



400 Market Avenue North
Suite 200
Canton, Ohio 44702

THE WOMEN'S FUND STRATEGIC GOALS

Building a Financially Strong and Sustainable Fund

Build a permanent endowment that will continue to grow yearly, enabling The Women's Fund to improve the lives of women and children.

Granting Funds

Provide grant funding to Stark County nonprofit organizations that address the three focus areas for underserved women and children of all ages, cultures, ethnicity, races and abilities.

Inspiring Philanthropy

Educate and engage women of all means and backgrounds about philanthropy and to promote the collective power of giving back to the Stark County community.



2023

A LOOK
AHEAD

A MESSAGE FROM THE ADVISORS COMMITTEE CHAIR

As I turn over the leadership of The Women's Fund Advisors Committee, I have been reflecting over the last two years. At times it was challenging. We “zoomed” our meetings in 2021 and our grant recipients were unable to complete their activities. The return to “normalcy” in 2022 was rewarding! We celebrated 11 grant recipients at our Annual Gathering in September, which was beautifully chaired and orchestrated by Shelly Boss. We then proceeded to have a successful fall campaign led by Suzie Thomas.

As we begin 2023, we look forward to remaining true to our vision statement: The Women's Fund is an Everlasting and Dynamic Investment Addressing Challenges of Women and Children of Stark County. We welcome Melissa Coultas as our new Chair. She is Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce's Vice President of Development and has already brought new ideas and fresh energy to our committee.

The Advisors Committee has decided to change the format of our advertising and marketing strategies in the coming year with an eye on costs. Communication to The Women's Fund members this year will be focused on social media and our website at www.starkcf.org/womensfund. We plan to highlight each of our grant recipients in more detail and then report on their programs and activities followed by our Annual Gathering in the fall to listen to their stories and experiences. We hope you will enjoy hearing about their progress in our updates.

I would like to thank you all for your support of The Women's Fund. Please continue to spread the word to like-minded women who share our passion for giving back and the desire to improve the lives of underserved women and children in our community. One of the things I love about this fund is that no matter how much or when you make a donation, that money is invested and the interest continues to add to the grants year after year. Our goal of reaching \$2 million to grant \$30,000 a year is achievable with all of our continued generous giving.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Advisors Committee members who left during 2022 – Kay Feagles, Sallie Lux, Pam Pelini and Carol Bonavita who is retiring after six-years of service. All were incredibly dedicated, enthusiastic and inspiring in their commitment to our goals and objectives. Their input and presence on the committee will be missed.

We welcome new Advisors Committee members – Debbie Carpenter, Jennifer Frey, Maria Heege, Wendy Lichtenwalter and Amy Mast. They bring an incredible array of experience, skills and community service experience to The Women's Fund.

I am excited for the future of the fund!

With continued thanks,

Nancy Bond-Bundy
2022 Chair



Advisors Committee

Thank you to members of the 2022 Advisors Committee for their support and strategic direction last year.

Front row (left to right): JoAnn Ovnice, Carol Bonavita, Shelly Boss, Linda Sirak, Teresa Golden-McClelland Back row: Jennifer Frey, Melissa Coultas, Nancy Bond-Bundy, Laura Grabowsky Not pictured: Debbie Carpenter, Kay Feagles, Sallie Lux, Pam Pelini, Suzie Thomas



\$736,373

Value of Fund

82

Donors

\$46,940

Donated

THE WOMEN'S FUND DONORS

From 12 Signature Founders, the fund has grown to over 250 individuals and corporations who have generously supported The Women’s Fund since 2006.

2022 DONORS

Nazamovia Adams-Phillips
Tanya Harroff
Treva Aeling
Shannon Hexamer
Lucy Anderson
Margaret Holihan
Janet Baker
Nancy Hoover
Rev. Virginia Birks
Lea Ann Hough
Carol Bonavita
Ann Hull
Rachelle Booher
Sheryl Huth
Shelly Boss, DDS
Laurie Keeney
Donna Boyd
Nancy Leach
Pamela Burkhardt
Judith Libbey
Linda Burmeister
Wendy Lichtenwalter
Deborah Carpenter
Susan Little
JoAnn Cecchini
Janet Luntz
Susan Clark Chaddock
Sharon Luntz
Karen Christoff
E.A. Mahoney Family Foundation
Cleaver & Sokolowski, LLC
Dr. Beth Marcinkoski
Dr. Andrea Company
Sally Marrell
Charlotte Cunningham
Amy Mast
Zana Demchak
Carla McIntosh
Lynne Dragomier
Patricia Miller
Stacy Dulik
Dawn Moeglin
Jennifer Frey
Gail Moore
Patricia Fuller
Francine New
Cindy Gamby
Mary Pummell
Linda Ganser
Debra Rankine
Mimi Geihlsler
Cindy Samolczyk
Amy Meldrum Goehring
Denise Scala
Teresa Golden-McClelland
Margaret Schembechler
Judith Grisez
Linda Sirak
Carol Grose

