



Business and  
Professional  
Women/MD

## BPW/MD 2018-2019 FACT SHEET

*Women Helping Women Succeed!*

**Business & Professional Women of Maryland (BPW/MD)** promotes equity for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education, and information. Established in 1929 as a not-for profit, non-partisan and non-sectarian volunteer organization, BPW/MD provides its members with the opportunity to develop personally and professionally through programs and workshops, enhance business relationships through networking, and support legislation that ensures equality, equity, and economic change for women. All who support our mission are invited to join.

### 2018-2019 Officers

<b>La'Kenya Walter</b>	<i>Southern Prince George's BPW</i>	Co-President
<b>Linda Fihelly</b>	<i>Southern Prince George's BPW</i>	Co-President
<b>Susan Horst</b>	<i>Montgomery County BPW</i>	1st Vice President
<b>Marlene Spielman</b>	<i>Hagerstown BPW</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
<b>Nancy Werner</b>	<i>Hagerstown BPW</i>	Secretary
<b>Sharon Jacob</b>	<i>Southern Prince George's BPW</i>	Treasurer

### Local Organizations (LOs)

With six local organizations throughout the state, BPW/MD is the leading advocate for working women in Maryland. Local Organizations (LOs) include:

- **Frederick BPW**
- **Hagerstown BPW**
- **Laurel BPW**
- **Montgomery County BPW**
- **Southern Prince George's BPW**
- **Towson/Hunt Valley BPW**

### History of BPW

*Join Us as We Celebrate BPW/MD's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, and BPW/USA's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday in 2019!!!*

Founded in 1919, the **National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (BPW/USA)** was the first national organization formed to promote equality for women in the workplace. In 2009, **BPW/USA** merged with the **BPW Foundation** (founded in 1956) and includes a network of over 12,000 workingwomen in hundreds of cities and towns across the country.

BPW/MD encompasses members from every profession and walk of life. Throughout the years, three major issues have shaped BPW/USA's legislative agenda: elimination of gender discrimination in employment, the principle of equal pay, and the need for a comprehensive equal rights amendment.

### BPW/MD Member Benefits

**Local Organization (LO)** programs are offered throughout the year to members and guests.

**BPW/MD Events** and functions held across the state. Members attend these informative and educational programs to learn and to network. Workshops and speakers make these events a valuable resource for members.

**The Newscaster**, an educational publication of the BPW Foundation of Maryland, focuses on information related to women's issues and BPW business.

**The BPW/MD website** at [www.bpwmaryland.org](http://www.bpwmaryland.org) provides current information on state and local organization programs and activities.

[www.bpwmaryland.org](http://www.bpwmaryland.org)

## BPW Signature Programs and Events

- Fall and Annual Conferences
- Young Careerist Program
- Public Policy & Advocacy
- National Business Women's Week®
- Women's History Month
- Women Veterans ~ Women Joining Forces-Closing Ranks, Opening Doors (WJF) ®
- Workshops and Leadership Training
- Individual Development Program
- Women's Equality Day
- Woman and Employer of the Year
- Equal Pay Day®

The ® is either a registered trademark or a trademark owned by BPW and is used under license.

## BPW Foundation of Maryland

The BPW Foundation of Maryland (BPWF/MD) is a nonprofit organization providing scholarships that enable individuals to acquire the education necessary for achieving their career goals.

**The BPWF/MD Scholarship** - For women, age 25 or over, seeking to upgrade skills for career advancement, to train for a new career field, or to re-enter the job market.

**The D. Anita Small Science & Business Scholarship** - For women enrolled in math, engineering, physical sciences, computer sciences, medical sciences, or a business-related field.

**The Kathryn M. Daugherty Education Scholarship** – For individuals majoring in education, with preference given to elementary education. This scholarship is awarded at the beginning of the sophomore year with additional funds available for the junior and senior year contingent on maintaining the required GPA.

**The Barbara F. Hiltner Scholarship** - For residents of Frederick County, Maryland majoring in business or finance.

**Florence A. Finlayson Scholarship** – For individuals majoring in Business Administration.

## BPW/MD 2018-2019 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

### PREAMBLE

The Equal Rights Amendment shall stand first, foremost, and above all other items which may appear on the Platform of this Federation until equal, legal rights for women and men become guaranteed in the United States Constitution.

### THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

### PLATFORM

Maryland Federation of Business and Professional Women support legislation, education and funding to ensure:

**ECONOMIC EQUITY** – Ensure pay equity and equal educational opportunities at all stages of life; and promote affordable, quality dependent care to help ensure economic self-sufficiency for women.

**HEALTH** – Ensure reproductive choice and full access to all reproductive health services and education; ensure funds for research into and protections for women's health care needs; and encourage the development of a national health care plan recognizing the special health care needs of women.

**CIVIL RIGHTS** – Ensure equal rights and remedies for women in all phases of their lives; eliminate sexual harassment and violence against women.

\*\*\*\*\*

For more information, contact the BPW/MD Membership Committee at [membership@bpwmaryland.org](mailto:membership@bpwmaryland.org) or 301.733.3226. Visit the BPW websites at: [www.bpwmaryland.org](http://www.bpwmaryland.org) for membership information (click on the "Join Now" button), and [www.bpwfoundation.org](http://www.bpwfoundation.org) for national initiatives. (Rev March 2019)