organization for very young children and those who care for them. Ms. Weeldreyer is responsible for the oversight of all of MFN's programs including the Child Care Resource and Referral Network, the Network of Family Support Centers, LOCATE: Child Care, and advocacy efforts for policies and programs to strengthen and expand access to early care and education for families with very young children. In 2022, MFN was a leader in the coalition that passed Paid Family and Medical Leave for the state of Maryland, as well as a historic suite of legislation to support access to high quality child care. In her role with MFN, Ms. Weeldreyer co-chairs the Pritzker Children's Initiative's Prenatal to Three grant to establish, enhance and expand high-quality programs and services for all expectant families and those with young children across Maryland.

Previously Ms. Weeldreyer spent more than 20 years working locally and nationally on a variety of education reform projects with school systems, state departments of education, and non-profit organizations. She started her career as a pre-k teacher in New Orleans.



SPEAKER BIOS

ERIN BRADLEY

Vice President of Public Affairs, Planned Parenthood of Maryland

Erin Bradley serves as Vice President of Public Affairs at Planned Parenthood of Maryland. Erin has over 15 years of experience in the areas of strategic communication, public policy, lobbying and public affairs. Throughout her career, she has held multiple roles in local government and has worked in the public health space at both governmental and private sector organizations.

Erin was a 2017 Maryland Fellow of the New Leaders Council which develops, connects, and uplifts inclusive, cross-sector leaders who transform our country through social and political change rooted in equity. She is also a graduate of McKinsey Academy's Black Executive Leadership Program and holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Georgia, where she concentrated on state and local government and policy implementation.



JOANNE ANTOINE

Executive Director, Common Cause Maryland

Joanne Antoine joined Common Cause Maryland in January 2017, managing state outreach and engagement for key policy campaigns, specifically around money in politics and voting rights. She now serves as Executive Director where she is responsible for creating and implementing the Maryland organization's policy campaigns and building its capacity.

Prior to joining Common Cause Maryland, Joanne worked for the Democracy Initiative where she helped engage local, state, and national organizations in the coalitions and campaigns in Maryland. She has also worked as an organizer, trainer, and strategist for numerous campaigns in the US and Haiti.

Joanne completed her undergraduate studies at New Jersey City University and went on to receive a Master of Public Policy from Monmouth University.





Celebrating 28 Years of Advocacy: 1994-2022

2022-2023 Membership Form

MLAW's membership year is July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

I Want to Make a Difference!

I Want to be an MLAW Member

Type of Membership *(check only one):*

- ☐ **\$40 - Individual**
- ☐ **\$75 - Organization revenue under \$25,000**
- ☐ **\$125 - Organization revenue over \$25,000**

If you are joining as both an individual and an organization, please complete a separate form for EACH membership.

I Want to Do More by Making an Additional Donation

- ☐ **\$500** ☐ **\$250** ☐ **\$100** ☐ **\$50** Other _____

Payment:

- ☐ **A check for \$_____ , made payable to MLAW, is enclosed.**
- ☐ **I want to pay through PayPal. Go to the MLAW website at:
<http://www.mdlegagendaforwomen.org>**

Individual or Organization: _____

Please spell out organization name. No acronyms.

Contact Name *(for organizations only)* _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ **Email:** _____

IMPORTANT! *Please include an email address. Most of the business of MLAW will be conducted via email.*

Mail this completed form to:

MLAW

305 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201

Towson, MD 21204

The Maryland Legislative Agenda for Maryland Women (MLAW) is a 501(c)4 organization. Because we engage in legislative advocacy, contributions to MLAW are not tax-deductible.



City of College Park Councilmembers Kate Kennedy, Llatetra Brown Esters, (Mayor Pro Tem) Denise Mitchell, Maria Mackie, and Susan Whitney

**We are One College Park,
a welcoming and inclusive
home for all.**



**CITY OF
COLLEGE PARK**



collegeparkmd.gov



MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR WOMEN AND MOMSRIISING: STRONGER TOGETHER



Learn more and join
MomsRising here!



**Advocating for Equality &
Empowerment of Women and Girls of
Prince George's County**



Prince George's County
Commission for Women
Women on a Mission



Business and Professional Women
of Maryland

Join the **Business and Professional Women of Maryland**
on **Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 7 PM** via Zoom for
National Business Women's Week® Celebration.



We will honor **BPW/MD's
2022 Woman of Achievement
BETH ANNE LANGRELL**,
President & CEO of For All Seasons
Behavioral Health & Rape Crisis Center,
which provides trauma services to
children, adults and families across
Maryland's Eastern Shore.

Women of Achievement from various Maryland counties
will be honored at this event as well.

For more information and Zoom link,
contact Susan Horst at susanhorst@yahoo.com.

bpwmaryland.org

Maryland Chapter
National Organization
for Women

Proud Sponsor of MLAW

*Thanking Them For All They Do
To Advance Women's Rights*

In Our State



MARYLAND NETWORK AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



OUR MISSION

The Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence is the state domestic violence coalition that brings together victim service providers, allied professionals, and concerned individuals for the common purpose of reducing intimate partner and family violence and its harmful effects on our citizens.




