

# Affinity / Employee Resource Groups at HCHB

## Commerce Pride

*Mission Statement:* **Commerce Pride** shall strive to be a strategic partner with the Department to promote a cultural awareness and inclusion for LGBTQ+ employees through continual learning, networking and developmental opportunities, advocacy efforts, and knowledge sharing among its members.

For more information, please submit your inquiry to [Pride@doc.gov](mailto:Pride@doc.gov).

## DOC-HQ Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI)

*Mission Statement:* Founded in January 2018, **DOC-HQ AAPI ERG's** mission is to support the Department in addressing issues of interest to the Department's Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community and to foster professional development and networking among its members. Meet monthly through professional development and networking events. Free membership and all are welcome.

For more information, please contact Emily Kessel at [EKessel@mbda.gov](mailto:EKessel@mbda.gov).

## HCHB Women Commercial Officers (WCO)

*Mission Statement:* The **Women Commercial Officers** Affinity Group creates a safe environment for women Commercial Officers to share ideas for professional development, offer/obtain support during transitions, and find organic mentorship relationships. This group will do its part to boost morale, professionalism, and increase diversity and equality within Foreign Service.

To obtain more information, please submit your inquiry to [WCO@trade.gov](mailto:WCO@trade.gov)

## HCHB Differing Abilities Group

*Mission Statement:* Founded 2019; **HCHB Differing Abilities AG's** mission is to increase disability awareness, by promoting understanding and mindfulness, to create a more inclusive and welcoming work environment for people with differing abilities.

To obtain more information, please contact Monique Dismuke at [MDismuke@doc.gov](mailto:MDismuke@doc.gov).

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## HCHB PMF Advisory Council

*Mission Statement:* The **HCHB PMF Advisory Council** is to promote opportunities for current and former Fellows, enhance the professional network of its members, and provide a social community for Fellows, alumni, and new employees.

To obtain more information, please contact Abigail “Abby” Lantz at [Abigail.Lantz@trade.gov](mailto:Abigail.Lantz@trade.gov).

## HCHB Parents Group:

*Mission Statement:* Founded in May 2019 the **ITA Parents’ Group** serves as a resource and collaboration platform for all parents that deals with a broad range of life challenges. The Group primarily aims to create a supportive community and advocate for policies for parents within HCHB.

To obtain more information, please contact Sigrid Simpson at [Sigrid.Simpson@trade.gov](mailto:Sigrid.Simpson@trade.gov) and Salim Bhabhrawala at [Salim.Bhabhrawala@trade.gov](mailto:Salim.Bhabhrawala@trade.gov).

## HCHB Veterans Group

To obtain more information, please contact the interim leader, Roseal Fowlkes at [RFowlkes@doc.gov](mailto:RFowlkes@doc.gov).

## F.E.W. - WOC Chapter

*Mission Statement:* Established in July 2018 the **Women of Commerce (WOC) Chapter of Federally Employed Women (FEW) HCHB Chapter**, is a nonprofit organization that provides an opportunity to pursue and end to sex and gender discrimination, encouraging diversity for inclusion and equity in the workplace, for the advancement of professional growth of women in Federal service.

To obtain more information, please contact Maria Dumas at [mDumas@doc.gov](mailto:mDumas@doc.gov) and Laura Soria at [LSoria@doc.gov](mailto:LSoria@doc.gov).

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## ITA's Blacks Building Opportunities to Leverage Diversity (B-BOLD)

*Mission Statement:* Established in 2020, **ITA's Blacks Building Opportunities to Leverage Diversity (B-BOLD)**

To obtain more information, please submit your inquiry to [BBOLDaffinitygroup@trade.gov](mailto:BBOLDaffinitygroup@trade.gov).

## Commerce First Generation Professional - HCHB Chapter (FGP-HCHB)

*Mission Statement: Commerce:* Established in 2021, the **First Generation Professional HCHB Chapter (FGP-HCHB)** strives to be a strategic partner with the Department to facilitate the improvement of Department operations, personnel management, and employee effectiveness including by promoting cultural awareness and inclusion for first generation employees through continual learning, networking and development opportunities, advocacy efforts, and knowledge sharing among its members.

To obtain more information, please contact [HCHBFGP@doc.gov](mailto:HCHBFGP@doc.gov).