Susan Bysiewicz

Lieutenant Governor
Connecticut

Susan Bysiewicz was raised the proud granddaughter of immigrants who came to Connecticut from Poland and Greece with nothing but hopes for a better future. After many years of factory work, they saved enough to buy a farm in the Westfield section of Middletown that became Susan’s childhood home. Growing up and working on the farm, she and her siblings learned the values of hard work, education, and persistence. Sworn in on January 9, 2019, she is currently serving her first term as Connecticut’s 109th Lieutenant Governor.

“At every time in my life, I have been blessed to have mentors. My public school teachers, college professors, elected officials I’ve interned with, and my colleagues in public service have guided and mentored me. In turn, as a lawyer, candidate for elected office, state representative, Secretary of the State and now as Lieutenant Governor, I have mentored many interns who’ve gone on to do great things; they have become Fulbright scholars, state representatives, teachers, lawyers, CEOs and non-profit leaders.” She knows she would not be where she is today without the mentors who have supported her journey.

A Pivotal Mentoring Moment

Bysiewicz’ mentors have guided her through pivotal decisions in her career. She specifically recalls a conversation with a former colleague in the legislature when she was debating a run for office. “He spent a length discussion going through my options with me and it made me realize that I can take risks. I ran, and I won, and I was able to serve as an elected official. I have since taken many risks and I don’t always succeed, but I have always learned from the experience. It helps to have a mentor work through the pros and cons with you.”
Connecticut’s Council on Women and Girls

Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz is proud to have been tapped by Governor Lamont to chair the Council on Women and Girls to provide a coordinated state response to issues that impact the lives of women and girls, their families, and the State of Connecticut.

The mission of the council is to advance the interests of women and girls and ensure that the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination that too many women face, are taken into account whenever state policies are developed and programs are created. The council is charged with focusing on four areas of impact: education and STEAM; economic opportunity and workforce equity; leadership; and health and safety. Each of these four areas is represented by a subcommittee of the council that meets regularly with community partners throughout the State to facilitate a collaborative state-wide effort. For more information on the council please click here.

The Power of Mentoring

“My parents taught me the value of hard work and perseverance. My dad served as a bombardier in World War II and my mother was a law professor. They taught me to fight for what I believe in and their example inspires me every day. I like paying it forward. All of us have the obligation to help others succeed. I enjoy helping others realize their dreams and aspirations. In it’s most simplistic form, mentors and mentoring help people succeed. Success is not achieved without the assistance of many along the way.”

Serving Connecticut through MWM

“I am honored to serve as the Million Women Mentors-CT Honorary Chair and to open new doors for girls pursuing careers in STEM in Connecticut and across the country. Time and time again, women and girls have proven that they can succeed in STEM fields when given the necessary resources to excel. The goals of the MWM movement directly coincide with the work being done by the Governor’s Council on Women and Girls’ to advance women, gender equality, and opportunity in our state. Mentorship is an important step to helping women and girls further their STEM careers and I am dedicated to making sure Connecticut will provide it.”

Connecticut now joins governors, lieutenant governors, members of congress, and other leaders from over 40 other states in a national movement aimed at advancing girls and women in STEM programs.

For more information about Million Women Mentors please click here.