



WOMEN'S FUND
OF GREATER MILWAUKEE



PRESENTS

DISRUPTORS

CHANGING THE POWER DYNAMICS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2021 | NOON-1:30 PM
NETWORKING AT 11:30 AM AT THE PFISTER HOTEL

Johnson
Controls



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WITH GRATITUDE...YOUR INVESTMENT MATTERS

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 **WOMEN'S FUND**
OF GREATER MILWAUKEE



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Joell Poole • Monica Shah-Davidson • WHEDA

TABLE CAPTAINS

Julie Cordero • Dr. Maysee Herr • Nicole Horvath
Sheila Long, MalamaDoe • Jackie Mortenson, Milwaukee Women Inc.
Carol Voss/Laura Moore, MATC WOW Women's Affinity • Lisa Weisman

Women's Fund Greetings,

Today, we deepen the community conversation about gender and race and the impact of intersectionality for women. We celebrate Disruptors who are changing the power dynamics. We are in community experiencing collective effervescence and hope you carry it to action.

We are especially pleased that Johnson Controls, as Speaker Sponsor, helped bring Abby Phillip to Milwaukee. Abby earned a top spot at CNN on *Inside Politics Sunday* and is committed to honesty and authenticity in her journalism. Let's listen to Abby discuss how gender and race impact women, especially black women, with Dr. Joan M. Prince. Then, please reflect on your role in advancing equity for women.

A special part of the program is celebrating the Disruptors named by sponsors. We learn they are bold thinkers, leading by example, and inspiring others. Even though equity for women in business, government, community leadership, and so many other aspects of life, is a work in progress, these women are shifting attitudes, behaviors, and culture. Please support and emulate them.

Both Associated Bank, as Signature Sponsor, and Baird, as Visionary Sponsor, demonstrate their commitment to changing the status quo and creating social change. There are more than 30 sponsors who join them and we express appreciation for all your commitments.

The Women's Fund remains committed to addressing the issues at their core so women in our community realize their full potential and everyone thrives. If this resonates with you, please use the power of your philanthropy to make a gift in support of advancing equity for women. Thank you.

With Gratitude,



Marilka Vélez
SVP, Senior Director of Marketing
Associated Bank

Board Chair
Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee



Monica Shah-Davidson
Key Account Executive
Google

Board Director and Event Chair
Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Registration and Networking
Welcome and Opening Remarks
Abby Phillip in Conversation with Dr. Joan M. Prince
Celebrating Disruptors in our Community



EVENT CHAIR AND EMCEE

Monica Shah-Davidson
Key Account Executive
Google

Monica Shah-Davidson has worked for top technology companies as an experienced sales leader for many years. She joined Google in 2014 and now serves as a Key Account Executive, consistently proving her ability to help transform organizations and build top line growth. She credits her success to listening to customer needs and leading with integrity and accountability.

Monica joined the Board of Directors of the Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee in 2019 and has been Event Chair since 2020. She is a proud Everyday Philanthropist who strives to eliminate systemic barriers that prevent women from opportunities and possibilities. Monica's passion for this work is fueled by both, the inequalities historically ingrained in her East Asian culture, and those pervasive in American society.

Upon graduating from Purdue University in 1989, Monica moved to Milwaukee to begin her professional career. She is proud to be a family of four with Jim, her husband, Elle, her daughter, and Sumi, her mother. In both her professional and personal life, Monica strives to empower those around her and help them achieve their own success.

IN CONVERSATION WITH...



ABBY PHILLIP
CORRESPONDENT, ANCHOR, AND AUTHOR

SPEAKER SPONSOR



Abby Phillip is a senior political correspondent and anchor of CNN's Inside Politics Sunday. She joined the network in 2017, serving as White House Correspondent through 2019. In 2020, she moderated CNN's Democratic Presidential Debate and anchored special coverage of Election Night in America.

Previously, Phillip was a reporter for the Washington Post, where she covered domestic and international news including the shootings in Charleston, SC and San Bernardino, CA. Previously, Phillip was a digital reporter at ABC News and covered the Obama White House for Politico.

