

AMPLIFY & ACT

NEWSLETTER • SPRING 2022



VisionForward News

Our Hearts Are Heavy

Words are not enough to express the pain, anger and sadness we felt as we witnessed another mass shooting, which was clearly a targeted hate crime against the Black community of Buffalo, N.Y. To echo John Fry, president of Drexel University: "as a community of scholars and civically minded citizens, we have the capacity and responsibility to come up with ways for building a culture at Drexel that resists and fights racism, white supremacy and hate in all its forms." VisionForward commits to maintaining that the intersection of race and gender must always be a priority in this work. The majority of our coalition members are not only at the forefront of social justice movements, but many are directly impacted by these horrific events on a deeply personal level. We stand in solidarity with the African American community as they navigate the trauma that continues to plague the community at the hands of white supremacy.

– The VisionForward Team



COMING SOON: He Cares Pledge will elevate men's role in advancing equity

Gender equity starts at home.

Within the next few weeks VisionForward will launch the He Cares Pledge, encouraging men to fight for gender equity by pledging to take family leave if and when their family needs them.

Too often, women are pressured to turn away from other goals to care for

family members in need, while men who make the same choice are frequently met with social stigma.

This obstructs progress toward equity, hurting us all. Men taking leave to care for family members strengthens families, relationships and progress toward gender equity.

To normalize caregiving regardless of gender, VisionForward will invite men from across the country to pledge that they will take – or have already taken – family leave to care for loved ones should the need arise. Stay tuned for ways you can help amplify the campaign!

Celebrating the Conclusion of Seat at the Table With a Conversation About Women in Government

March 31 marked the final day of Women’s History Month, as well as the conclusion of VisionForward’s award-winning Seat at the Table exhibition. The immersive and interactive installation, which animated the lobby of Philadelphia’s Kimmel Cultural Campus from February 2020 through March 2022 (and can still be experienced virtually [HERE](#)), linked the past and the present, celebrating 100 years of progress since women won the right to vote and inspiring the next generation of leadership.

To mark the occasion and to continue the unfinished work of gender equity, VisionForward supporters and advocates gathered at the Kimmel Cultural Campus for A Conversation About Women in Government. During the event, an inspiring panel of leaders and experts explored the contemporary reality of women in politics and outlined important next steps towards achieving equal representation in government. While the in-person exhibition has concluded, this event underscores that our work to secure women a “Seat at the Table” wherever decisions are made will continue.

Special thanks for this event go to our moderator, VisionForward Advocate Elizabeth Moro, as well as our panelists Representative Joanna McClinton, PA House democratic leader; Philadelphia City Councilmember-At-Large Kendra Brooks; and Debbie Walsh, director of the Center for American Women and Politics.



Moderator, panelists and VisionForward staff responsible for this engaging discussion.



ASL interpreter Joy Harris and Dianne Semingson welcome participants.

Lynn Yeakel Honored With the 2022 Woman One Award

The [Institute for Women's Health and Leadership](#), home of VisionForward, honored Lynn Yeakel with the 2022 Woman One Award on Monday, April 25 at The Rittenhouse in Philadelphia.

Several months before her death in January of this year, Lynn was unanimously chosen by the Woman One Selection Committee as the 2022 honoree for her longtime leadership and contributions to the Philadelphia region, as well as for her role, as director of the Institute and the Betty A. Cohen Chair in Women's Health, in founding the Woman One Award and Scholarship Fund program almost two decades ago.

The Woman One Award event celebrated Lynn's lifetime of leadership and legacy as an unrelenting voice for women's equality. Click [HERE](#) to view photos and the award ceremony video.

The [Woman One Award and Scholarship Fund](#) annually honors a person of exceptional leadership and raises tuition funds for talented underrepresented students at Drexel University. Thirty-six scholars have received tuition support of almost \$3 million since the program began in 2003. Many are currently practicing medicine in underserved communities.

Visit the [Woman One website](#) for details about the event or the [donation portal](#) to support the Woman One Scholarship Fund.



The Institute for Women's Health and Leadership honored Lynn Yeakel's leadership and legacy during the 2022 Woman One Award ceremony on April 25 in Philadelphia.



Coalition Coffee Break: Men as Caregivers

Thursday, June 16, 2022
12:30-1:30 p.m. ET

It's time to normalize caregiving among men.

Join fellow VisionForward coalition members for an informal Zoom discussion about men as caregivers, while also learning about the launch of the He Cares Pledge and how you can get your local network involved.

Note: This discussion is for VisionForward coalition members only (Advocates, Allied Organizations and Proud Partners). A Zoom link will be sent to registrants in advance of the discussion.

Coalition Members: Register [HERE](#)



We Cannot Go Back

VisionForward joins the millions of Americans who are outraged at the news of a leaked decision by the Supreme Court to overturn Roe v. Wade. We must not go back. Please read VisionForward Allied Organization [National Women's Law Center's](#) recent [blogpost](#) on what this means and how to take action.



CAWP Celebrates 50 Years

VisionForward Allied Organization [Center for American Women and Politics \(CAWP\)](#) is celebrating 50 years of service! CAWP is a unit of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers and is nationally recognized as the leading source of scholarly research and current data about women's political participation in the United States. Check out [CAWP's timeline](#), which highlights the work of the Center along with major milestones in women's political engagement. Cheers to 50 years, CAWP!



The Forum Releases Inaugural Level-Up Playbook and Pay Parity Report

VisionForward Allied Organization **The Forum of Executive Women**, the Greater Philadelphia region's premier organization for executive women, recently released its inaugural **Level-Up Playbook and Pay Parity Report** to help educate organizations on the proactive steps they can take to create an inclusive workplace for all. The Forum encourages leaders and organizations to use the playbook and report as a resource to spark critical conversations to close pay gaps, advance underrepresented groups, and commit to cultural norms that embrace diversity, equity and inclusion. View the playbook and report [HERE](#). To learn more about The Forum, visit www.foew.com.

VisionForward Wants to Promote Your Programs

We invite VisionForward coalition members — Advocates, Allied Organizations and Proud Partners — to share upcoming programs and events with us. We want to promote your work through audience-building via the VisionForward calendar and/or an upcoming newsletter.

Please use this form to submit your information.

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