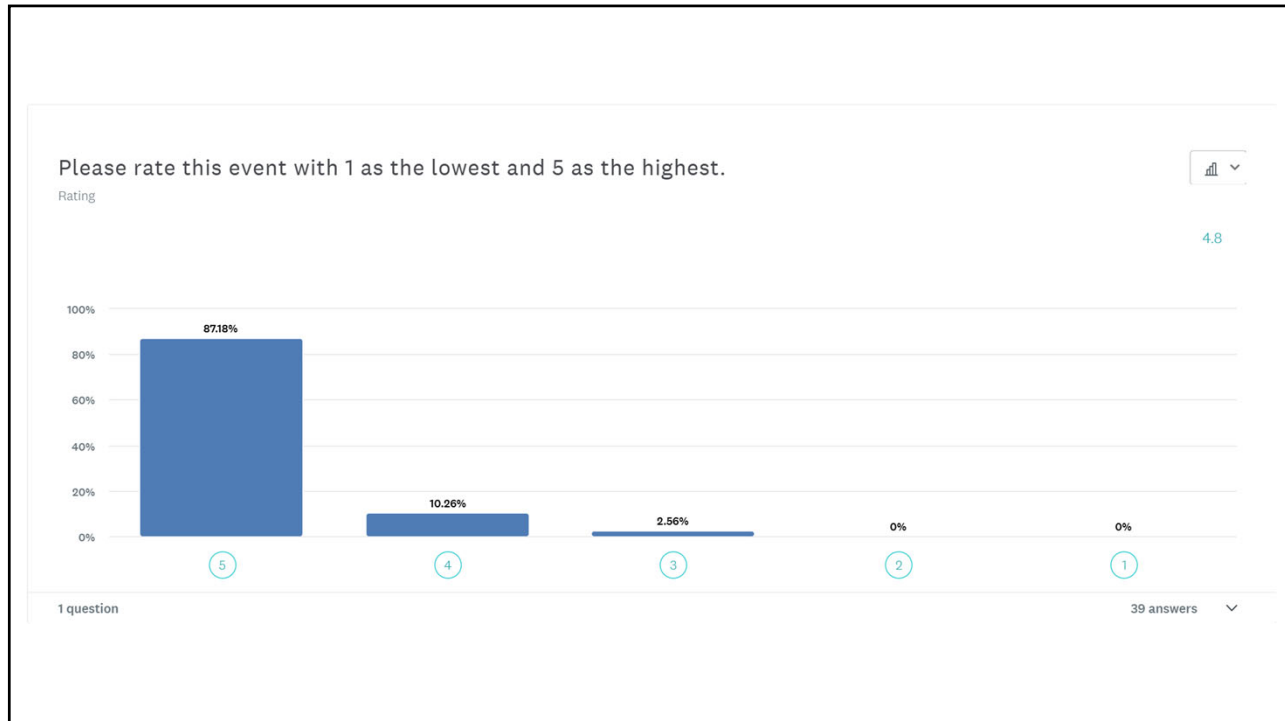
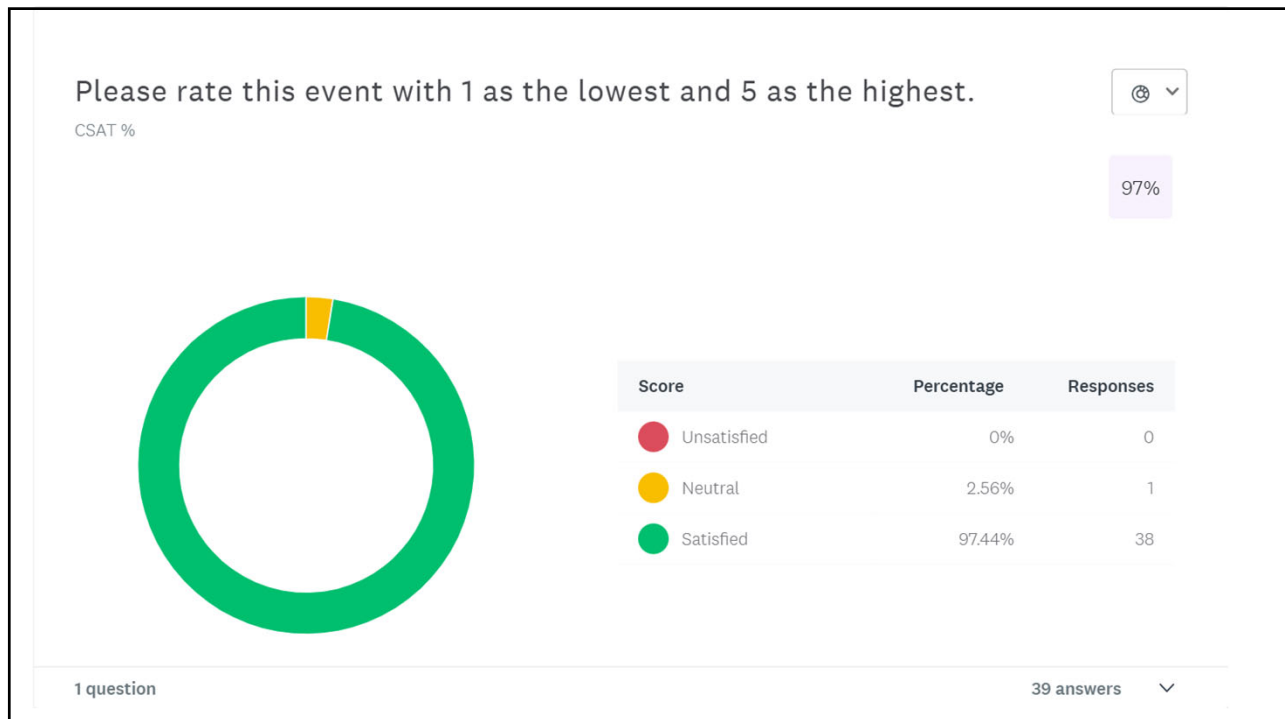