The MNADV promotes awareness and prevention of domestic violence by

- Maintaining an informational website
- Disseminating e-newsletters
- Participating on social media platforms
- Disseminating brochures for the public
- Offering domestic violence programs access to a language-interpretation service for survivors who speak languages other than English
- Tracking the loss of life caused by domestic violence through a statewide fatality database
- Holding an Annual Memorial Service and Annual Meeting and Awards event



 **Email**
info@mnadv.org

 **Address**
1997 Annapolis Exchange Pkwy Suite #300
Annapolis, MD 21401

 **Phone**
301-429-3601



Working to end sexual assault in Maryland

TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

**301-328-7023
info@mcasa.org**

Our work:

- *Sexual Assault Legal Institute (SALI)
- *Public Policy
- *Community Outreach
- *Education & Training
- *Technical Assistance & Expert Advice

SALI LEGAL SERVICES:

**301-565-2277
Toll-free:
877-496-SALI**



**Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.
Prince George's County Chapter
proud sponsor for the
Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women's Conference 2022**

It is a distinct honor to extend greetings on behalf of the **Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. Prince George's County Chapter** serving youth and adults throughout the county for the past 10+ years.

Our national theme "Celebrating our Legacy: Transforming Lives and Making a Difference... One Teen, One Lady and One Community at a Time" speaks to who we are and our commitment to the community.

Lady Sharon J. Beard, National President
Lady Dawna Dilworth, Chapter President
Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc

**IN MARYLAND,
WE BAND
TOGETHER
TO KEEP
BANS OFF
OUR BODIES.**



Planned Parenthood of Maryland



Planned Parenthood of
Metropolitan Washington, DC



Medical Aid in Dying

A majority of Marylanders want this compassionate option. Those who are terminally ill can't wait.
Please support the Maryland End-of-Life Option Act

CompassionAndChoices.org/maryland

Compassion & Choices is the nation's oldest, largest and most active nonprofit organization committed to improving care and expanding options for the end of life.



Thank you MLAW for your continued advocacy and for always working to provide an independent voice for women in Maryland. Wishing you a successful and productive conference!

Delegate Heather Bagnall



charlotte
CRUTCHFIELD

DELEGATE, DISTRICT 19



Lynette A. Whitfield
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Since 2006

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www.whitfieldlegal.com



aauw-md.aauw.net

“Thank you, MLAW,
for standing with
and for Maryland women
to be leaders in the fight
for social justice
and equal rights!”

DEPUTY SPEAKER PRO TEM
BONNIE CULLISON



Authority: Friends of Bonnie Cullison, Pamela M. Pinkett, CPA, CGMA, Treasurer



Advocacy for Maryland's Women and Girls

- Maryland Women's Hall of Fame
- Maryland Young Women Leaders Awards
- Policy and Legislative Action
- Advocacy and Collaboration Taskforce
- *Maryland Women & the COVID-19 Crisis*
- *Maryland Women – A Status Report*
- *In their Own Words* the Voices of Maryland Women Listening Tour



Congratulations to
MLAW for 28 years of
powerful advocacy.

*Elizabeth Joyce &
Joan Stine*

Members of the Board of
Directors

“Reproductive health care is under attack nationwide as politicians across the country try to restrict access. Now that the U.S. Supreme Court has struck down *Roe v. Wade*, state-level protections are vital to safeguarding abortion rights. As a Delegate, I’m working hard to ensure that women can get the care they need without fear of repercussions.”

— *Silver Sponsor*
Delegate Nicole Williams



NICOLE A.
WILLIAMS
DELEGATE • DISTRICT 22

By Authority: Friends of Nicole A. Williams, Robert L. Williams, Treasurer.



Potomac Valley Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



The Potomac Valley Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated joins participants of the Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women's Fall Agenda Conference to advocate for legislation impacting women and families in Maryland.

www.dstpvac.org | @dstpvac



**Women's
Law Center**
of Maryland

50 YEARS OF
ADVANCING JUSTICE
IN MARYLAND

Congratulations to MLAW on a successful conference! Thank you for being a leading voice for women in Maryland.

Save the Date

ANNUAL CELEBRATION & AWARDS CEREMONY

May 3, 2023 · 6 pm · The Cove at Citron (Baltimore)

www.wlcmd.org/events

Thank you

MLAW

for your continued advocacy
for women and families.

WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC CLUB *of Montgomery County, Maryland*

Keeping members Better Informed,
Better Connected, and More Politically Effective.



North Arundel County Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated



North Arundel County Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated
P.O. Box 340
Odenton, Maryland 21113
Tel: [443-422-2928](tel:443-422-2928)
Email: info@nacacdst.org
www.nacacdst.org



BALTIMORE COUNTY *Commission for Women*

United voices building visibility &
support for women.