Phillip is working on her first book - a major contemporary look at the life and political legacy of Jesse Jackson. It includes "origins of how Black voters got to be the kingmaker in the Democratic primary," Phillip says. "It is a story about the building blocks of the present-day Democratic party. And it's not just about race; it's also about the progressivism-versus-more-moderate debate that we're still having today."

Phillip was raised in Bowie, Md. and is a graduate of Harvard University with a degree in Government. She currently lives in Washington with her husband and their new baby girl who was born in August.

In conversation with Abby Phillip is Dr. Joan M. Prince.

Dr. Joan M. Prince was nominated by President Barack Obama as alternate representative to the 67th United Nations General Assembly, with the honorary rank of ambassador and senior advisor to the State Department. In her professional career, Dr. Prince served as Vice Chancellor at the UWM, and was the Chief Administrator for the Divisions of Global Inclusion/Engagement and Partnerships/Innovation. She also led campus-wide project areas, and her academic discipline as a clinical associate professor was in medical laboratory sciences, with a specialty in hematology. Dr. Prince is now working with executives on the issues that "keep them up at night!" as CEO of Executive Strategies Elite.

Prince is a former member of numerous civic boards, including the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, Milwaukee Public Library, TEMPO International, The Council on Foundations and Urban Libraries Council.



Dr. Joan Prince
Chief Executive Officer
Executive Strategies Elite

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ARE
EVERYWHERE

DISRUPTORS IN OUR COMMUNITY

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DISRUPTORS
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AND BE ONE
YOURSELF!



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PAMELA M. HINES



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PEGGY KELSEY



WEC ENERGY GROUP

SHAKITA LAGRANT-McCLAIN



MILWAUKEE COUNTY DHHS

ELISABETH LAMBERT



ACLU WISCONSIN

DENISE MALLOY



JOHNSON CONTROLS

SARAH J. PLATT



OGLETREE DEAKINS

MELANIE RICKS



101.7 THE TRUTH/GOOD KARMA BRANDS

JESSICA STAMM



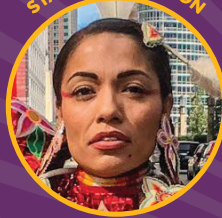
BAIRD

DENISE THOMAS



THE EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION COACH, LLC

STARLA THOMPSON



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MILWAUKEE

DR. CHIA YOUYEE VANG



CELEBRATING DISRUPTORS, WOMEN WHO ARE
CHANGING THE STATUS QUO AND CREATING
SOCIAL CHANGE. WE ARE PLEASED TO HONOR
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DISRUPTORS IN OUR COMMUNITY



MELISSA NICOLE ALLEN
MAURES DEVELOPMENT GROUP, LLC

NAMED BY
HOLLY RYAN

Melissa Nicole Allen, MBA, MS, LPC-IT has an array of experience spanning criminology, psychology, and real estate. She has held positions with the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, Milwaukee Brewers, and her own firm of 15 years, Maures Development Group, LLC. She is also a licensed professional counselor serving clients age 5-18 at Children's Wisconsin, and is an adjunct professor in the College of Business at Marquette University. Additionally, Melissa is an insurance agent and owns an American Family Insurance agency. Melissa holds a Master of Science in Community Psychology from Alverno College, and from Marquette University a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology and Law Studies and Broadcast Journalism, a Master of Business Administration, and completed the Associates in Commercial Real Estate program.



PEGGY KELSEY
WEC ENERGY GROUP

NAMED BY
QUARLES & BRADY LLP

As Executive Vice President, General Counsel, Corporate Secretary and Compliance Officer at WEC Energy Group, Margaret "Peggy" C. Kelsey is responsible for all legal matters affecting the company, manages governance matters, and oversees the company's environmental and ethics & compliance functions.

Peggy holds a bachelor's degree from Mount Mary University, a juris doctor from Georgetown University and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Wisconsin — Milwaukee.

She is a member of the boards of directors of Greater Milwaukee Committee; North Shore Bank, FSB (chair of the audit committee); Teach for America; University of Wisconsin — Milwaukee Foundation; and Zoological Society of Milwaukee. She also serves on the Marquette University Women's Council.