Agenda # 6: Women's Equality Day Event Survey



1

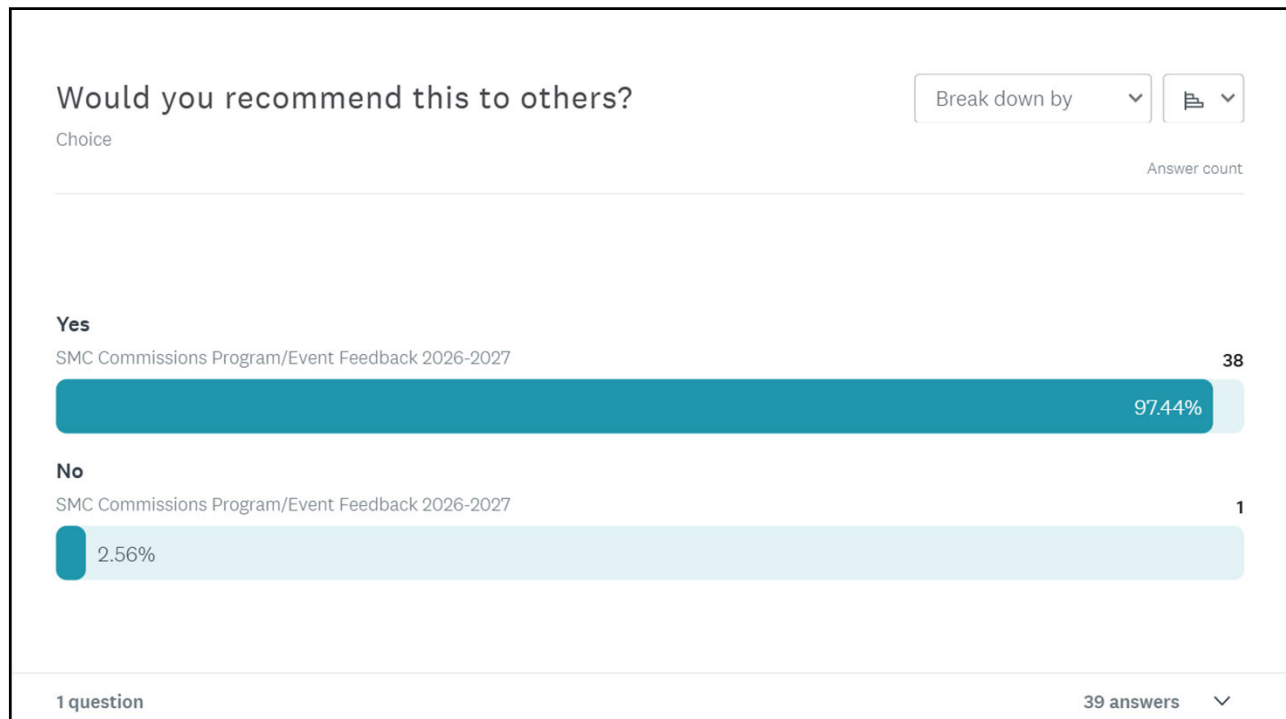


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Agenda # 6: Women's Equality Day Event Survey



3



4

SMC Commissions Program/Event Feedback 2026-2027

Please share any other feedback.

Answered 28
Skipped 11

Response Date	Responses
Sep 09 2026 1	Excellent chance to hear positive and concrete actions that has helped the lives of so many women and children in a material way.
Sep 09 2026 1	The Commission does amazing work. The Women's Equality event was one of the best ever. Thanks for all your important work!
Sep 09 2026 1	Loved it - location, food, panelists, tables, honoree prints, communications, etc.
Aug 31 2026 0	forward to more of this!
Aug 31 2026 0	It was a great event. Every detail was taken care of. The panel discussion was very interesting; the topics were important, and the timing was great. The food and social time were a plus!
Aug 30 2026 0	community. that exist within the less advantaged population and spoke to the solutions or improvements they have achieved. It was an inspiring
Aug 29 2026 0	hour.
Aug 28 2026 0	Excellent and inspirational evening!
Aug 28 2026 0	The panelists were very inspiring!
Aug 28 2026 0	you feel like your vote doesn't matter or you're feeling discouraged. I vote because I think of all the people who came before me who literally put their bodies and lives on the line so that they and future generations could have a say in their government. Because of them we don't get to make up reasons to stay home.
Aug 28 2026 0	I was pleased to learn more of community-based issues and processes to address local community concerns.
Aug 26 2026 1	*The sincere, warm welcome was a plus*
Aug 26 2026 1	It was really incredible and my hope is that we can promote it better to increase attendance. It was really powerful.
Aug 26 2026 1	Great panel discussion, and congrats on the video. The art bags were also a nice touch (and to get it signed by the artist! Wow!)
