



Women's Council
· Wisconsin ·

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WISCONSIN WOMEN'S COUNCIL LAUNCHES "A SEAT AT THE POLITICAL TABLE" — A NEW PROJECT TRACING THE HISTORY OF WOMEN IN LOCAL ELECTED OFFICE IN WISCONSIN

Public input sought to write women's firsts as local office holders back into Wisconsin women's political history.

(Madison, WI) In honor of Women's History Month, the Wisconsin Women's Council has launched *A Seat at the Political Table*, new project to create an historical timeline tracing women's political firsts as local elected officeholders in communities across Wisconsin.

Wisconsin is home to about 2,350 locally elected government bodies – from School Boards to County Boards, from City Mayors to County Clerks. Indeed, the vast number of women holding elected office are in local government. The women who first gained a seat at the political table, and brought their voice to the deliberations and decisions of these jurisdictions, are largely lost to our collective history.

“Our history is our strength,” National Women's History Project.

We need your help to write these local elected leaders back into our history.

Submit a story or a tip by email to:
womenscouncil@wisconsin.gov

The Council's *Timeline of Wisconsin's Women's Political History*, focusing on women in state elected offices (2008, updated in 2015) has raised awareness, generated discussion, and inspired programs and events. Nearly 1,000 hardcopies of the poster have been distributed to social, political and educational organizations. *A Seat at the Political Table* extends that history to include women's political firsts in local government – but these stories have proven much harder to identify. That's why we need your help.

For additional information on women in elected office in Wisconsin, free fact sheets and reports are available on the Women's Council website homepage at www.womenscouncil.wi.gov.

About the Women's Council. The Women's Council is Wisconsin's statutory commission on the status of women and girls. Established in 1983, the Council promotes initiatives that empower women, serves as a clearinghouse for information for and about women, and promotes unique partnerships to address issues affecting Wisconsin women. The Council is governed by a 15-member Council that is appointed by the Governor and legislative leaders. For more information about the Wisconsin Women's Council visit our web site at <http://womenscouncil.wi.gov>.

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