MARYLAND STATE DELEGATE

PAMELA E. QUEEN

SALUTES THE

MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR WOMEN

ON ITS

2022 FALL CONFERENCE

SHIFT TO THE STATES : WOMEN LEAD IN MARYLAND



VISIT WWW.PAMELAQUEEN.COM TO VOLUNTEER AND CONTRIBUTE

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@delegatepamqueen



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AUTHORIZED BY FRIENDS OF PAM QUEEN, CHARLENE MATTHEWS, TREASURER

CALVERT COUNTY
Maryland
Commission for Women

We are proud to
be a member of
MLAW!

For information, contact:
calvertwomen@gmail.com



**Congratulations on
Celebrating 28 Years of Advocacy
for Women's and Family Issues
and the
Fall Legislative Agenda Conference
November 12, 2022**

**Michael Cohen
President, MLAW Board of Directors**



Congratulations to MLAW
for another great conference!

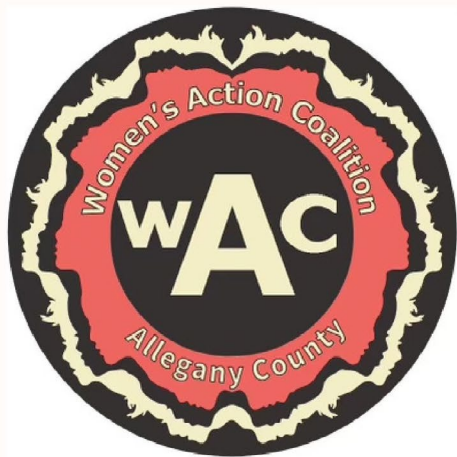
Montgomery County Commission for Women

Proud Sponsor of MLAW

Prince George's County Alumnae
Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta
Sorority, Inc.

www.pgcacdst.org





WOMEN'S ACTION COALITION, ALLEGANY COUNTY

Check us out on FB at WAC, Greater Allegany County

FOCUSED

on issues that impact women in today's world and making change that is long-lasting for future generations.

COMMITTED

to our mission-to create a society in which all women are free and able to live their lives in safe and healthy environments.



You can't vote for the best candidate if she's not on the ballot.



Be on the ballot in 2026. We can help.

EMERGE
MARYLAND

www.EmergeMaryland.org



FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION
FOR WOMEN
ESTABLISHED IN 1992

The Frederick County
Commission for Women
congratulates you on a
successful conference.



We look forward to working
as a partner to ensure an
even more successful
legislative session.

The mission of the FCCFW is "to create a
stronger community by addressing challenges
and fostering unlimited opportunities For All
Women".



Montgomery County Chapter
National Organization for Women

MCNOW is a proud sponsor of
MLAW's Fall Conference.

*Thank you, MLAW,
for your advocacy and
strong voice for Maryland
women and families.*

To subscribe to our Feminist Calendar,
contact info@mcmdnow.org

mcmdnow.org



@mcmdnow



Melissa Curtin
COACHING + CONSULTING

*Behind every great woman, I pray, will be
another great woman whispering,
"You've got this!" in her ear.
- Unknown*

#WomenLeadinMaryland

melissacurtincoaching.com



FOR ALL SEASONS

Behavioral Health & Rape Crisis Center

— help • hope • healing —



THERAPY. PSYCHIATRY. ADVOCACY. EDUCATION. OUTREACH.

For All Seasons provides the highest quality mental health and victim services to children and adults across the lifespan. Our services include individual, couples, and family therapy; child and adult psychiatry; and support for survivors of trauma and sexual assault. All insurances and medical assistance are accepted. For All Seasons is here to support individuals, families and communities on their journey to wellness

Our agency participates in critical legislative work that helps reduce barriers to care and makes quality mental health care accessible to all.

24-Hour Crisis Hotline:

Text: 410-829-6143 | English: 410-820-5600 | Spanish: 410-829-6143

410.822.1018

forallseasonsinc.org



ZONTA

CLUB OF
ANNAPOLIS

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL

EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY



Susan Horst



ZONTA is a leading global organization of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

ZONTA envisions a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential.

The *ZONTA Club of Annapolis* is a proud supporter of the *Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women*.

For more information visit
www.zontaclubannapolis.org.

Empowered women contribute greatly to society and is a key element to its growth. It is important to not forget that empowering women doesn't put them above men; it promotes gender equality, and women supporting other women is the key to its success.



Tahira Mussarat Hussain

Board Member

CHRISTOL
HAIR

christolhair.com

301-877-2212



**CONGRATULATIONS TO
PLANNED PARENTHOOD MARYLAND
FOR ITS WORK ON A STRONG, COLLABORATIVE
ADVOCACY AGENDA
AND
LEGISLATIVE VICTORIES.**

**LOOKING FORWARD TO
ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR!**

From Wendy Frosh



Fort Washington Alumnae Chapter
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

*Best Wishes on a Successful & Impactful
Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women
Fall Conference!*

*#PowerInOurVoice
#WomenLead*

*Opal Snelling Moore, President
Nichole Richmond Pinkney, First Vice President
Karen Woodard Westbrook, Second Vice President*

MARYLAND
Health
Care FOR **All**

Thank you MLAW

**for supporting quality,
affordable health care
for ALL Marylanders!**