Aug 26 2026 1	Great panelists and moderators. After an event like this and seeing the results these leaders have created as women and people who "get stuff done," I feel inspired. I wish we could bottle this and give it to women who need encouragement or support.
Aug 26 2026 1	Panel discussion was great, Lovely venue, Good food, Signed gift big, Community Video was A+, Successful event from the CSW
Aug 26 2026 1	At the end, a question was raised about how the panelists renew their spirits when they feel overwhelmed. For me, attending a panel like this helps renew my spirit and reminds me why we're doing the work we do. Thank you!
Aug 26 2026 1	Great panel on key topic. Nice gathering.
Aug 26 2026 0	I appreciated the networking and opportunity to meet people across different sectors. I appreciated the warm relationships that have been developed. Nice to see elected officials present!
Aug 26 2026 0	Great location, loved the appetizers, the whole program/speakers was/were stellar and inspiring! Thanks for a wonderful event.
Aug 26 2026 0	Loved the "Did you Know" posters on the back of each seat
Aug 26 2026 0	I had a great time and feel very motivated to learn more and get involved. The conversation with the other participants, and the stories from the panelists were relevant and deeply moving. Thank you to for the food!
Aug 26 2026 0	Wish more people were there. It was a great event! Thank you for the work you do!
Aug 26 2026 0	Very well done!
Aug 26 2026 0	Very inspiring!
Aug 26 2026 0	Inspiring speakers. Well organized event. Informative.
Aug 26 2026 0	Great panel discussion and length of program!
Aug 26 2026 0	difference in our community. It was amazing to meet so many women leaders who are making such a positive impact in our community.
Aug 26 2026 0	Great panel, great discussion topics, and well timed with Women's Equality Day

Agenda # 6: Women's Equality Day Event Survey

President's Report

"When unique voices are united in a common cause, they make history."

