



The Power of Giving Together

Founded in 1998, Washington Area Women's Foundation is a community-based, public foundation dedicated to expanding the resources and opportunities for women and girls living in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. Our mission is to foster a powerful wave of philanthropy to improve the lives of all women and girls in the Washington area through donor education and engagement, grantmaking and leadership development, and public awareness programs and research.

Donor Education and Engagement. Women are a rich source of hope with a powerful ability to take a leadership role in investing in and improving the health and vitality of our diverse community. The Women's Foundation unites women donors – powerful individuals and community leaders from across sectors – through education and engagement programs including:

- **Issue Forums** – Throughout the year we host community conversations to convene issue experts with philanthropists to present research, discuss a broad array of issues, and share solutions being implemented in our region (e.g. workforce development).
- **Spring Philanthropy Event** – This annual gathering provides strategies, ideas and inspiration for donors to expand their philanthropy, learn about leading community solutions, and engage with key stakeholders.
- **Leadership Luncheon** – This annual event draws 1,000 community members, including elected officials, corporate executives, philanthropic and nonprofit leaders, to: network; hear an update from The Women's Foundation; be inspired by powerful leaders; and show their support for women and girls in our region.
- **Giving Circles** – We currently have two giving circles: *The African American Women's Giving Circle* and *The Rainmakers*. These circles are designed for donors that want to be actively engaged in the giving process and to further develop their philanthropic leadership to support women and girls.

Grantmaking and Leadership Development. Since 1998, The Women's Foundation has invested in more than 80 non-profit organizations and helped more than 30,000 women, girls, and their families achieve economic and physical security, escape violence and physical abuse, maintain health and well-being, secure education and leadership opportunities, and build their capacity to more effectively serve their communities throughout the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area. Current programs include:

- **Stepping Stones** – As our primary programmatic focus, this initiative is designed to build the financial independence of low-income, women-headed families by investing in financial education and wealth creation opportunities, jobs and workforce development, child care and early education, and health and safety.
- **The Open Door Fund** – This grant opportunity is designed to help existing grantee partners build their capacity and strengthen their work and infrastructure.
- **Technical Assistance** – The Women's Foundation recognizes the vital role technical and expert assistance can have on an organization's growth and success. We are committed to providing additional education, skill training, leadership development and networking opportunities to our grantee partners.

Public Awareness Programs and Research. In May 2003, The Women's Foundation unveiled the first-ever community wide study of how women and girls fare in our region – *A Portrait of Women and Girls in the Washington Metropolitan Area* (a copy may be downloaded from our web site). It provides an informed investment agenda to close gender gaps, develop long-term solutions, and support best practices that improve the lives of women and girls and their families. This study led to the creation of our multi-year initiative, *Stepping Stones*, in order to build long term stability and security for women. The Women's Foundation continues to research the needs of and solutions for women and girls in our region, and to share this research with the media, our donors, and the general public at issue forums and our annual events.

Community of Change Makers

Washington Area Women's Foundation's Grantee Partners since 1998

African American Women's Resource Center	Doorways for Women and Families	New Neighbors Education Center of Northern Virginia
Alternative House	Empower DC	NOVACO
Ascensions Community Services, Inc.	Empower Girls, Inc.	Northern Virginia Family Service
Asian Women's Self-Help Association (ASHA), Inc.	The Empower Program	Nueva Vida
A Wider Circle	End Time Harvest Ministries, Inc.	Ophelia's House
Avery House-Halfway House for Women and Children	Facilitating Leadership in Youth (FLY)	Our Place, DC
AYUDA	Fairfax Futures	Passion for Learning
Barrios Unidos: <i>Girl Power Program</i>	FAIR Fund	Polaris Project
Bethel House	The Family Support Center, Inc.	Pregnancy Aid Centers, Inc.
Boat People SOS	Foundation for Appropriate and Immediate Temporary Help (FAITH)	Prince George's Child Resource Center
Capital Area Asset Builders (CAAB)	Friends of Guest House, Inc.	Ramona's Way
Capital Commitment, Inc.	From Streets to Skills Social Services	Rebecca Project for Human Rights
CASA of Maryland	Generations Closet	Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League (SMYAL)
Central American Resource Center of Washington (CARECEN)	Girls, Inc. of the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area	Silver Spring Interfaith Housing Coalition
Centro Familia	Goodwill of Greater Washington/WORC	Sister to Sister/ Hermana a Hermana
CFED	Greater Washington Board of Trade	So Others Might Eat (SOME)
Child and Family Network Centers	Hispanics Against Child Abuse and Neglect	Southeastern University: Center for Entrepreneurship
Child Center and Adult Services	Homestretch, Inc.	Southern Institute on Children and Families – Southern Business Leadership Council
Children's National Medical Center: Teen Life Clubs	Hope Abounds, Inc.	St. Ann's Infant and Maternity Home
Chinatown Service Center	House of Ruth	Strategic Community Services, Inc.
Community Bridges	Housing Counseling Services	Strive DC
Community Preservation and Development Corporation (CPDC)	International Migrants Development Fund (FIDMi)	Tahirih Justice Center
Community Ministry of Montgomery County	Interstages, Inc.	The Training Source, Inc.
Community Tax Aid	Into Safe Arms of Northern Virginia	Through the Kitchen Door International, Inc.
Computer C.O.R.E.	JHP, Inc.	Tenants & Workers United
Covenant House	Jubilee Jobs Inc.	Tenants Empowerment Network of Catholic Community Services
Crittenton Services of Greater Washington	La Colectiva- Multi cultural Non profit Village	Trinity University
Crossway Community	Latin American Youth Center	Urban Alliance Foundation
DAARA, Inc (Developing AIDS & Addiction Response Alternatives)	Latino Federation of Greater Washington	Urban Institute
DC Abortion Fund	Laurel Advocacy and Referral Services (LARS)	Virtuous Enterprises
DC Appleseed	Life Skills Workshop, Inc.	Washington Middle School for Girls
D.C. Coalition on Long Term Care	Lydia's House	Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW)
D.C. Employment Justice Center (DCEJC)	Manna, Inc.	The Women's Center
D.C. Rape Crisis Center	Marshall Heights Community Development Organization	The Women's Collective
D.C. Redwings	Mary's Center for Maternal & Child Care	Women's College Assistance Project
D.C. Women's Agenda	Metropolitan Washington Airports Interfaith Chapels, Inc.	Women Empowered Against Violence (WEAVE)
Digital Sisters	My Sister's Place	WVSA Arts Connection
Divine Images Network, Inc.		The Young Women's Project
		YWCA National Capital Area