2020 ANNUAL REPORT

WOMEN’S GIVING ALLIANCE
THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Women together... changing lives

www.wganefl.org
The year 2020 was unusual, to say the least. In late February, WGA joined fellow women’s collective giving groups at the Philanos Conference in Seattle. By the time we were ready to board our flights home, COVID-19 was a topic of conversation, though not a reason to be overly concerned. Everything changed by mid-March.

The topics discussed in Seattle seemed almost prescient: trust-based philanthropy, diversity, equity and inclusion and advocacy for marginalized groups. Attendees came back home thinking that these were great discussions that we could have in the coming year. But with the rapid spread of the pandemic, resulting economic fallout and racial unrest spreading across the country, WGA realized the need to start the discussions immediately.

As you read this annual report, you will see how WGA stepped up to these challenges. You’ll get a sense of the courage and dedication of the many nonprofits in our community that showed all of us how to move forward. Time and time again, nonprofits pivoted to learn new technologies, implement new workplace and safety protocols and continue serving those who depended on them.

I am so proud, not only of WGA Members and our leadership, but so very proud of the agencies we work with. Thank you to all of you.

In closing, I would like to quote former Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg:

“Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you.”

Thank you for joining WGA!

Mary Pietan, President
2020 marked the third year of WGA’s focus on breaking the cycle of female poverty through intervention and prevention. The year began with optimism, as women made gains in areas including employment, a (somewhat) narrowed gender wage gap, increases in female C-suite leadership and continued progress in breaking the silence on gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment and assault.

But as COVID-19 surged, the pandemic exposed crippling weaknesses in our health care, housing, education, government, supply chains, food system and other bedrocks of society and the economy. Exacerbating gender, racial and economic inequities, women bore the brunt of COVID. Impacts were particularly devastating to poor and vulnerable populations including low-paid women, women of color, migrants and working mothers.

“I cannot express how grateful we are. I no longer feel as if I am fighting alone. You are living proof that there are still good people around.”

— Ms. A., single mother of two

COVID’S IMPACT ON WOMEN & GIRLS

It will take time to determine the full impact of the pandemic, but there are some early indications of gender-specific challenges:
2020 Milestones & Accomplishments

Despite the many challenges, WGA made tremendous strides in 2020. With the support of WGA’s dedicated Members and nonprofit partners, WGA advanced initiatives in advocacy, grantmaking, virtual programming, research and diversity, equity and inclusion.

A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR FOR GRANTS

$595K

How do we make girls a priority in Florida?
Read the report at wganefl.org/research-resources

“One of the greatest benefits I’ve found in being a member of WGA is the joy that comes from being an active participant in a highly respected giving circle that funds quality programming and initiatives.”

— Kara Williams, WGA Member

Rethreaded
Survivor Development Program – All Northeast Florida Counties
Support sex trafficking victims with trauma-specific counseling, weekly life skills classes and other career development opportunities.

Girl Scouts of Gateway Council
Community Development Troops – Duval, St. Johns & Clay Counties
Provide positive programming for 1,200 at-risk girls to build skills in financial literacy, leadership, community service and camping.

MaliVai Washington Kids Foundation
Girl Power! Duval County
Implement Overcoming Obstacles Curriculum with classes, academic support, mentoring and mental health services for middle- and high-school girls.
“A missed week of work can lead to a missed rent payment which can lead to homelessness. A small step with emergency cash assistance can help keep a roof over someone’s head.”
— Gwen Gallagher-Howard, Executive Director, Helping WIN

$586,000: Poverty-focused grants
$9,000: Direct response to provide food to homebound senior women

GRANTMAKING
Since inception, WGA has awarded more than $7 MILLION to more than 59 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS in Northeast Florida serving women and girls.

2020: $595,000

More Than $7 MILLION Total

Year Up Jacksonville
Workforce Development Program
Duval County
Help women secure livable wage jobs by providing professional training and internships in high-growth industries such as IT and sales/customer support.

Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry (BEAM)
Single Parent Program
Duval & St. Johns Counties
Support 60 women on their path to economic stability, via a three-year program that includes case management, financial training, career support and mental health services.

Barnabas Center
Hope Builders for Women 2.0
Nassau County
Offer individualized life skills training, a savings match program and financial assistance for housing, transportation and childcare to Nassau County women living in poverty.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Nassau County
SMART Girls Initiative
Nassau County
Fund the SMART Girls curriculum, mentorship and peer support, providing age- and gender-specific programming to Nassau County girls ages 11-18.

Delta Research & Educational Foundation
Dr. Betty Shabazz Academy/Growing & Empowering Myself Successfully (BSA/GEMS) — Duval County
Engage 200 African-American girls, ages 11-18, in activities that promote interest in obtaining a college degree or vocation and becoming more fiscally responsible.

giving circle that funds quality programming and initiatives.”
— Kara Williams, WGA Member
WGA Members ensure women and girls are supported in Northeast Florida for perpetuity.

Thank you for your generosity, hard work and unwavering support.
Women’s Giving Alliance is an initiative of The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, and as such, benefits from its charitable status as a 501(c)(3) organization. WGA gratefully acknowledges the expertise and financial support it receives from The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, with special thanks to its Board and Staff: Ryan A. Schwartz–Chairman, Board of Trustees; Joanne E. Cohen–Vice President, Philanthropic Services; Teri Calinao–Philanthropic Services Officer; Nina Waters–President; Grace Sacerdote–Executive Vice President and CFO; and Susan Datz Edelman–Vice President, Strategic Communications.

Grants Awarded To Agencies Benefiting Women & Girls In Northeast Florida

Member-Driven Grants Decision Process

Grants Awarded To Agencies Benefiting Women & Girls In Northeast Florida

GET INVOLVED TODAY

It’s easy to support WGA, and tailor your level of commitment.

JOIN OR RENEW
Develop a deeper understanding of the issues, maximize your giving, connect with like-minded women and have fun! Learn more at wganefl.org/membership.

DONATE TO THE GRANTS POOL
Grow the impact of your gift through the power of collective giving, and make a lasting impact in your community.

JOIN A COMMITTEE OR VOLUNTEER
Lend your time and talents to one of our events, initiatives or committees.

ATTEND AN EVENT & BRING A FRIEND
Learn more about WGA and meet new friends. WGA educational events and bi-annual luncheon meetings are open to all.

ADVOCATE FOR WOMEN & GIRLS
Follow WGA on social media to stay in the loop on policies and trends affecting women and girls.

CONNECT WITH US

Sources:
1. “As Jobs Cap 10 Years of Gains, Women Are Workforce Majority,” The Wall Street Journal
3. “The Number of Female CEOs in the Fortune 500 Hits an All-Time Record,” Fortune
5. “Women on the Front Lines,” TIME’S UP Foundation
8. “Research to Action: Make Girls a Priority in Florida,” Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center
10. “Florida Migrant Workers Among Hardest Hit by COVID-19,” Partners in Health
11. “Sadowski Coalition Statement on the Florida Legislature Fully Funding Affordable Housing,” Sadowski Coalition

WGA ENDOWMENT FUND
Since WGA’s beginning, members have set aside a portion of each annual membership investment to our endowment fund to support women and girls in perpetuity.
That fund is nearly $5 MILLION and includes 58 WOMEN who have endowed their membership in perpetuity as WGA Legacy members.

2020: $4,945,427

Annual Endowment Spending | Annual Membership Contributions | Additional Grant Pool Gifts

$5 | $4.5 | $4 | $3.5 | $3 | $2.5 | $2 | $1.5 | $1 | $.5 | $0

2011 - 2020

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