



Written by Lisa Christie, Sr. Director of Communications, The Women's Foundation of Colorado

On Equal Pay Day, little girls accompanied by their mothers gathered around a podium at a press conference where legislators introduced two new bills that would accelerate the closing of Colorado's gender pay gap.

On the girls' shirts were the ages they would be when Colorado is projected to reach equal pay. The youngest's read 40.

The latest research from the Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) funded by The Women's Foundation of Colorado (WFCO) shows the gender pay gap is not expected to close until 2057.

While it has narrowed for some Colorado women since the last report from IWPR in 2015, there is a significant distance to go to achieve equal pay for all women.

Colorado women aged 16 and older who work full-time, year-round earn 86.0 cents on every dollar earned by men who also work full-time, year-round. This is an increase from 80.0 cents on the dollar in 2015.

WOMEN CAN'T WAIT 39 YEARS FOR EQUAL PAY

While this is progress, substantial pay disparities between racial and ethnic groups persist. IWPR reports that Hispanic women earn just 53.5 cents for every dollar earned by white men (the highest earners) and black women earn 63.1 cents.

“These trends are troubling because Colorado women and girls of every background and identity deserve the opportunity to prosper,” said Lauren Y. Casteel, president and CEO of The Women’s Foundation.

“While our state thrives economically, Hispanic women, one of the fastest growing populations in Colorado, fall further behind and that negatively affects the futures of their families, their communities, our workforce, and our entire state.”

Equal pay for equal work is a win-win situation. IWPR reported in 2015 that if Colorado achieved pay equity, an additional \$9.2 billion

would be added to the state’s economy. The findings reinforce the essential work of The Women’s Foundation and its WAGES (Women Achieving Greater Economic Security) work. With the partnership of 23 grantees from around the state and the support of WFCO’s

communities of giving, WAGES focuses on programs and policies that boost and maintain economic gains for women and their families.

On Equal Pay Day, WFCO declared support for the Equal Pay for Equal Work Act and announced that sports icon and equal pay activist Billie Jean King will be the special guest at its 2018 Annual Luncheon. Women can’t wait another 39 years for equal pay.

Come together with WFCO and 3,000 other champions for women’s advancement and help raise critical funds to create change for Colorado women and their families. Tickets, tables, and sponsorships are available now at www.wfco.org.

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**The Women’s
Foundation of Colorado**

Women Thriving. Colorado Rising™

ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Featuring a live interview with sports icon and equal pay activist **Billie Jean King**

OCTOBER 10, 2018

11:30 A.M.

COLORADO CONVENTION CENTER, DENVER

Purchase tickets, tables, and sponsorships at
wfco.org

For more information call 303-285-2967



“NO ONE CHANGES
THE WORLD WHO
ISN’T OBSESSED.”

BILLIE JEAN KING