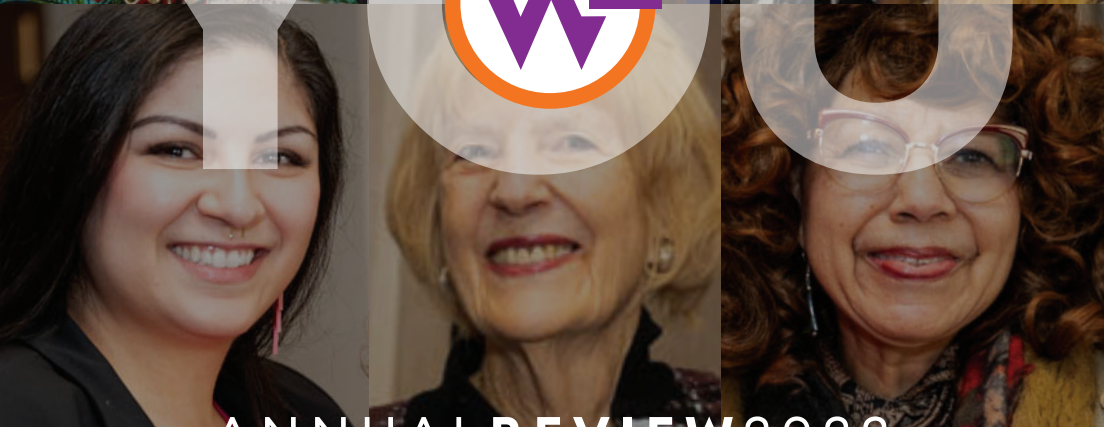




WOMEN'S FUND



YOU



ANNUAL REVIEW 2023



YOU ARE THE MOVEMENT

The Women's Fund stands at the forefront of the women's movement locally. Equity for women in government, business, community leadership, and so many other aspects of life, remains a work in progress.

Using a gender lens as our central focus and priority amidst this uncertain moment in history is critical. Without it, women and gender-expansive people disappear from the conversation and, as a result, from the equation entirely.

Using the proceeds of our endowment, coupled with funds secured from the community, people like you...we support sustainable and long-lasting transformation. We convene the community around interesting and important issues that impact women, grant HER Scholarships to women who are non-traditional students, age 35 or older, and provide essential funding to area nonprofit organizations.

It is through the power of collective philanthropy, that we use each gift to unite people, shape community consciousness, and promote solutions that create gender equity.

So YOU are the movement. Your gift ensures this work continues; your engagement creates the ripple. The Women's Fund is us...ALL of us with the resolve to foster gender equity in every aspect of our lives, with the people in our families, networks, and everywhere!

Thank you for your trust and dedication!

WITH GRATITUDE

MONICA SHAH-DAVIDSON

Chair, Board of Directors

LISA ATTONITO

Executive Director



**WOMEN'S
FUND**
PRESENTS

INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE, NAVIGATE WITH CONFIDENCE



Recognizing the pivotal role of convening community to our mission, the WF Presents event is designed to provide information, foster connections, initiate conversations and drive meaningful actions.

The keynote address by Suzanne Wertheim, PhD about inclusive language included insights and strategies. She emphasized the value of communicating respectfully and challenged us to evolve so we avoid painful mistakes. Dr. Wertheim underscored her 6 Simple Principles with stories and humor...remember "you guys" isn't as gender neutral or inclusive as society suggests it is.

In the Post Event Survey, we learned: almost everyone who attended says they are now more attentive to the language they use, approximately 15% talked positively about their event experience to more than 10 people, and more than 80% talked with 2-5, and almost 98% reported the event experience is "valuable" or "very valuable" to their work/life. This data demonstrates shifting attitudes and behavior, creating ripples in the community.

All of this is fostering gender equity...
our focus, our movement.