Gloria Steinem

While broad public discussions often lean toward economic and social challenges, our Commission has remained united in its proactive stance on supporting women, girls and families across San Mateo County. August was a banner month for our group as we both celebrated measurable change and reaffirmed our dedication to pushing forward on our initiatives!

Every commissioner has had a role in fostering meaningful advancement. It is exciting to see the Commission serve alongside local groups, government officials and stakeholders as we come together to accomplish beneficial change in our county. We have successfully followed the roadmap set out in Fund the Future and are on target to move forward to the next chapter of our work which we will develop during strategic planning in January.

1. Board of Supervisors Meeting; Women's Equality Day Proclamation

Thank you to all who attended in person and online! The Commission recognized the successes achieved by the Board of Supervisors and County, many of which were sparked by the Commission's advocacy and recommendations:

- Town halls to discuss childcare needs
- Allocation of Measure K Funds towards the Baby Bonus Program
- Investment of \$10 million in a one-stop navigation portal for childcare and the Tri-Share Partnership.
- Ongoing work of the County to reduce the Pay Equity Gap for women

2. Women's Equality Day Event

WED has become the Commission's signature event and this year's program provided much food for thought. From Roberta Gonzalez Gregg's poem, to the panel discussion moderated by KQED's Erin Baldassari, to Supervisor Gautier's remarks, to the Vote Video, to the bags with Shari Bryant's award winning art, the Commission succeeded in delivering loud and clear the message that equal representation requires ongoing civic responsibility. The League of Women Voters were a wonderful addition, just in case anyone had questions about voting! The entire Commission worked together to ensure the success of this event and special thanks go to the WED Committee for many months of advance planning (Trish, Julissa, Dayna, Larisa, Meghan and La Saundra). Nirmala played a key role through her efforts to collaborate with the City of Burlingame and secure our stunning event venue.

3. Strategic Accomplishments

Sometimes the initial, small steps do not register as impactful until we stand back and see progress! Here we go...

- **Listen & Learn Session District 4:** This month, we will have achieved our goal of meeting with every district in the County! Ana and Michelle will lead the upcoming Listen & Learn, ensuring we gather direct, actionable feedback from the community. Each Listen & Learn has been a new experience and featured the talents of different commissioners as leaders/facilitators/note takers. We have captured many stories since Julissa's leadership of our kick-off event in Half Moon Bay to our most recent gathering led by Trish in San Mateo.
- **Pay Equity & Economic Empowerment:** Amy and Irma have improved our website with a Pay Equity Resource Center. Employees and employers now have an important resource together with information regarding the history of pay equity in California.
- **Financial Literacy Book Club:** Aileen executed on her brilliant idea to partner with local libraries and we successfully launched our first book club this month, focusing on financial wellness.
- **Community Partnerships:** Meghan has expanded our network, creating a key partnership with Peninsula Family Service. Dayna continues to strengthen our deep ties within the childcare community. Ana has introduced us to El Concilio. Susan K. and La Saundra have helped us support the Commission on Disabilities.
- **Public Outreach Milestone:** Susan K. and Aileen have spearheaded the first Commission newsletter!
- **Planning for Retirement:** The informative sessions with CalSavers were well attended and organized by Nirmala and Irma.
- **Youth Leadership:** Siyona continues to shine as our Youth Commissioner, supporting mental health initiatives, creating an Instagram presence through "Pass the Purse" and delivering an eloquent, powerful vignette in our Vote Video.
- **Policy Development:** Aysha provides her policy expertise and insights in connection with our work and serves as an excellent Listen & Learns facilitator. All the while, managing her campaign for public office.
- **Survey Leadership:** Susan T. is providing the steady, essential work necessary to launch our community survey, setting the stage and supporting the vision for the next phase of our work!
- **Branding & Communication:** Larisa has completely transformed our public image by generously sharing her expertise to create polished and professional messaging in all areas. We now have an eye-catching, uniform and memorable presence throughout our communications, supplemented by taglines developed by Trish.
- **Leadership:** Rosie and the Communications Subcommittee have done a superb job making sure that we are seen and heard often. Dayna nimbly wears many

Agenda #7: President's Report

leadership hats, including effectively driving home the Fund the Future goals. Finally, La Saundra, our VP extraordinaire, continues to serve the Commission as a vibrant, magnetic representative in every single space she steps into. I am fortunate to have such a thoughtful and bright partner, always ready to contribute her valuable perspective and shape the vision for the future.