PAMELA M. HINES
PERFECT PEACE LLC

NAMED BY
US BANK WISCONSIN

Wife, mother, grandmother, Pastor, and entrepreneur are just a few titles that Pamela M. Hines wears on a daily basis. Pastor Pam, as she is affectionately called, is a woman of innovation and inspiration who is committed to excellence while making a positive impact on her community. Pastor Pam produced The Women's Image Course, a self-help manual for woman looking to improve their self-worth; additionally she formed Covenant Girls, a rite of passage for teen girls, and launched a spa collection, Perfect Peace. She pastors Christian Faith Fellowship Church of Milwaukee with Darrell, her husband. She has appeared on radio and television shows, been featured in periodicals, and written several books. Pastor Pam's creativity and philanthropic spirit are an inspiration to many.



SHAKITA LAGRANT-McCLAIN
MILWAUKEE COUNTY DHHS

NAMED BY
KANE COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

Shakita LaGrant-McClain has been with DHHS since 2013, where she served as the Program Coordinator for the Disability Resource Center. In May 2020, Shakita was named Interim Director of Health and Human Services and Interim Director of the Department on Aging. She is currently the Director of Health and Human Services, where she focuses on ensuring residents can access the services they need without running into barriers and on working towards achieving racial equity. DHHS is one of the largest departments at Milwaukee County with over 800 employees serving across several divisions.

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ELISABETH LAMBERT
ACLU WISCONSIN

NAMED BY
SMALL STUDIO BRAND SHOP
AND
SWEET TOX

Elisabeth Lambert left teaching for law school to become a more effective advocate for children. Today, Elisabeth is the Equal Justice Work Fellow at the ACLU. Her focus is student rights and racial justice in Wisconsin public schools, providing legal representation to children dealing with racial harassment and discrimination at school. She helps navigate the school discipline process, and holds districts accountable, if children of color are disproportionately targeted for suspension and expulsions.



SARAH J. PLATT
OGLETREE DEAKINS

NAMED BY
OGLETREE DEAKINS

Sarah Platt is an attorney and co-chair of the Pay Equity Practice Group. She partners with employers of all sizes to find proactive and practical ways to address issues that could otherwise limit the success of employees and companies. Sarah works with clients to analyze diversity, equity, and inclusion data and conduct proactive pay equity audits to identify risks and implement change. She frequently provides training to clients, from front-line workers to executive leadership, relating to harassment, respect in the workplace, accommodations and leave management, FMLA compliance, pay equity and other legal requirements and best practices. Sarah also often serves as an outside investigator and participates on clients' crisis management teams to respond to harassment and other internal complaints, including those arising at the highest level of an organization.



DENISE MALLOY
JOHNSON CONTROLS

NAMED BY
JOHNSON CONTROLS

As Vice President Diversity and Inclusion, Denise Malloy provides strategic and operational leadership on all global equity programs/practices across 150 countries. She is responsible for attraction, development, and retention of diverse talent, and infusing diversity, equity and inclusion principles/practices into products, outreach, and philanthropy. Denise is the architect of the newly designed diversity and inclusion mission, vision, and roadmap. She has led the effort to empower every employee to embrace the work of diversity and inclusion. This has landed Johnson Controls on the Forbes 2021 list of Best Companies for Diversity & Inclusion. Her servant leadership ensures she is reaching back, pulling forward, and leaving a legacy of advocacy and support of others. Denise serves on numerous nonprofit boards dedicated to supporting women/ children. Her corporate board experience focuses on breakthrough medical advances and aiding women/minority start-ups success. Denise attended Texas Southern University majoring in General Business/Finance.



MELANIE RICKS
101.7 THE TRUTH - GOOD KARMA BRANDS

NAMED BY
ASSOCIATED BANK

Melanie Ricks has eight years of broadcast experience and is the Host of MKE in the Morning with Mel & Joe, 101.7 The Truth. She is also an in-game host for the Milwaukee Bucks and hosted the 2020 NBA All-Star Game in Chicago. Mel danced for the Milwaukee Bucks Dance Team, Energee, for four years during college and has 10 years of professional dance, coaching and choreography experience including major productions for NBA halftimes and local award shows. Mel is a graduate of University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee with a degree in Broadcast Journalism.

