



**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**



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**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MASS. COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN  
To Release a Report on the impact of COVID-19  
on Women of Color in the Commonwealth**

**BOSTON** - The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women will host a virtual public hearing to gather information regarding the impact of COVID-19 on Women of Color and their families: "Women of Color: Lets Walk in Our Power by Raising Our Voices for Action". The hearing will be hosted via Zoom on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Registrations are being captured via [Eventbrite](#).

[Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley](#) will offer opening remarks. [Dr. Charmain Jackman](#) will serve as the official respondent.

The MCSW will collect information through written/oral testimony and an online survey. The findings and recommendations regarding policies that would affect positive change in collaboration with Women of Color and their families will be shared publicly in the form of a report slated for release in March.

Chairwoman Denella Clark remarks, "After nearly a year living in the shadow of the pandemic, what we are seeing is that Women of Color have been disproportionately and significantly impacted. Of particular concern is that Women of Color have access to fewer resources as the Commonwealth moves toward recovery. The Legislature will need to center marginalized communities and Women of Color as they continue to develop policy and lead in the direction of a stronger and more resilient future."

The event is hosted in partnership with the Boston Women's Fund. The MCSW and the BWF gratefully recognizes the sponsorship of Stop and Shop which enables the hosts to provide gift cards to early registrants as an expression of gratitude to hearing participants.

The MCSW formed a COVID-19 Action Committee immediately after Governor Baker declared a state of emergency on March 10, 2020, due to the pandemic. The Committee has since conducted two statewide hearings and surveys, received testimony from women across the Commonwealth and has released two comprehensive reports.

For more information, please contact us at [mcsw@state.ma.us](mailto:mcsw@state.ma.us), or visit [www.mass.gov/women](http://www.mass.gov/women).

*The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women is an independent state agency that was legislatively created in 1998 to advance women of the Commonwealth to full equality in all areas of life and to promote their rights and opportunities. The MCSW provides a permanent, effective voice for the women of Massachusetts.*