



NCR Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Cultural Observances, Awareness Information and Events

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

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Written by Brig. Gen. Regena M. Aye,

National Vice Commander

Civil Air Patrol, U.S. Air Force Auxiliary

Women's Equality Day will be celebrated on August 26th, 2024. This day commemorates the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which granted women the right to vote and serves as a reminder of the ongoing pursuit of gender equality.

As we celebrate Women's Equality Day, we should always acknowledge the past because the past can significantly impact the future. At the same time, we must be forward looking and envision a future in which access and empowerment are the norm. As a female leader, I hold in high esteem the bravery and perseverance demonstrated by the pioneering individuals who preceded me. They boldly envisioned a world where one's course is dictated by exceptional performance and a dedication to serving others rather than by their gender. Their vision is enacted every time a female leader rises to the challenge of leadership. As I reflect on my leadership journey, it has been a privilege to serve in leadership roles and to have the opportunity to contribute to significant decisions and advocate for policies that benefit this remarkable organization and all of its members. I am proud of my efforts to mentor others and support the next generation of leaders. As I think about my future role, I am humbled to follow in the footsteps of those who came before me and excited to blaze a trail for those who will follow.

As we commemorate our accomplishments, we must acknowledge that our efforts toward attaining equality are not complete. There continue to be obstacles that must be eliminated to provide equitable access to opportunities for all individuals to excel. We must continue to invest time and energy in the next generation of leaders to make the best use of the experiences and hard work of those who have preceded us. I hope young leaders know they have limitless potential and aspire to help create the future. We can all contribute to the pursuit of equality. One way we can make a positive impact is to ensure that we have confident and capable leaders. One can invest in the future through mentoring and service. For seasoned leaders with great wisdom and experience, I challenge you to mentor and help build the confidence and skills of those who aspire to lead. If your circumstances allow you to do so and you have the skills, actively engage in servant leadership! Civil Air Patrol always needs good leaders who will help ensure the organization's future. If you are not yet in a position to take on a leadership role, prepare for the day you can do so. Seek guidance from mentors, build a support network, and take advantage of opportunities to enhance your knowledge and skills. Finally, let us motivate each other. Everyone benefits from a kind word of encouragement.

Working together, we can cultivate an environment in which every cadet or senior member can move confidently into a leadership position within and/or outside Civil Air Patrol. Remember the importance of self-care while helping others realize their potential and achieve their goals. One cannot take care of others if we are not caring for ourselves. Many leaders focus on the growth and development of the people around them but neglect their personal growth and development. Leaders from a range of lived experience are needed to step forward and lead with empathy and courage. We need leaders that represent the communities we serve to pave the way for future leaders. Finally, we need help building the next generation of confident and capable leaders. Please join me in stepping up to lead and building the next generation of leaders.