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JESSICA STAMM
BAIRD

NAMED BY
BAIRD

Jessica Stamm joined Baird in 2002 and serves as FP&A Senior Manager supporting Asset Management, Private Wealth Management, and Corporate Resource Groups. Jessica holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from UW-Milwaukee and is a CPA. She is the Finance Diversity Advisory & Implementation Council Co-chair, Prism Allyship committee member and a member of Ascend, an associate resource group supporting the goal of becoming the employer of choice for women. Jessica mentors others both in and out the firm. She is a Lutheran Urban Mission Initiative board member, actively supports her church that includes a 2021 mission trip to Tijuana, Mexico and is involved with other nonprofit organizations. Jessica is married to her husband Ryan and together they have two sons, Jacob and Brady.



STARLA THOMPSON

NAMED BY
CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS
FOUNDATION

As an educator, speaker, dancer, and community advocate, Starla Thompson dedicates her life to serving communities through leadership development and Native American cultural awareness. Starla created a nationally recognized leadership development program to support Native Americans in their educational, career, and life goals. She has collaborated with businesses and government entities to build education pipelines serving tribal communities and their members from birth through career. Starla aspires to develop relationships and programming with tribal and business leaders to support and further tribal sovereignty and self-determination.

Starla is a first-generation college graduate who holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee and a Master of Business Administration from University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire.



DENISE THOMAS
THE EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION COACH, LLC

NAMED BY
BMO HARRIS BANK

Denise Thomas is focused on transforming professionals into extraordinary leaders by mastering the art of effective communication. With 20 years of experience within Fortune 500 companies, Denise honed the ability to deliver/receive messages across language, cultural, and communication-style barriers. She has been recognized for excellence in leadership from companies including General Electric, MillerCoors, PepsiCo, and Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indiana. Denise is teaching effective communication around the world, including in China, Egypt, and Israel. Denise has been honored by several Milwaukee media outlets. She is a Lead Facilitator at St. Norbert College and an Instructor for Cardinal Stritch University. She serves on nonprofit boards and advisory councils. She is also a certified Hogan Assessment and CEL 360 Coach, and E-Learning Trainer. Denise is a graduate of Cardinal Stritch University in Business Management and a member of The Links Incorporated – Milwaukee Chapter.



DR. CHIA YOUYEE VANG
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MILWAUKEE

NAMED BY
ERIKA SANDER

Typical of faculty, Dr. Chia Youyee Vang has assumed an active/productive professional life as an educator, researcher, and professional consultant. She focuses on the Hmong/Southeast Asian American experience. Learning about other cultures and people around the world is her passion. As a Hmong refugee, having grown up in the USA, she brings a rich experiential background to her scholarship as expressed in teaching, research and service. She is also the founder and directs the UWM Hmong Diaspora Studies Program. Recently, Dr. Vang served as Associate Vice Chancellor for the Division of Global Inclusion and Engagement. After re-organization, Chancellor Mone asked her to be Interim Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer, a role she continues to hold. Dr. Vang enjoys playing soccer and has proudly completed two marathons. She and Tong, her husband, have a daughter and two sons.

ACTIVATING PHILANTHROPY TO ADVANCE EQUITY FOR WOMEN

S I N C E 1 9 8 6

FOCUS AREAS

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT • LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT • EDUCATION

CONVENING THE COMMUNITY



31 annual events
1,000s of attendees
15 community talk backs

- Creating important conversations
- Intergenerational experiences
- Honoring community leaders doing this work
- Showcasing how to advance equity for women

HER SCHOLARSHIPS



121 scholars
\$431K in scholarships
3 universities

- Founded by Annette Stoddard-Freeman and Sally Grootematt; first scholarship awarded in 1996
- Non-traditional students, age 35+
- Multiple year commitments
- Incredible ripple effect, transforms lives

"I am grateful that I was selected to be a part of the HER Scholarship program. Had I not received this scholarship, I probably would have dropped out, most likely never returning to school."

HER scholarship recipient

GRANTS



Annual competitive cycle
437 grants
\$3.5M of support
148 organizations

- Invest in solutions that bring lasting change
- Support a wide range of activities including: seed funding, capacity building and evaluation.
- Leverage collective resources
- Foster partnerships and collaborations

Grants range from \$5,000 to \$25,000 focused in Metro Milwaukee and address systemic issues

FLASH GRANTS

Responsive grants for very specific projects

29 grants
\$47K of support
30 organizations

\$250 to \$2,000 grants focused in the city of Milwaukee for "just-in-time" grants

ADJUSTING ATTITUDES | INFLUENCING BEHAVIOR | SHIFTING CULTURE
FOR SYSTEMIC CHANGE

Inclusive. Powerful. Progress.

