

## SPOTLIGHT ON NONPROFITS

# Palm Beach County NOW: Advocating for women

### What does Palm Beach County NOW do?

Palm Beach County NOW is a chapter of the National Organization of Women. PBC NOW brings a well-rounded expertise on women's issues, including equal rights issues for the LGBT community, family court and education issues, reproductive rights, human trafficking and more.

Women's Issues Now, Inc. (WIN NOW) was created to advocate for issues and candidates promoting women's rights and welfare. We believe that women have the skills and talents to improve life for all in this country. WIN's mission is to promote women's issues via support of candidates and advocacy of legislation in Florida.

### How does your agency benefit the community?

Our purpose is to recruit, nurture, endorse, support and campaign for outstanding feminists in Palm Beach County. We are interviewing and reviewing the candidates for the Florida legislature, school board, county commission and judicial positions. Most voters hear and read only the paid campaign literature of candidates. We will do our research and share it with interested individuals and groups. Judicial candidates are especially important because most voters have no knowledge of the candidates who can and will



President  
Sheila Jaffe

make life-altering decisions. **What is your focus for the future?**

Our focus for the future includes advocating and supporting policies for women's rights, such as reproductive and health rights that may threaten a woman's life; economic justice in jobs, pay, credit, education and the violence of poverty; reducing violence against women, sexual assault, harassment, gender bias and victimization in the judicial system.

We also are focused on reducing racism and ethnic divisiveness, which stand in the way of women's empowerment and full equality; reducing discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientation, which prevent people from living their lives with dignity, safety and security.

We strive to guarantee equal rights for all women in the U.S. Constitution so we will not have to fight for every advance. We will fight for the ERA, the Equal Rights Amendment.

### How can the community help?

From creating a petition for your city council to helping fund the local domestic violence shelter, registering voters for the next election, organizing a rally against



Janet Clark, left, and Shirley Herman pose during the 46th annual Susan B. Anthony Luncheon, hosted by Palm Beach County NOW, in February 2019. The event honors individuals who promote feminist action and work to improve the life of women. PROVIDED BY CAROL PORTER

unfair legislation, and planning a meeting where people can share their experiences with street harassment, Palm Beach County NOW is a way for you to put your beliefs into concrete action and create change. You can join as a member of Palm County Beach NOW or as an at-large member in Florida.

Regular dues are \$40. Students or reduced dues/sliding scale pricing available from \$20 to \$39.

We also have numerous volunteer opportunities available for those looking to get involved in feminist activism.

Visit [pbcnnow.org/win-now/](http://pbcnnow.org/win-now/) for more updates on WIN NOW,

Inc., including our list of endorsed candidates.

*Contributed*  
Want to share information about your nonprofit? Send an email to [asilverman@pbpost.com](mailto:asilverman@pbpost.com) and [crose@pbpost.com](mailto:crose@pbpost.com) with "Spotlight on Nonprofits" in the subject line and we'll give you the details on what we need to share your story.

### Mission Statement

Palm Beach County NOW is a grassroots feminist organization whose mission has been to fight for women's issues and justice since 1972.

### Key Programs

**Susan B. Anthony Luncheon:** The Susan B. Anthony "Feminist of the Year" Awards Luncheon is an annual event to honor individuals who promote feminist action and work to improve the life of women. The 2020 luncheon, which was scheduled to be held April 25, was postponed. Palm Beach County Commissioner Melissa McKinlay will be honored as its Feminist of the Year, and Toni Van Pelt, of the National Organization of Women, will be the guest speaker.

**Feminist Fund:** The Feminist Scholarship Fund, Inc. was created in 1995 by a generous donation to the Palm Beach County NOW. In October 2017 the fund merged with the Florida Atlantic University Foundation as the Feminist Fund after having supported more than 100 students in their studies. The Feminist Fund, through its support of The Center for Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies, is supporting students, faculty and programs. It is recognized as one of the most outstanding educational centers of its kind in the nation.

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