Sally Sorenson
Molly Sperling
Sandra Stuhldreher
Avis Thrash
Jane Timken
Dr. Vivian von Gruenigen
Candy Wallace
Natalie Weinsz
Virginia West
Betty Wilkins

IN HONOR GIFTS FOR

Michelle Luntz by
Barbara Beattie

Emil and Kathy Poporad’s
50th Wedding Anniversary by
Sandra Hartsel

Judy Libbey and Kathy
Poporad Birthdays by
Judge Dixlene and
Dr. John Park

Pat Miller’s 80th Birthday by
Dr. Emil and Mrs. Kathy
Poporad

Natalie Weinsz by
Dr. Emil and Mrs. Kathy
Poporad

Our Children and
Grandchildren by
James and Suzanne Thomas

Kathy Poporad by
Frank and Linda Wittman

IN MEMORY GIFTS FOR

Elaine Hand by
Alison Blondheim
Nancy Platek

Lois Irene Ulmer by
Melissa Coultas

Pat Fehlman by
Judge Dixlene and
Dr. John Park

ANNUAL GATHERING
SPONSORSHIPS

Presenting Sponsors
David and Laura
Grabowsky Charitable Fund
Gary and Linda Sirak
Sirak Financial Services

Table Sponsor
Carol Bonavita

Gift and In Kind Sponsors
Carol Bonavita
Shelly Boss, DDS
Joe and JoAnn Ovnicek
Quickdraft, Inc.
Lynne Dragomier

2023 GRANT RECIPIENTS

The Women’s Fund awarded seven nonprofits a total of \$27,222 to support women and children programming.

Boys and Girls Club of Massillon

Arts and Conversation

\$5,000 to be used for Arts & Conversation, a once-a-week after-school program to build confidence, awareness, life skills and mentoring for girls grades 4-12. Arts & Conversation uses art projects to help young women express who they are and how they feel, along with discussions based on lifestyle and life skills.

Child & Adolescent Behavioral Health

CAMS Training

\$2,980 to provide 20 clinicians with basic training in Collaborative Assessment and Management of Suicidality (CAMS) through completion of the online CAMS overview course. In addition, five clinicians who work with clients at higher risk for suicide will be able to complete more advanced training on the use of the CAMS model.

Domestic Violence Project

Shelter Care Package

\$5,000 to provide a Shelter Care Package of personal care and practical items for new clients who enter the DVPI emergency shelters in Canton and Massillon. Oftentimes these clients are experiencing a crisis due to a traumatic event and arrive with only the clothes they are wearing. The package also includes a trauma-informed handbook of DVPI policies and procedures and other pertinent information that clients can review and refer back to as they settle in and begin to heal.

Feed Kids First

School Pantry Program

\$2,000 to help purchase food and hygiene supplies for the on-site pantry programs at eight schools in Canton City School District. The program’s purpose is to ensure food and basic needs are accessible to all students and families. Pantries are located directly inside each school and provide readily-accessible food assistance in a familiar, trusting environment that supports students and their families.

The GRACE Project

Around the Kitchen Table Culinary Club

\$4,050 to support the Culinary Club, a weekly, hands-on project that is conducted during a mid-day class period at Canton Harbor High School. Preparation of simple and healthy food will be led by GRACE staff and volunteers, with students planning and actively participating and sharing preparation tasks. This project will introduce students to friendly conversation around the kitchen table as they learn how to create simple, economical and nutritious meals and snacks.

Tri County Jobs for Ohio’s Graduates

Parenting Resources for JOG Youth

\$3,192 to support pregnant and parenting youth with appropriate books and information and diaper bag backpacks. With these supports and resources made available, JOG youth are more likely to remain in the program and can focus on completing their education and fulfilling their career pathway goals.

YMCA of Central Stark County

Y Minority Achievers – Girl Time

\$5,000 will fund the addition of Girl Time to the Y Minority Achievers Program, a college and career readiness program for minority teens. Mentoring sessions and workshops educate and empower teen girls to achieve their personal and professional goals.