INCLUSIVE INFLUENCERS *In Our Community*

BRENDA BEST

BREWERS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Named by Brewers Community Foundation

YOMARIE CASTELLO

HAIR LOSS BONITA

Named by Tobias Kaemmerer and Maïlka Vélez

SHERRICE HARRELL

COMMUNITY CARE, INC.

Named by Kane Communications Group

MARLENE MOLTER

WATERSTONE BANK

Named by Waterstone Bank

NORA PLATT

NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL

Named by Quarles

LINDSAY STYCK

CIVILIAN BEAUTY, GROOMING & EDUCATION LLC

Named by Small Studio

ELYN TYSON-MCDOWELL

JOHNSON CONTROLS

Named by Johnson Controls

KATE WESOLOWSKI

ASSOCIATED BANK

Named by Associated Bank

MORE INSIGHTS AT: [womensfundmke.org/events/history-of-annual-events/](https://www.womensfundmke.org/events/history-of-annual-events/)

THE POWER OF COLLECTIVE PHILANTHROPY

We use each gift to unite people, shape community consciousness, and promote solutions that create gender equity.



PROGRAMMING

We carefully curate programming that spurs intergenerational conversations and drives meaningful action.

HER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

For over two decades, we have provided support to non-traditional students — women aged 35 and above who face tremendous hurdles — enabling them to achieve lasting economic self-sufficiency through higher education.

GRANTS

Through strategic grant-making, we support initiatives that tackle systemic issues and foster an equitable environment where everyone can thrive.

WF FLASH GRANTS

Initiated in 2017 in an effort to respond to requests and opportunities as they are presented, these grants are for a very specific project. An informal process of requests allows for spontaneity. The impact of these grants has exceeded expectations.

HIGHLIGHTS 2023

- 1 BRAND RELAUNCH**, which included our branded colors on the Hoan Bridge, WF Flash Grants to demonstrate our resolve, WF Merch for supporters to showcase their enthusiasm, and WF Power Illuminators that demonstrate their commitment.
- 2 LELA BOUTIQUE** celebrates 20th Anniversary, shares event proceeds, displays WF Merch, and Pop Up Shop.
- 3 KATHLEEN TURNER**, HER Scholar inspires support and confirms ROI as WF Presents Event Emcee.
- 4 EX FABULA** collaboration with content from *She Speaks*.
- WF Power Illuminators gathered at the Jewish Museum Milwaukee for their exhibit: **WOMEN PULLING AT THE THREADS OF SOCIAL DISCOURSE**.
- The book, *The Inclusive Language Field Guide* is distributed to more than 400 Event Attendees and Dr. Wertheim earns a window display at the **BARNES & NOBLE IN NYC**.
- "What's Next?" is the theme for a partnership with **WOMEN IN DESIGN**.
- RENAISSANCE THEATER WORKS** entertains with *Tidy*.
- New research conducted by Alverno College **RESEARCH CENTER FOR WOMEN & GIRLS** is explained.
- Grant dollars were invested in advocacy, like to **WISCONSIN WOMEN'S NETWORK** for their Women Policy Institute.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024

Monica Shah-Davidson, Chair

Danila Danesi, Treasurer

Uma Vandegrift, Secretary

Griselda Aldrete

Judi Andrade

Sangeeta Edwin

Cherie Harris

Ashton Henry

Nicole Horvath

Gillian Lester-George de Montesinos

Melissa McCord

Cheryl Moore, PhD

Amy Muehlbauer

Beth Odian

Nancy Peterson

Chandra Rodgers

Erika Sander

Alexandria Staubach

Carol Voss

Jerri Washington

JUST 2% OF ALL CHARITABLE GIFTS ARE IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

People who support the Women's Fund consider themselves knowledgeable, action oriented, and social justice funders. While they give to numerous organizations, they feel both satisfied and proud of their support of the Women's Fund.

