

Fresno County Commission on the Status of Women

Mission Statement:

The Fresno County Commission on the Status of Women will act in an advisory capacity to bridge efforts between individuals, organizations and the County in order to advance justice, equity and the wellbeing of women and families across Fresno County.

2018 Goals:

1. Obtain membership into the Association of California Commission for Women (AACW) and the National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW).
2. Present to the Fresno County Commission on the Status of Women at the March 2018 Board of Supervisors meeting.
3. Raise community awareness about the Fresno County Commission on the Status of Women.
4. Fill open vacancies in District 1, 2 and 3 and student positions.
5. Plan for our first women's convening to be held in March 2019.

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Member Biographies

Pamela Fobbs, J.D.



Pamela Fobbs is Chairperson for State Center Community College District, a Board of Trustees' appointee. Sworn in to the Personnel Commission on January 29, 2013, has been a Board Member for the SCCC Foundation Board since 2009. She is a former deputy district attorney for Fresno County and has served as a board member for many local organizations, including Valley Public Television, Community Hospitals of Central California, The Fresno Philharmonic, and Make-A-Wish Foundation. Her passion is in healthcare and quality-of-life issues for women and children. For 28 years, she has been getting the word out about heart disease, obesity, and breast cancer in the local and national community. She has been invited to serve on many health-related government panels. Ms. Freeman-Fobbs has a JD from Thurgood Marshall School of Law and interned for Rep. Barbara Jordan (D-Texas).

Simran Kaur, MPH



Simran Kaur currently leads the Childhood Obesity and Diabetes prevention program for Valley Children's Healthcare. Previously, Simran was the Western Region Director for the Sikh Coalition, the nation's largest Sikh civil rights organization, where she managed California programmatic work. In 2012, she led efforts to pass the California Workplace Religious Freedom Act, now the nation's strongest protection against religious discrimination in the workplace. Simran travels regularly for global health projects and has worked to improve access to health for immigrant and refugee communities. In the past, Simran has served on the Board of Directors for The Women's Building, a women-led community space that advocates self-determination, gender equality and social justice and has served as the Affirmative Action Officer on the Board of Directors for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Northern California. She is an active member of the Sikh American community in California and her work was published in "Her Name is Kaur" an anthology of stories about Sikh American women. She currently serves on the Editorial Board of the Sikh Love Stories Project.

Simran received her undergraduate degree from University of California San Diego and her graduate degree from Boston University School of Public Health. She lives in Clovis with her husband, Deepak Ahluwaila – an immigration attorney in Fresno and their German shepherd, Ollie.

Gail Gaston



Gail A. Gaston has been a resident of Fresno, California since 1988. When her family moved here Gail established herself as a business woman. She owns and still runs her own pet business in Fresno. She is also a private duty nurse. Early in her residency in Fresno she became involved in issues that affected her and her community. Gail and her family are active in education in Fresno Unified School District. Gail has worked to elect school board members that put students first. Recently Fresno Unified named their newest middle school in honor of Rutherford B. Gaston. She sought out and worked alongside community leaders for change.

Through this work she was elected to several positions in the City of Fresno. These positions include (past and present):

- Chair of the Human Relations Commission for the City of Fresno
- Member of the Fresno Police Chief's Advisory Board
- Volunteer and fundraiser for Southwest Fresno Police Precinct for Santa's Village
- Co-Chair of the Martin Luther King Unity Committee for the City of Fresno
- 3rd term incumbent to Fresno County Democratic Central Committee representing district 2 for the state of California
- President of the Fresno County Democratic Women's Club
- Founding Member and Committee member of Democratic Women in Action
- Member of The Human Rights Coalitions with Dr. Su Kapoor
- Appointed by Governor Brown to CAHRO, CA Association of Human Rights Organizations
- Board Member of Miss Winkles Pet Adoption Center, Clovis

Gail continues to seek out opportunities to serve the Fresno community. She is committed to empowering people to live up to their potential and be a positive influence in their communities. She practices what she preaches by continually giving back and serving her community.

Gail has been married to Everett Gaston for 43 years and has three children and six grandchildren.

Kathy Omachi

Bio to be updated.