



WISCONSIN
WOMEN'S
NETWORK

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Wisconsin Women's Network Announces Ada Deer 2018 recipient of Helen Marks Dicks Excellence in Advocacy Award

Madison, Wis.--The Wisconsin Women's Network (WWN) is excited to announce that they will be honoring Ada Deer of Fitchburg for her excellence in advocacy and commitment to advancing the status of women and girls in Wisconsin at their annual Women's Equality Day event on Thursday, August 23, 2018.

Deer is a well-known advocate for the Native American community—particularly for her home community, the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin. She was the first Menominee to earn an undergraduate degree at the University of Wisconsin. In 1961, she was the first Native American to receive an M.S.W. from the Columbia University School of Social Work. Her work on behalf of the Menominee led to the Menominee Restoration Act of 1972, which officially returned the Menominee Reservation to federally recognized status.

In 1993, Deer was the first woman appointed assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, as head of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. While in office, she helped set federal policy for more than 550 federally recognized tribes.

"The Wisconsin Women's Network is pleased to be honoring a woman who has done so much to fight for social justice in Wisconsin - especially for Native American women and girls," said Sara Dillivan-Graves, President of the WWN. "Her leadership and passion has helped inspire women from across the state to be advocates for themselves and for the other women and girls in the state."

Deer will receive her award at WWN's Women's Equality Day event, scheduled for Thursday, August 23 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Robinia Courtyard in Madison. Those wishing to attend or sponsor the event should visit <https://wiwomensnetwork.org/events/>.

The Wisconsin Women's Network is an organization that promotes the advancement of women and girls in Wisconsin through communication, education, advocacy, and connections. Learn more at: www.wiwomensnetwork.org/.

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