

RI-GAP, a project of Women's Fund of Rhode Island, is a non-partisan effort aimed at increasing the number of women appointed by the Governor to cabinet level positions, boards, and commissions in the public sector. Increasing the number of women on boards and commissions ensures that women's voices are included when critical decisions about the future of our state are made.

### Board and commission appointments made by Governor Chafee

**43%**  
women

269 women  
353 men  
Jan 1, 2011-  
March 31, 2012

**38%**  
women

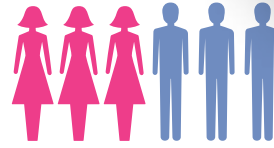
172 women  
277 men  
April 1, 2012-  
July 31, 2013

**41%**  
women

441 women  
630 men  
total appointments

### Departments with a female director

Child Advocate, Children, Youth, and Families, Education, Elderly Affairs, Environmental Management, Health Insurance Commissioner, Human Services.



3 of the top 6 senior staff members in the Governor's administration are female

Governor Chafee signed an Executive Order on Diversity that aims to create a more diverse workforce and increase state contracts with minority owned business enterprises.

## A closer look at 166 boards

**34%**  
women

2,004 men and women serve on these boards and commissions; 677 are women.

**38**  
BOARDS  
ARE ALL MALE

38 all male boards include: Atomic Energy Commission, Enterprise Zone Council, Fire Education and Training Coordination Board, Health Education and Building Corporation, Industrial Facilities Corporation, Labor & Training Board of Review, Personnel Appeal Board, Police Officers Commission on Standards and Training, and RI Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation.

RIGAP STEERING COMMITTEE  
Susan Farmer, Co-Chair  
Sue Stenhouse, Co-Chair  
Myrth York, Co-Chair  
Kerrie Bennett  
Susan Colantuono  
Maria DeCarvalho  
Maureen Moakley  
Adelita Orefice  
Lisa Pelosi  
Lila Sapinsley  
Deborah Smith  
Anne Szostak  
Linda Ward  
Jennifer Wood

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## Recommendations:

1. Prioritize tracking data required by law on the diversity of appointments to boards and commissions and as required by the executive order on diversity.
2. Specifically target boards without women for appointments.
3. Continue to appoint women to boards and commissions.

We envision a community, nation and world that is free of gender bias and where social justice exists for all. The social change will be evidenced by community engagement, the removal of barriers to resources, and the existence of equitable social and institutional systems.

We will know we are successful when women's representation is visible in corporate leaderships and boards, high level cabinet positions, boards and commissions within government and across all sectors.

**WOMEN'S fund**

R H O D E I S L A N D

One Union Station Providence, RI 02903

Vision 2020 is a national coalition of organizations and individuals united in the commitment to achieve women's economic and social equality. It is funded and administered by the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership at Drexel University College of Medicine.

**VISION2020**  
EQUALITY IN SIGHT®