

Community Update

The Passion • The People • The Promise • The Power of Giving Together

Impact and Innovation Philanthropy Forum

Fannie Mae Foundation's Stacey Stewart Honored

"Women are redefining both the nature and future of philanthropy," declared Washington Area Women's Foundation President Anne B. Mosle at the organization's annual spring philanthropy forum. With this in mind, The Women's Foundation awarded its 4th Entrepreneurial Philanthropy Award to Stacey D. Stewart, President and CEO

of the Fannie Mae Foundation, the country's largest philanthropic organization devoted to affordable housing and community development.

Stewart is no stranger to The Women's Foundation; she serves as co-chair and a lead investor of Stepping Stones, the Foundation's initiative to build the financial independence of low-income, women-headed families.

A reception and program in honor of Stewart capped the day's events, which included an energizing discussion on philanthropy titled "Impact and Innovation," featuring several leaders on the local and national scene. The panelists—Barbara Harman, Executive Director of the Harman Family Foundation and Editor of the Catalogue for Philanthropy; Katherine Jankowski, CEO of Jankowski Associates, Inc., the leading foundation research firm in the country; Rachel Kronowitz, a partner with Gilbert Heintz & Randolph LLP, which is setting a new standard for pro bono legal services; and Claudia Thorne, Vice President of Programs for Hearts & Homes for Youth and a member of The Women's Foundation's African American Women's Giving Circle—described community strategies and solutions, new ways to engage stakeholders and the latest thinking in the field of philanthropy.



Pictured above from left: Donna Callejon, Gina Adams, Stacey D. Stewart, Anne Mosle and Barbara Lang

A key figure in the field of foundation research and author of a recent report on "The Leading 500 New Foundations Funding Women and Girls," Jankowski provided valuable context for the subsequent presentations. Pointing out that charitable giving reached an all-time high in 2004, she went on to offer a

more sobering statistic: over the past 30 years there has been an overall decline in charitable giving.

Jankowski then shared another startling figure: in 2002, 84 percent of estates valued at a million dollars or more left nothing to charity. "We've entered a new and volatile era in philanthropy," she told the captivated audience.

Yet, there is good news. Jankowski's work in the field has led her to conclude that new foundations and new donors are "smarter, more outcome-oriented and

more hands-on. They want to assure themselves that their giving is having an impact."

Positive Philanthropy

In 1997, with the Massachusetts Catalogue for Philanthropy as her model, Barbara Harman recognized the need to draw attention to creative, innovative, entrepreneurial non-profits whose voices were not being heard in the Washington area. That's when she decided to bring the Catalogue project to this area "with the double intention of shining a light on the universe of small charities about which I knew little myself, and encouraging other donors to learn about them too. Presenting philanthropy in a positive, informative, and engaging way was something I felt the community also needed—very much."

From the President



For many, summer is a time to slow things down. Not at the Washington Area Women's Foundation. There's simply no stopping us!

It's no surprise, then, that we were recently named one of the top five fastest growing women's foundations in the country by

the Women's Funding Network. Or that our grantmaking doubled in 2005. Or that the word is out about our two giving circles, which have really taken off. But with rapid growth comes great responsibility and great challenges. How can we have the most impact? Where should we focus our attention, and our dollars?

These and other institutional issues were on the agenda at The Women's Foundation's recent Board retreat where we looked at our past accomplishments, expectations of the present and dreams for the future. The conversation was not so much about need as it was about how we can create a strategy for success. And what did we conclude? Our goal of fostering a powerful wave of philanthropy and improving the lives of women and girls is more relevant than ever. With the formal launch in late 2005 of Stepping Stones—our major programmatic initiative—and the creation of three new funds focused on the economic security of women and girls, we are poised to have a significant impact in the Washington metropolitan region. In other words, we have much to be proud of but there is also much work to be done.

Our success can be measured in many ways. It is measured in the many women we have watched make the journey from economic vulnerability to financial independence. It is measured in the number of single moms who have been able to purchase homes for their families. It is measured in the middle school girls who once dreamed of going to college, and are now on the path to do so. It is measured in women like Claudia Thorne who, in the past, didn't see themselves as philanthropists but are now leading the charge through our giving circles and in many other ways. It is measured in corporate and individual partners, like the Fannie Mae Foundation and Stacy D. Stewart, who urged those gathered at our spring philanthropy forum to "perpetuate the cycle of philanthropy and of giving back to our community."

