

"Ensuring equal access to our programs and services is not just required by law, it's the right thing to do. Joining the NASWA EO Committee gave me an opportunity to build relationships with peers from across the country, and their experience and expertise has been an invaluable resource."

- Matthew Weldon

Assistant Director
Rhode Island Department of
Labor and Training
2019-2020 NASWA EO Committee Chair

NASWA STAFF



Julie Squire
Policy Director &
General Counsel
jsquire@naswa.org



Hillary Hewko
Policy Analyst
hhewko@naswa.org

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMMITTEE

The NASWA Equal Opportunity (EO) Committee serves as a forum for State-level Equal Opportunity Officers, State Workforce Agency Equal Opportunity Officers, State Equal Opportunity Directors, and other workforce agency employees to discuss equal opportunity issues faced on a regular basis, from compliance challenges to groundbreaking policy initiatives.

COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES

- **Respond to Policy Proposals.** Provide comments and recommendations on policy proposals. For example, the Committee submitted comments to proposed equal opportunity regulations under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.
- **Advise and Communicate with NASWA Board of Directors.** Alert the NASWA Board of Directors of changes in policy or operations that impact the states.
- **Share Promising Practices.** Through meetings, calls and a SharePoint site, participate in informed discussions around equal opportunity and learn about the promising practice solutions implemented by other state workforce agencies and partners.
- **Strengthen Relationship with Civil Rights Center.** Maintain a critical line of communication between state workforce agencies and the U.S. Department of Labor's Civil Rights Center.
- **Collaborate with NASWA Committees.** Promote awareness of equal opportunity requirements with other NASWA groups and Committees.

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The NASWA Equal Opportunity Committee generally holds three in-person meetings and four teleconference calls each Association Year. In addition, state representatives appointed to the Committee will serve and contribute to the projects of one of the selected subcommittees: William J Harris Award, Policy and Promising Practices, and Communications. The Committee educates the workforce system on important equal opportunity initiatives and current issues through the work of the subcommittees and presentations at NASWA's annual conferences and meetings.

Member Resources Available

- **Roles and Responsibility of EO Officer Guide**
- **Compliance Monitoring Template**
- **State Shared Resources** *Presentations, Templates, and Training Materials*
- **SharePoint Site** *Member-Only Discussion Board and Resource Library*

JOIN THE COMMITTEE

NASWA Administrators are required to submit an email request to appoint staff to NASWA Committees. Appointments to the NASWA Equal Opportunity Committee can be emailed to Julie Squire at jsquire@naswa.org. Please include the appointed staff contact information and specify the NASWA Equal Opportunity Committee.