Although the leads for these milestones have been listed, none of these initiatives would have been possible without the support of many commissioners pulling together and supporting each other at just the right time!

Thank you to our Director!

A heartfelt thank you to Tanya! She is a consistent force behind our accomplishments. With her steady advice, tactical coaching, and guidance, she keeps us aligned, organized, and inspired. She ensures we do not just meet our objectives but fulfill our mission of serving as a trusted advisory board to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors.

Our Shared Vision and Impact

The depth of our impact is a direct result of our collective strength. When extraordinary people commit their personal efforts, unique talents, and diverse perspectives to a shared, important goal, there is absolutely nothing we cannot achieve. Thank you for your passion, your dedication, and your brilliant light.

We are truly on fire!

Agenda #8: County Update

To: San Mateo County Commission on the Status of Women
From: Tanya Beat, Commission Manager
Date: September 22, 2026
Subject: Status Update

Endorsements

If you would like to endorse a candidate, *you may use your commission title for identification purposes* but you are **not able** to speak on behalf of the Commission or with the Commission's authority. Instead you can indicate that *you are speaking only for yourself* or using your title only for identification purposes.

Examples may help you:

"I'm a San Mateo City Council member but I am speaking only for myself." Or "my title as _____ is for identification purposes only and I am speaking only for myself / as a resident of San Mateo County." If your title is included on a candidate's endorsement page, the page must indicate that your title is for identification purposes only, to avoid any perception that you are speaking on behalf of the commission.

You are simply asked to be clear that you aren't endorsing on behalf of the commission which can easily be misconstrued if your "headshot, name, commission title and Commission on the Status of Women" is listed on a website or social media. "For identification purposes only" must be added.

OYE Conference

- March 2027
-

Commission on the Status of Women Retreat

- January 9th, Saturday from 8:00am – 2:00pm
- In-person Only
- Location TBD

FUND THE FUTURE – SEPTEMBER 2026 UPDATE

Overview

The Fund the Future Committee continues to advance four priorities: child care, pay equity, financial wellness, and retirement security, with a focus on practical implementation, partnerships, community engagement, and useful resources.

Focus Areas

Child Care – It Takes a Village

Why it matters: Access to affordable, high-quality child care is essential to family stability, workforce participation, and gender equity.

What we are doing: The Commission continues to support implementation of the San Mateo County Child Care Blueprint through The Children’s Collective.

September update:

- The Children’s Collective held its Fall Kickoff on August 24, bringing partners together around implementation with parents and families at the center. A new website is expected to launch in September as a hub for Blueprint updates and engagement.
- Implementation updates included the County’s \$10 million child care initiative, family navigation and a Tri-Share pilot, a completed workforce compensation study, facilities and financing work, and recommendations to better use available subsidy funding.
- Stanford will serve as an evaluation and learning partner, including local RAPID Survey work, while Innovate Public Schools will support parent organizing and a countywide parent leadership team. The Action Roundtable also held its first meeting, emphasizing shared purpose, trust, meaningful participation, and broader representation.

Pay Equity – Mind the Gap

What we are doing: The Commission is broadening its focus from the California Equal Pay Pledge to practical pay equity information for employees and employers.

September update: Pay Equity content is now live on the Commission website, with separate employee and employer resources. Graphic design updates are still in progress. Larisa will be creating an infographic for the Pay Equity History section. Amy and Irma will be working on making the site more “user friendly”.

Employee resources cover workplace rights, possible pay inequity, negotiation, and career and financial supports; employer resources cover legal responsibilities, equitable compensation practices, tools and best practices, and the California Equal Pay Pledge. Amy, Irma, Larisa, and Tanya continue to move this work forward.

