



Planting Seeds of Hope

2nd Annual Tribute Garden Plant-a-Thon

Last year, the ECCSW honored lives affected by Domestic Violence Awareness by holding its first plant-a-thon at the Tribute Garden located at Isle View Park. Community members, local middle and high school students, and the Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners worked together with ECCSW in planting shrubs and bulbs at the Tribute Garden site. We are excited to continue promoting awareness through this service experience by holding the 2nd annual event at the Garden and prepare plant beds for the next season. **We are looking for more local middle and high school students to**

participate in this year's event on September 30, 2017 at Isle View Park on 796 Niagara Street in Tonawanda from 8:30—11:30 am.

We will be spending our time planting, sharing resources, and listening to speakers discuss domestic and interpersonal violence. If you or someone you know is interested in participating, please contact Dr. Karen King, Executive Director at ECCSW. We are looking forward to another successful event.



Upcoming Initiatives:

- **September 21, 2017:**
The Simple Truth about the Pay Gap, new data reveal press event.
Co-sponsored with AAUW
- **September 30, 2017:**
Tribute Garden: 2nd Annual Domestic Violence Plant-a-thon
- **October 7, 2017:**
Day of the Girl

First Amendment, First Vote

Engaging High School Students to Explore Their Rights

The ECCSW is celebrating its partnership with the First Amendment, First Vote initiative. The program aims to prepare young girls in 9th-12th grade for their first election cycle as well as to educate them on the electoral and legislative processes. First Amendment, First Vote encourages young women to develop the tools, knowledge, opportunity, and confidence to fully participate in the political process as community leaders, elected officials, and agents of change in their communities. First Amendment, First Vote is a coalition of organizations including the Women's March in Seneca Falls, the NYS Women's Suffrage Commission, the Friends of Women's Rights National Park, WomenElect Buffalo, Latina Unidas, and many others.



The mission of First Amendment, First Vote is to help high school girls become familiar with the First and Nineteenth Amendments to the Constitution; educate girls on the Equal Rights Amendment proposal; to show girls the historical significance of our state in the women's rights movements, particularly Seneca Falls, NY; to educate girls on how and when and where to register to vote in NYS; to articulate a vision of gender equality at every level of government and to help girls imagine themselves as potential candidates.

The ECCSW is currently looking for high school-aged girls to participate in a pilot seminar developed by the First Amendment First Vote project.

Questions or comments? E-mail us at csw@erie.gov or call at (716) 858-8307

OCTOBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Day of the Girl Celebration

The ECCSW is excited to once again participate in the annual Day Of the Girl Buffalo Summit 2017! The event will be a celebration of young girls in Erie County as well as a space to discuss the challenges facing girls in our area. Last year, Executive Director Karen King conducted a workshop on healthy decision making. This year, we will be hosting an information table for our initiatives, First Amendment, First Vote and our Middle Skills Initiative.

The Summit will include workshops and advice for navigating the world as a young girl as well as speakers from various fields.

When: October 7, 2017 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Where: Buffalo Museum of Science

1020 Humboldt Pkwy, Buffalo NY 14211

The Truth about the Gender Pay Gap

American Association of University Women in partnership with the ECCSW will host a press event on **September 21, 2017**. The event will unveil new information about the progress towards closing the pay gap between men and women.

Women in Erie County, New York make an average of \$10,000 less than men, as of April 2017. This has profound effects on women throughout their lives, including less financial independence, fewer social security benefits in retirement, and an increased likelihood of living below the poverty line.

For more information about how women in Erie County are affected by the pay gap, please visit our website at www.erie.gov/csw

The Commission Welcomes New Interns

Shannon Linehan is joining the ECCSW team as an intern through the UB School of Social Work. Shannon graduated from SUNY Oswego with a BA in Human Development and Public Justice. She served in the US Peace Corps in Zambia, where she worked on community education programming and spearheaded a girls empowerment project. She also worked at Journey's End Refugee Services assisting refugee women in becoming in-home daycare owners and providers.

Hilary Vandebark is joining the ECCSW team as an Intern from the University at Buffalo. Hilary recently earned her Master's degree in Global Gender Studies and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Global Gender and Sexuality Studies. Her research interests include violence against women, sexual and gender-based violence, and how victims/survivors are treated in the judicial system. Hilary has previously worked in women's organizations combatting domestic violence and encouraging women to hone their financial literacy skills.

Tashawna Beaman is joining the ECCSW team as an intern from the University at Buffalo. Tashawna is an undergraduate majoring in biology with a minor in African- American Studies. She will be attending graduate school for Epidemiology and Public Health.

Tashawna conducted Kinetic Isotopic research with the Vetticcatt lab at SUNY Binghamton. This opportunity was provided by the University's Bridges to the Baccalaureate Program. Recently, she presented her findings at UB's annual McNair Scholars Conference in Niagara Falls, NY.

Questions or comments? E-mail us at csw@erie.gov or call at (716) 858-8307