35TH ANNIVERSARY...LAUNCHED IN 1986

AS WE CELEBBRATE OUR 35TH ANNIVERSARY...

Our goal is to confirm 35 people who make, at least, a \$35 gift for 35 months, or to secure multi-year commitments of at least \$365 per year.

WHY THE WOMEN'S FUND?

Because only 1.9% of all charitable giving supports nonprofit organizations dedicated to women and girls. This statistic must grow exponentially, so people must be intentional with their philanthropy.

A gift to the Women's Fund demonstrates your understanding that philanthropy can advance equity for women through economic empowerment, leadership development, and education. It says that you believe, together, we can shift attitudes, behaviors, and culture so that Greater Milwaukee is an inclusive world-class community where women and girls realize their full potential, and everyone thrives. It supports our effort to be a region of choice for, and by, women.

Please use the power of your philanthropy; give today and we give forever. Thank you for your generosity.

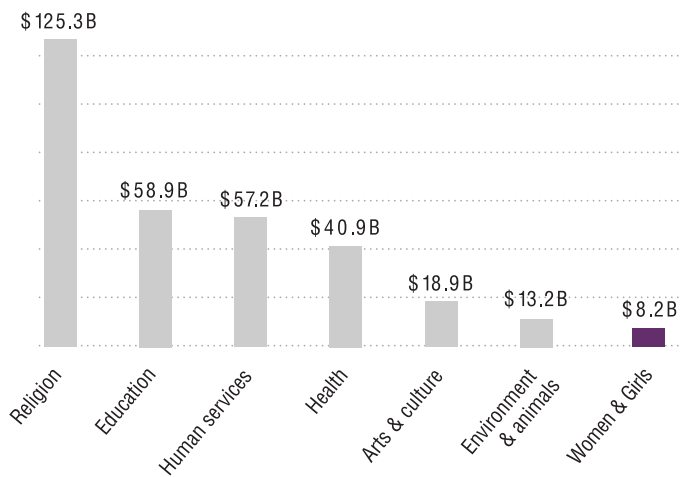
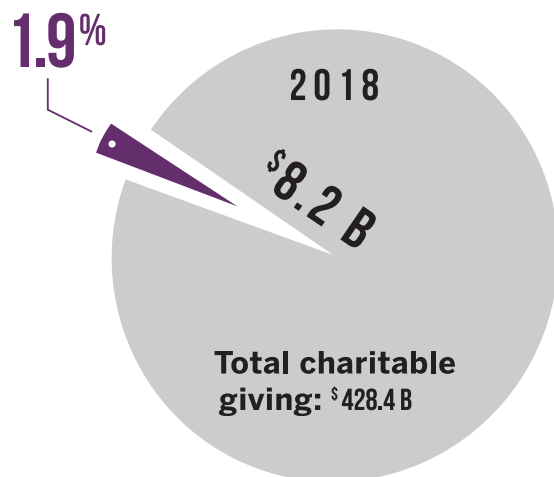
THE 35/35/35 INITIATIVE...

Here we celebrate those participating in the 35/35/35 initiative.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Margaret Daun | 11. Morgan Burns |
| 2. Nicole Horvath | 12. Ashton Henry |
| 3. Jackie Mortenson | 13. D Kirschling |
| 4. Tammy Belton-Davis | 14. Alexandria Staubach |
| 5. Elizabeth Brown | 15. Marilka Vélez |
| 6. Chris Grota | 16. Samantha Wilson |
| 7. Nancy Peterson | 17. Please commit so we can add your name here! |
| 8. Julie Grenier | 18. and here |
| 9. Juanita Mast | 19. and here...help us get to 35! |
| 10. Arlisia McHenry | |

For information contact Lisa Attonito or visit the Women's Fund website.

ONLY 1.9% OF ALL CHARITABLE GIVING SUPPORTS ORGANIZATIONS FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS.