Financial Wellness – Know Your Numbers

Why it matters: Financial literacy supports informed decision-making, financial stability, and long-term planning.

Agenda #10

What we are doing: The Commission continues to expand practical, accessible financial wellness programming and resources.

September update: Financial Wellness Book Club

The Financial Wellness Book Club launched with Atherton Library as part of the Commission's Financial Literacy Campaign, beginning with a summer reading period and culminating in its first in-person discussion on September 10. Nine women gathered to discuss *Make Money Move* by Lauren Simmons. CSW President Ann Girard welcomed the group, and Library Manager Ginny Mies facilitated a candid, intergenerational conversation about financial wellness, early money lessons, what participants wish they had known sooner, and one thing they might do differently with their money. The intimate, low-pressure format encouraged participants to learn from one another's experiences and perspectives. Atherton Library has expressed interest in continuing the partnership and selecting a second book, creating an opportunity for the club to grow into an ongoing community conversation around financial confidence and connection.

Retirement Security – Show Me the Money

Why it matters: Access to retirement savings tools is critical to long-term financial stability, particularly for workers without employer-sponsored retirement plans.

What we are doing: Retirement security remains integrated into broader financial wellness efforts, building on last year's CalSavers enrollment push.

Additional Updates

Women's Equality Day: From Voice to Vote – Affordability at the Ballot Box was held August 25 at the Burlingame Community Center, connecting civic participation with affordability and economic security. Erin Baldassari of KQED moderated a panel featuring Karen Pace, Executive Director of Ravenswood Early Learning; Kalimah Salahuddin, DEI Community Programs Manager at Exelixis and former Jefferson Union High School District Trustee; and Laura Bent, Chief Executive Officer of Samaritan House. Panelists discussed child care, housing, economic security, public investment, and community well-being. The Commission resource table highlighted the Book Club, Making Ends Meet survey, voter-awareness materials, and other resources alongside the League of Women Voters.

Commission Newsletter

The Commission newsletter remains in development pending on agreement on standard processes and clarifying purpose. The newsletter is intended to connect work across committees and share events, resources, committee updates, and opportunities to participate.

Agenda #10

CSW Financial Wellness Book Club Launch

Program: Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) Financial Literacy Campaign

Partner: Atherton Library

Reading Period: Summer 2026

First In-Person Discussion: September 10, 2026

As part of the Commission on the Status of Women's Financial Literacy Campaign, the Commission launched its Financial Wellness Book Club in partnership with Atherton Library, with nine women attending the inaugural meeting. CSW President Ann Girard warmly welcomed the group. Library manager Ginny Mies facilitated the discussion.

The Commission on the Status of Women, an advisory body to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, works to improve the quality of life for women of all ages through partnerships, community education, and advocacy. The Financial Wellness Book Club extends that mission by creating a welcoming, low-pressure space where women can talk openly about money, build confidence, and learn from one another.

The group's first selection was *Make Money Move* by Lauren Simmons, the youngest full-time female trader in New York Stock Exchange history. The book combines introductory personal finance guidance with questions of mindset, identity, and financial decision-making. While the book is particularly accessible to younger women, the discussion demonstrated its value across generations, prompting participants to reflect on what they might have done differently with money at earlier stages of their lives.

The book club's first cycle began over the summer, giving participants time to read at their own pace before coming together for a facilitated discussion. The inaugural in-person session was held on September 10, bringing together readers to reflect on the book and connect with one another.

Discussion centered on four questions:

- What does "financial wellness" mean to you?
- What did you learn about money growing up, and how has that shaped the way you handle money today?
- What do you wish someone had told you about money 10 or 20 years earlier?
- After reading this book, what is one thing you want to do differently with your money?

The session was intimate and well-received. Participants shared personal financial journeys openly, and the group reported learning meaningfully from one another's experiences and perspectives. Atherton Library was enthusiastic about the first meeting and has already expressed interest in continuing the partnership and selecting a second book. The Commission hopes the book club will grow into an ongoing community conversation that helps women feel more informed, connected, confident, and supported in making financial decisions.