Please make a meaningful investment to the Women's Fund:

Secure WF Website

Check via USPS

Utilize appreciated stock

Designate from your Donor Advised Fund

Leverage your IRA RMD

Direct United Way Campaign donation # 824813

**YOUR INVESTMENT HELPS TO MOVE THE NEEDLE.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.**

WOMEN'S FUND

OF GREATER MILWAUKEE

Lisa Attonito, Executive Director

316 N. Milwaukee Street, Suite 215, Milwaukee, WI 53202

414.290.7350 • womensfundmke.org • lattonito@womensfundmke.org

COMMUNITY. ADVOCACY. IMPACT.

WF POWER ILLUMINATOR CHALLENGE 2024

CREATED BY ANNETTE JACOBSON

Sometimes a ripple starts with a splash of bright light. Such is the case with the formation of the WF Power Illuminators.

On September 27, 2023 the new branded colors danced on the Hoan Bridge and the community was enthused. The names of individuals that had generously donated \$1,000 or more were read. Annette celebrated those gifts with a new personal gift of \$23,000 in 2023.

But there is more...

Annette created a challenge for 2024 too...for every new \$1,000 she will match it. Annette is a WF POWER ILLUMINATOR and she is a big ripple in the women's movement.

THANK YOU ANNETTE!

TURN THIS CARD OVER to see the names of the people who have already accepted Annette's challenge, and scan the QR code to become a WF Power Illuminator. All gifts or intentions must be received by October 31, 2024; the match is capped at \$24,000.



THE CRISIS FOR WOMEN IS REAL AND EVOLVING

For nearly forty years we have been a powerful voice boldly challenging the status quo and advocating for gender equity. We are not your average advocates; **WE ARE PIONEERS OF CHANGE**, weaving dreams into reality. As disruptors for good, we are fearlessly uncompromising in the way we push boundaries and reshape societal norms in our quest to realize a world where every woman, girl, and gender-expansive person thrives authentically and unapologetically.

At the Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee, compassion meets expertise... and empathy fuels action. As we journey together toward gender equity, every dollar, every voice, and every heart matters. Your support becomes the ripple that transforms lives and illuminates Greater Milwaukee in progress.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT. LET'S WEAVE POSSIBILITIES INTO REALITY TOGETHER.



2023-2024

POWER.

Illuminators!

These individuals have used the power of collective philanthropy and invested at least \$1,000 this year in support of the mission to mobilize philanthropy and foster unity for gender equity. These personal gifts unite people, shape community consciousness, and promote solutions that create gender equity.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Carrie Arrouet

Kristin Bergstrom

Ranu Bhatia

Sandra Cunningham

Sandy Duffy

Frank Daily and
Julie Ebert

Sangeeta Edwin

Andrea Eid

Barbara N. Fuldner

Heidi Furlong

Michael W. Engh and
Chris K. Gawart

Sarah Gilday

Cindy Gnadinger

Chris Grota

Lindsay Hammerer

Margarete Harvey

Cynthia Hasbrook

Doris Heiser

Sue Hickey

Jayne Hladio

Nicole Horvath

Annette Jacobson

Tobias Kaemmerer

Judy A. Keyes

Donna Kleczka

Chrissy Kruger-Gruendyke

Gillian Lester-
George de Montesinos

Elizabeth Levins

Missy Levit

Mary Beth Malm

Karen J. Maroda

Maureen McGinnity

Amy Muehlbauer

Kathryn Norris

Beth Odian

Nancy Peterson

Julie Ragland

Josh Randall

Sheila Reynolds

Chandra Rodgers

Holly Ryan

Erika Sander

Annemarie Sawkins

Kathy Schill

Lavanya Shah

Monica Shah-Davidson

Katherine Sieger

Rose Spang

Alexandria Staubach

Barbara Stein

Uma Vandegrift

Marilka Vélez

Beth Weckmueller

Names listed in orange responded since the WF Presents event when Annette Jacobson announced the WF Power Illuminator Challenge.

JANUARY 2024

YOU ARE INVITED TO ADD YOUR NAME!