To solve challenges large and small, our community needs more strategic philanthropy. Women can lead in new ways, harness their growing wealth and influence to create a more equitable society. We must keep building powerful and diverse philanthropists that want to support this mission.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE WOMEN INVOLVED...

"I am proud to be involved with the Women's Fund...it's been a fulfilling journey for me. I am experiencing the power that comes with thinking about and being a philanthropist. Are you giving intentionally in support of women? Please join me and use the power of your philanthropy with a gift today."

MARILKA VÉLEZ
Board Chair
Associated Bank
SVP, Senior Director of Marketing



PHOTOS - TOP LEFT (L to R): Marilka Vélez, Arlisia McHenry, Julie Ragland, Monica Shah-Davidson, Sangeeta Edwin. **BOTTOM LEFT (L to R):** Jean Lindemann, Juanita Mast, Barbara Elsner Doris Heiser and Miriam Reading. **ABOVE:** Lynette Jones, HER Scholar.

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Sue Hickey
Missy Levit
Margie Paur
Carol Robinson
Holly Ryan
Ann Stoddard
Jerri Washington
Deborah Evans Washington

Program Committee **Starla Thompson, Chair**

Heidi Furlong
Felisa Parris

FOUNDING MOTHERS

These 36 women were bold. In 1985 they launched the Fund to ensure there would always be financial resources available to support advancing equity for women and girls in our community.

Judith Bluestone
Doris Chortek
Julie Carpenter
Alberta Darling
Austin Doherty
Susan Dragisic
Judith Drinka
Barbara Elsner
Susan Engleleiter

Edith N. Finlayson
Leila Fraser
Patrice Heinz
Doris Heiser
Gretchen Henry
Gwen Jackson
Sister M. Camille Kliebhan
Melita Lane Harkness
Elizabeth Levins

Betty Lieberman
Jean Lindemann
Sister Ellen Lorenz
Marianne Lubar
Mary Messinger
Jane Moore
Judith Murphy
Betty Jo Nelsen
Dorothy Pain

Betty Ewens Quadracci
Sister Joel Read
Esther Leah Ritz
Lyn Skeen
Annette Stoddard-Freeman
Kim Trostel
Jean Tyler
Barbara Ulichny
Joan Urdan

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



LISA ATTONITO

We must all be disruptors so equity for women is the everyday norm.

We must ensure women are safe in our homes, workplaces, and communities. We must be sure women are cared for and respected as individuals with needs, opinions, and ideas. We must be represented at every level of government from our neighborhood to Washington D.C. We must have access to boundless opportunities that challenge our minds and bodies. We must be free to be women, the human beings we want to be.

Let us honor those whose shoulders we stand on and be disruptors today and every day. Let us do it for our sisters, daughters, nieces, neighbors, and all of humanity.

Be sure to align your values with your actions in every aspect of your life. Share the collective effervesce of the day with others. Use your power...your voice, your vote, and your money.

Lisa Attonito

Lisa Attonito
Executive Director
lattonito@womensfundmke.org

Lisa Attonito started as Executive Director of the Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee on November 1, 2016. Lisa has extensive experience in organizational management, board governance, staff development, budget creation and oversight, along with brand development and engagement. Her career includes senior positions with several well-known, best in class nonprofit organizations. She has a growth mindset and believes strongly in building brand experiences that reflect the culture and mission of the entity, while supporting the strategic goals. Her track record of sales includes consistent success and a dynamic network that is fueled by sound project management and good communication. Lisa holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee. She is married to Ercan Ornek and together they have two sons, Anthony, and Michael.

GIVING FIRST DAY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2021

A CONCEPT CREATED FROM A COLLECTION OF COMMUNITY GROUPS IN
WISCONSIN, INCLUDING WOMEN'S FUND OF GREATER MILWAUKEE



Traditionally, one of the most popular days of charitable giving, Giving Tuesday, falls after Black Friday and Cyber-Monday. Giving First Day flips that order. Before the hustle and bustle of the traditional shopping weekend, we have an opportunity to reflect on the needs of our community and invest in our values.

Join the movement by Giving First on Tuesday, November 23, 2021.

#givingfirstday

<https://givingfirstday.org/>



Inclusive. Powerful. Progress.

316 North Milwaukee Street, Suite 215, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
(414) 290-7350 | womensfundmke.org