



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 26, 2020

Contact: Bernice Waller
202-898-0994

Federally Employed Women **Join in the Commemoration of the United States 19th Amendment**

[Washington, D. C.] Federally Employed Women (FEW) is proud to join in the centennial anniversary for the passage of the United States 19th Amendment, guaranteeing every woman the right to vote. We are all reminded that 100 years ago the hard-fought battle of the Women's Suffrage Movement for equality for the citizenry of every woman's right to vote. No citizen should be denied or abridged the right to vote based on sex. The 19th Amendment was formally adopted into the United States Constitution by proclamation of then Secretary State Bainbridge Colby (1920-1921).

FEW is proud to recognize and honor the efforts of the courageous leaders of the past as we look to the future and take our rightful place in history by voting. Every woman is encouraged to register and vote early wherever they live and join in a commemoration program to honor these great leaders of the Women's Suffrage Movement. FEW President Karen Rainey said, "As we celebrate the tremendous successes of women through legislation, we cannot afford to be silent. We must make plans to honor the work of the Women's Suffragist Movement by voting." FEW's purpose is to ensure that all women are given the same opportunities of inclusion through professional development training, work and equity in pay.

The first Woman's Rights Convention was held in Seneca Falls, New York, on July 19 – 20, 1848. There are so many similarities of issues that women still face today. The two-day program highlighted issues such as, the right to own property, the right to keep their wages, the right to custody of children in cases of divorce, and others, up to and including the right to vote. In the end, 68 women and 32 men signed the Declaration of Principles, which included the right to vote. In 2009, FEW's first National President, Allie Latimer, was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls, New York.

Today, FEW joins in the commemorative celebration for the adoption of the 19th Amendment and the recognition of Women's Equality Day. FEW will host a free webinar program to honor "Women and the Vote" on August 27 at 12 noon eastern. To register, go to Register in Advance for this meeting at <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMsc-iorz4iG9d6Cqsr6AFDUmZebN56U0nF/>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

###

FEW is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1968 after Executive Order 11375 was issued that added sex discrimination to the list of prohibited discrimination in the federal government. FEW has grown into an international organization serving over one million federally employed women – both in the military and civilian workforce. For more information about FEW, go to www.few.org.