

Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women & Girls

Dawn Forbes DiStefano
Michelle Goncalves
Patricia Hallberg

Gabrielle Jackson
Tara Marshall

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Jennifer Metsch
Lizzy Ortiz
Shanique Spalding

2020 DEC -1 A 11: 53

TOWN OF LUDLOW

December 1, 2020

Dear Sir or Madam:

Let this serve as notice pursuant to Open Meeting Law, M.G.L.c. 30A sections 18-25 of a meeting of the Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women & Girls (HCCSWG).

On April 25, 2017, the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women inaugurated nine commissioners to a newly formed regional commission created to study and report the status of women and girls in Hampden County. The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women is "a state-established body charged with reviewing the status of women in Massachusetts and offering recommendations regarding policy that would improve access to opportunities and equality." The regional commissions have been created to target specific geographical regions to make sure that the needs of women across the state are met.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, December 10, 2020, from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM. In light of current public health recommendations for social distancing and state restrictions around public gatherings, and in observance of the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Required Provisions of the Open Meeting Law (M.G.L. c.30A, §20 dated March 12, 2020), this meeting will take place online at:

<https://zoom.us/j/6895726626?pwd=aDdCTEpPSlkwa2pxd29VZDRqZStkQT09>

Attendees are asked to contact hccswg@gmail.com in advance of the meeting to receive the meeting password.

This meeting is open to the public, and we encourage members of the community to attend. The first fifteen minutes of the meeting will be set aside for members of the public to present anything they wish the Commission to consider. Anyone who wishes to speak during this allotted time should email the HCCSWG Chairperson, Gabrielle Jackson, at HCCSWG@gmail.com with their intention so the HCCSWG may plan accordingly. Members of the public will only be recognized by the Commission to speak during the opening public presentation segment, and only if prior notice is provided.

Sincerely,

Tara Marshall
Secretary, HCCSWG

Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

Agenda

December 10, 2020

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Online via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/6895726626?pwd=aDdCTEpPSlkwa2pxd29VZDRqZStkQT09>

Please contact hccswg@gmail.com for the meeting password

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Public Speak Out (15 min.)
- III. Approval of minutes from November 12, 2020
- IV. Chair Report
- V. Vice-Chair Report
- VI. Discussion with our featured guest Lakisha Coppedge, Founder & Principal of Coppedge Consulting and Student Liaison/Advisor in the Early Childhood Education Department at Springfield Technical Community College.

HAMPDEN COUNTY COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS PRESENTS:

December Public Meeting

Thursday, December 10th
6:00PM

Featured Guest
Lakisha Coppedge

Founder & Principal of Coppedge Consulting
Student Liaison/Advisor in the Early Childhood Education Department at STCC

- VII. Old Business
 - a. Open Commissioner Seat updates

- b. Collaboration with Hampshire-Franklin
 - i. Trivia Night idea - Michelle G.
- c. Website
- d. Coffee Chat Fall Events Updates
 - i. 12/21 - Tara Marshall
 - ii. 1/19 - Michelle Goncalves
 - iii. 1/27 - Lizzy Ortiz
 - iv. Gabrielle, Jen and Linda-Jean (Hampshire-Franklin) TBD

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VIII. New Business

- a. Welcome of Recommended Commissioner, Jacqueline Velez
- b. January 14th Featured Guest- Ami Jackson, Criminal Defense Investigator the Youth Advocacy Division.
- c. Featured speaker for February meeting
- d. Planning for International Women's Day

IX. Adjournment



Lakisha M. Coppedge, M.S.
Founder & Principal of Coppedge Consulting
AND
Student Liaison/Advisor
Early Childhood Education Department at STCC

Lakisha is the humble Founder and Principal of Coppedge Consulting. She is a radically inclusive visionary leader, entrepreneur, early childhood educator, and practitioner. Across the region, Lakisha has been instrumental in establishing collaborations between early and higher education institutions to enhance classroom pedagogy and student success rates equitably. Lakisha brings her love, passion, and knowledge of Early Education to her new role as Student Liaison/Advisor in the Early Childhood Education Department at Springfield Technical Community College, her first alma mater.

She has worked with organizations such as the YWCA, Square One, CISA, Springfield City Library, SEIU Local 509, Mediation and Training Collaborative and Springfield College AmeriCorps. Her expertise and culturally humble approach lead organizations to examine and

evolve their structures, policies, and practices to expand community partnerships and promote the organization's mission around building bridges between advocates, staff, community leaders, and educators. Mrs. Coppedge is committed to closing the opportunity gap and improving the quality of education, equity, access, and lives for all learners. She has demonstrated her commitment to education, and community engagement by serving on Boards of Directors and Committees such as, Reading Success by 4th Grade Work Group and its Leadership Board, ROCA Managing Board, Dress for Success of Western Mass, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Committee, Commerce High School Advisory Committee, Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts, MotherWoman, and the Forest Park Zoo.