



Kentucky Commission on Women

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October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The Kentucky Commission on Women is dedicated to elevating the status of women and girls in the Commonwealth, empowering them to overcome barriers to equity, and expanding opportunities to achieve their fullest potential. One of the primary barriers women and girls face is the impact and uncertainty associated with domestic violence. Nationally, statistics show that one of six women will be a victim of domestic violence in her lifetime. In the United States, a woman is physically assaulted every 15 seconds. On any given day in Kentucky, more than 1,100 victims are served by one of our 15 domestic violence programs.

These victims, many of whom are women and children, face barriers that include financial hardship, a lack of financial self-sufficiency, access to

secure forms of communication like computers, phones, and internet. Kentucky domestic violence programs in Kentucky work to provide safe shelter, educational programs aimed at empowering victims with financial literacy, mental support, access to job preparation, and other critical resources. We at Kentucky Commission on Women care deeply about

this mission and invite you all to support [Kentucky's domestic violence programs](#).



A Look at the Past Quarter

During the past quarter, the Kentucky Commission on Women was busy at work! In recognition of Women's Equality Day on August 26th, we sponsored an online voter registration rally to get more Kentucky women registered to vote. In addition to that effort, we shared history of the Women's Equality Day proclamation and the women's suffrage movement. We have also been researching pre-apprenticeship programs throughout the US and identifying partners to determine how we can implement pre-apprenticeship programming for Kentuckians.

On the educational programming front, Verizon Wireless invited our program, the [Lieutenant Governor's STEM Challenge for Girls](#), to apply for a grant which would allow us to expand our STEM program. We are excited to announce that we received the \$25,000 grant to use for the program! Check our [website](#) in the coming months for updates on the program status and for application information.

In addition to all of our great, ongoing programs, our board has made a commitment to bringing more programming to every corner of Kentucky to have a greater impact on the lives of Kentucky women.

Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is a form of modern day slavery that happens right under our noses every day. It is an evil that affects men, women, and children alike; it happens in America, and it happens right here in Kentucky. Individuals who are enslaved in human trafficking are often taken far from their homes to discourage attempts to run away and Kentucky's geographic location makes it an integral link in the human trafficking chain. "Our interstate highway system along with high profile sporting events like the Kentucky Derby have made the state part of the trafficking pipeline."*

There are several organizations throughout the state that are dedicated to eradicating human trafficking and caring for survivors.



We at the Kentucky Commission on Women have established a relationship with [Scarlet Hope](#), an organization which exists to share the hope and love of Jesus Christ with women in the adult entertainment industry. We hope that you will join us in the fight against human trafficking, if not with Scarlet Hope, with one of the many organizations working against this terrible reality.

To help raise awareness, Executive Director, Cordelia Harbut, will be speaking at the United Nations Human Rights Day *Human Trafficking & Intersectional Exploitations* conference in Louisville. Additionally, the Kentucky Commission on Women will be creating and promoting human trafficking awareness program to help ensure that individuals know the signs and what to do if they suspect trafficking.