Anne B. Mosle
President



Washington Area
Women's Foundation

t 202-347-7737 1411 K Street, NW, Suite 800
f 202-347-7739 Washington, DC 20005
e info@wawf.org TheWomensFoundation.org

Founded in 1998, The Women's Foundation is dedicated to making empowerment, economic security and self-reliance a reality for low-income, women-headed families in the Washington Metropolitan Area. Our mission is to foster a powerful wave of philanthropy to improve the lives of all women and girls through:

- Donor education and engagement
- Grantmaking and leadership development, and
- Public awareness programs and research.

Through fostering this powerful wave of philanthropy and focusing the power of giving together, we believe that every woman and every girl can have the tools they need to reach their full potential.

Board of Directors

Donna Callejon, Chair	Jane E. Fox
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Welcome Aboard

Washington Area Women's Foundation welcomes three new Board Members.

Carolyn Berkowitz, Director of Community Affairs at Capital One, is responsible for U.S. grant-making, volunteer activities and community relations.

Jennifer Cortner is President and Co-owner of Arlington-based EFX Media, a marketing and media communications firm specializing in video, interactive and print media.

Sandra Brock Jibrell of Washington, D.C. is a community change consultant; her primary work is as senior advisor to the president of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, where she worked for 14 years.

Do you have feedback, a letter to the editor, or a story idea? Please contact Janice Kaplan, *Community Update* editor at janicekaplan@aol.com or 202.966.8411.

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Economic Security Discussed on Capitol Hill

Washington Area Women's Foundation has always enjoyed bipartisan support in the halls of Congress. A number of Members of Congress who have made the economic well-being of low-income women and their families a priority were on hand at The Women's Foundation Capitol Hill briefing in late April. Rep. Judy Biggert of Illinois, Rep. Chris Van Hollen of Maryland and former Member of Congress Patricia Schroeder of Colorado joined several hundred women and men for a briefing on "Stepping Stones: A Model for Increasing Economic Security for Low-Income Women." The luncheon was co-sponsored by Women's Policy, Inc.

Colleen Dailey, Executive Director of Capital Area Asset Building Corporation (CAAB), spoke about community efforts focused on Individual Development Accounts, the Earned Income Tax Credit and free tax



Rep. Judy Biggert (R-IL)



Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)

preparation sites that serve thousands of residents in our community. "We can make a difference if we all do this together," she told the gathering.

Juanita Hutchinson, a resident of Ward 7 in D.C., shared her personal story with the engaged audience. Hutchinson is a single mother who is currently enrolled in college as well as Marshall Heights Community Development Organization's home ownership program and received services at their free tax preparation site. She is building a nest egg in order to send her two teenagers to college and someday buy a home. "With every passing day I am getting closer to my goals," she said to applause.

Mike Kimsey, Co-founder, President and Executive Director of the Kimsey Foundation, talked about the value of partnerships with organizations like The Women's Foundation. "To invest in women is to invest in children," he said.

Finally, Olivia Biggs, Manager of Government Programs at CVS talked about the value in providing workforce development programs and other support for entry-level employees.

Donor Spotlight

Ann Van Dusen: Dedicated Volunteer and Donor

"Working on behalf of women has been a theme throughout my career," says Ann Van Dusen, a dedicated volunteer and generous donor to The Women's Foundation.

A former employee of the U.S. Agency for International Development who worked for many years on health, education and nutrition issues around the globe, Van Dusen also served as Chief Operating Officer of Save the Children, recently wrote a book on foreign aid and has taught a graduate course at Georgetown University on youth and development issues.

Over time, she became interested in the connection between poverty-fighting programs overseas and those at home. That ultimately led her to Washington Area Women's Foundation.

A simple call inquiring about how she could volunteer her skills and experience to make a difference in our community has led to a lasting partnership. Putting her expertise to use, Van Dusen has plugged into The Women's Foundation in several ways.

Last year, when the Foundation was launching its financial literacy program, Van Dusen provided invaluable research relating to job creation. Later, using her background in monitoring and evaluation, Van Dusen began looking at the effectiveness of The Women's Foundation's capacity building grants. She now serves on the Foundation's evaluation sub-committee and has helped review proposals for new grants.

