



Maine Permanent Commission on **THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

MePCSW Research and Reporting Committee (RRC)

Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2025

1:00-2:00 P.M.

MePCSW Committee Members in Attendance: Eisha Khan, Eva White, Khadija El Barkaoui

MePCSW Committee Members Absent: Anne Gass, Rebecca Austin

Staff and Guests: Elinor Higgins (MePCSW ED), Christine Rudalevige (MePCSW Data Fellow)

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Facilitator: Eisha Khan, RRC Chair

Welcome

Old Business and Public Comment

1. Any members of the public may introduce themselves and speak for 3 minutes
 - a. No members of the public present
2. Review, discuss, and approve October minutes
 - a. Motion to approve: Eva
 - b. Second: Khadija
 - c. Vote: Unanimous vote to approve.

New Business

1. Data dashboard update
 - a. Received feedback during the Maine Women's Lobby Gender Justice Summit and using that to refine data categories. Five main buckets:
 - i. Education and Opportunity
 - ii. Economic Security
 - iii. Safety from Violence and Abuse
 - iv. Health and Environment
 - v. Leadership, Civic Engagement, and Community Connection.
 - b. Christine data sources and creating a resource to help populate the dashboard with relevant information. Discussed possibility of starting with a smaller number of indicators in first year, need to narrow down.
 - c. Interest in talking about the approach to data in the next report.
2. Brainstorming the MePCSW approach to research and ongoing information gathering
 - a. Discussed the idea of creating an informal CRM using Microsoft Forms, with the goal of building towards a CRM in the future as budget allows.
 - b. Create a central repository for tracking outreach to lawmakers, community partners, and others, collecting stories and feedback
3. Discussed advisors for data dashboard and MePCSW reports

- a. Discussed strategies for engaging external partners and experts in their work while maintaining a nimble and focused advisory committee.
- b. Create topic-dependent advisory groups that meet on a limited basis to guide the commission's work, particularly on data dashboards and biennial reports.
- c. Opportunity to explore bringing in students with relevant expertise and along with lawmakers and community organizations.

Wrap-Up and Next Steps

1. Plan to meet in January and alternate bi-monthly meetings with full MePCSW meetings.