Among the lessons she has learned in the past year is "how much good even small amounts of money can do to help a small non-profit expand its capacity and reach," she said. She has witnessed how a small capacity building grant can provide the funds needed to produce a fundraising or marketing video, or provide professional development training for non-profit staff. "This kind of support, no matter how small, can set an organization on a new path," she observed. "My work with The Women's Foundation really brings home to me the importance of applying flexible resources at the right time to organizations that are ready to put them to good use."

(For more information about the Catalogue for Philanthropy, visit www.catalogueforphilanthropy.org/dc.)

As a single mother of a grown son, Claudia Thorne feels personally connected to The Women's Foundation's Stepping Stones Initiative. Wanting to make a significant difference in the lives of women and children, she joined the African American Women's Giving Circle, the largest group of its kind in the country. "I never thought of myself as a philanthropist," says Thorne. "I've come to realize you don't need to have as much money as Oprah to be a donor."

She went on to tell the audience that the two dozen women in the giving circle "bring diverse skills to the table to work miracles." The group recently announced its first Grantee Partners. (see page 5)

Five years ago, Rachel Kronowitz helped found Gilbert Heintz & Randolph LLP, a law firm specializing in insurance issues. Over time, she realized: "I was feeding my intellectual side and growing my business, but I wasn't feeding my spirit."

Along the way she was introduced to The Women's Foundation. Impressed by the board, staff, donors and volunteers and moved by stories she heard from Grantee Partners, she was puzzled by one thing: where were the lawyers? "It was one of the only places in Washington where lawyers were underrepresented," she says with a laugh.

Not for long. Kronowitz combined an interest in giving back to the community with her connections to the legal community. The result was the formation of an innovative pro bono legal clinic created specifically for the benefit of The Women's Foundation Grantee Partners and the low-income women they serve.

The firm's ultimate goal is to have its public service hours account for 20 to 25 percent of its work. The partnership, Kronowitz believes, benefits both the low-income women and children served by The Women's Foundation and the employees of her law firm. "By committing our time and resources, we have strengthened the fabric of the firm, developed loyalty among the people who work there and helped to grow the business. It has also allowed me to give back in ways I couldn't have done on my own," she adds.

Entrepreneurial Philanthropy Award

At the conclusion of the Philanthropy Forum, an audience made up of family members, colleagues, Women's Foundation donors and other well-wishers

**"Civilization flourishes when people plant trees under whose shade they will never sit...The Women's Foundation, in other words, is planting those trees that will shade generations to come."
Stacey D. Stewart**

joined in paying tribute to longtime Women's Foundation ally Stacey D. Stewart for her deep commitment to applying a gender lens to the challenge of affordable housing by identifying and addressing critical underlying issues, such as women's financial literacy, education and job readiness, which directly influence on opportunities for home ownership.

"Since our inception, Washington Area Women's Foundation has embraced an entrepreneurial approach to our philanthropy," said President Mosle. "Our founding principles drive this award. We look for where there is extreme need combined with the opportunity to make a difference.

"We look for partnership—an ability to bring diverse and unpredictable groups together around a common purpose; we look for social change, not just charity," Mosle continued.

"Finally, we look for the willingness to tap and leverage position and resources for the local community. Every day and in every action, Stacey

Davis Stewart embodies these principles."

Others honoring Stewart included Gina Adams, Corporate Vice President, Government Affairs, FedEx; Barbara Lang, President and CEO of the DC Chamber of Commerce; and Myrtle Davis, Stewart's mother and a former Atlanta City Council member and mayoral candidate. Stewart's vision and leadership were also captured in a video produced by pro bono media partner EFX Media which included additional interviews with local and national leaders.

The Philanthropy Forum was sponsored by The Women's Foundation's generous partners: U.S. Trust, Stewart Partners, WealthTrust•FBB and Beers and Cutler. Deborah Gandy, who serves on the Board of The Women's Foundation and is a member of its Washington 100 leadership network, graciously served as moderator of the event.



Cherie Roberts and Leonade Jones, pictured above at the Philanthropy Forum, were featured in Washington Life magazine Summer 2006 issue in an article by Donna Shor

2005 - 2006 Grants

Washington Area Women's Foundation partnered with the following non-profit organizations in fiscal year 2006 (July 1, 2005-June 30, 2006). Grants are made through our African American Women's Giving Circle, The Open Door Capacity Fund, Rainmakers Giving Circle and Stepping Stones. For information on funding opportunities, visit <http://www.thewomensfoundation.org/getfunded/index.html>.

African American Women's Giving Circle

\$ 30,000 Awarded

Connects African American girls and women to opportunities for earning income, gaining financial literacy, appreciating entrepreneurial opportunity and building financial assets; understanding and using technology in the personal and collective interest; and networking within and outside the communities for beneficial exposure to successful women and girls.

Covenant House

Facilitating Leadership in Youth (FLY)

Open Door Capacity Fund

\$ 154,800 Awarded

Provides capacity-building grants for The Women's Foundation's Grantee Partners. Grants are designed to strengthen the professional, administrative and management capabilities of Grantee Partner organizations.

Asian Women's Self-Help Organization
Ayuda, Inc.
Council of Latino Agencies
Family Support Center
Crittenton Services of Greater Washington
Laurel Advocacy and Referral Services

Latin American Youth Center
My Sister's Place
New Neighbors Education Center
NOVACO
Ramona's Way
Virtuous Enterprises, Inc.

Rainmakers Giving Circle

\$ 39,500 Awarded

Focuses on investing in programs that improve the lives of young women (ages 10-18) in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area by supporting programs that encourage the healthy development and prevention of risk factors among young girls.

Latin American Youth Center
Passion for Learning, Inc.

Tenants and Workers United
Washington Middle School for Girls

Stepping Stones Initiative

\$ 800,000 Awarded

A multi-year initiative that focuses on building financial independence and expanding opportunities for low-income women-headed families.

Bethel House
Capital Area Asset Building Corporation (CAAB)
CASA of Maryland
CFED
Community Preservation and Development Corp.
Community Tax Aid, Inc.
DC Employment Justice Center
DC Women's Agenda
Goodwill of Greater Washington/WORC
Greater Washington Board of Trade
Housing Counseling Services
Lydia's House
Manna, Inc.

Marshall Heights Community Development Organization, Inc.
Northern Virginia Family Service
Southeastern University
Southern Institute on Children and Families- SBLC
Suitland Family and Life Development Corporation
Training Source, Inc.
Trinity University
Urban Alliance
Urban Institute
Virtuous Enterprises, Inc.
Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW)
YWCA National Capital Area

Save the Date: 2006 Leadership Luncheon

Two premiere leaders in the corporate and philanthropic sector will be featured speakers at the Washington Area Women's Foundation's fall Leadership Luncheon.

Patty Stonesifer was named one of the most powerful women in the world by Forbes magazine. As **Chief Executive Officer of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation**, she leads the organization's mission to promote equity for all people around the world. The Foundation's \$24 billion endowment fund hands out more than a billion dollars a year "to improve advances in global health and learning." In addition to her official duties, she is an active volunteer, donating both time and resources to a number of non-profit organizations.

Native Washingtonian **Ann M. Fudge** will also speak at the Leadership Luncheon. **Chairman and CEO of Young & Rubican Brands**, a global network of preeminent companies across the full range of marketing, Fudge was named one of the 50 most powerful women in American business by Fortune magazine. No one knows her better than her childhood friend Lisa Osborne Ross, Executive Vice President and Director of Diversity of Ogilvy Public Realties, who is a Women's Foundation donor and former Board Member. "We were both taught early on something they now call 'girl power,'" says Ross. "Our mothers

recognized the importance of not only providing for and creating opportunities for their children, but that you create those opportunities for others around you as well. It was a matter of, if something needs to be done, you don't spend a lot of time talking about it. You just do it."

"That's the foundation of Washington Area Women's Foundation," she added. "It provides a vehicle to improve the lives of women and children without a lot of fanfare. There is a need. It needs to be addressed. And we are the ones to do it."

Washington Area Women's Foundation 2006 Leadership Luncheon

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2006
Noon until 2 p.m.

Grand Hyatt Hotel
1000 H Street NW
Washington, D.C.

For more information visit www.TheWomensFoundation.org



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