



WASHINGTON AREA
WOMEN'S
FOUNDATION

25
YEARS
1997-2022

2022 COMMUNITY INVESTMENT REPORT

Investing in the power of women and girls of color across the Washington metropolitan region.

For 25 years, Washington Area Women's Foundation has collaborated closely with local organizations, working tirelessly to provide them with the necessary tools and support for creating positive change in our community. In the past year, your generosity played a pivotal role in propelling us forward in our mission to invest in the power of our community. Thanks to your unwavering support, we accelerated funding distribution, optimized investment processes, and cultivated even stronger partnerships based on trust and adaptability.



"The Women's Foundation's funds had a cascading effect because we were able to improve our technology to help more women and attract volunteers to help spread our helpline hours. The funds helped us improve our voiceover internet service to allow our team to be more mobile, expanding our reach to assist with relocation and safety-nights."

Arleen B. Joell, Founder, Community Advocates for Family & Youth (CAFY)



"With The Women's Foundation's first grant, we were able to create a space to discuss community concerns [for immigrant educators]. We worked with educators to shine a spotlight on the inequities by lifting their voices and sharing [their] stories. We testified in front of legislatures, government agencies, and learned about [educators'] rights for language access, workplace, etc."

Teresa Aspinwall, Executive Director, Multicultural Spanish Speaking Providers Association (MSSPA)



"The Rock Star Fund has been instrumental in my professional development, and being a part of it has exposed me to the importance of pursuing my craft and the positive impact it can have. Throughout my journey as a Rock Start Fund Awardee, I have received valuable feedback and support from mentors and the community, which has been truly inspiring."

Kennedy Solaru, 2022 Rock Star, Founder of Solaru Global Education

OUR IMPACT

\$600K

Total amount granted

19

Total # of organizations supported

187,935

Total # of women and girls impacted

GRANTEE PARTNERS SUPPORTED

The Women's Foundation greatly depends on our grantee partners, who serve on the frontline in our communities, addressing critical needs for women and girls of color and working together to create lasting impact and empowerment.

In 2022...



ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS



7

We championed women and girls in our community, lending our voice to 7 advocacy coalitions and philanthropic collaboratives.

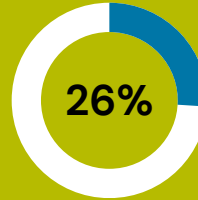
11

We partnered with our grantee partners to influence 11 local and state policies, positively impacting women, girls, and their families.

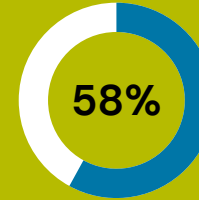
GRANT ALLOCATION



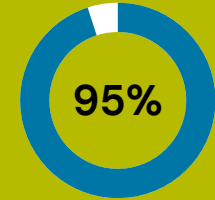
100%
of grants awarded were allocated toward general operating dollars.



26%
of grants awarded were allocated toward organizations with 1 or no full-time staff.



58%
of grants awarded were allocated toward organizations with operating budgets of \$1M or less.



95%
of grants awarded were allocated toward organizations with women or gender-expansive leaders of color at the helm.

Because of supporters LIKE YOU...

The Women's Foundation was able to help our grantee partners:

EARLY CARE & EDUCATION

- **Professional Development:** Hold 28 in-person and virtual events, including professional development sessions, young children's performances, and early educator networking opportunities, increasing engagement by 20%.
- **Policy & Advocacy Expansion:** Expand the child care subsidy program to families earning up to 300% of the federal poverty level, demonstrating its significance in building a racially-just early education system and inclusive economy.
- **Professional Development:** Support early educators in applying for the Fall 2023 bilingual AA program at the University of DC Community College. Recently, 21 educators completed the inaugural class and 20 more graduated in May.
- **Policy & Advocacy Engagement:** Engage 50 educators & 20 parents and guardians and train over 500 people in the art of storytelling in an effort to help 150 educators, parents, and community leaders craft and deliver their stories in critical forums like oversight hearings and public conferences.

ROCK STAR FUND

- **Equipping Youth Entrepreneurs:** Invest in participatory grantmaking to provide young women and gender-expansive youth of color ages 12-24 living in DC with a grant of up to \$2,000 to invest in their own community-change project. Your investment allowed us to award grants to 8 young women, each coming up with innovative projects that advance the recommendations of our [Blueprint for Action](#).

SAFETY & VIOLENCE PREVENTION

- **Team Expansion:** Hire additional staff, including attorneys, a healing justice program manager, outreach personnel, survivor services team members and other critical staff to significantly boost organizational capacity.
- **Critical Housing Support:** Provide housing referrals to regional partners and emergency housing to those with urgent needs.
- **Healing Justice Program Expansion:** Respond to the growing need for a healing justice program to enhance youth support and hire a youth attorney.
- **Immigrant Survivors Support:** Deliver comprehensive services, including legal representation, housing referrals, victim advocacy, and food and clothing access to over 800 immigrant survivors.
- **Enhanced Outreach:** Expand communication efforts through various channels leading to the grantee partner's highest number of referrals in its organization's 19-year history, reaching more survivors in need.

YOUNG WOMEN'S INITIATIVE

- **Empowering Youth:** Organize a dynamic summit that gathered more than 120 youth across DC to collaboratively address and brainstorm relevant and pressing youth challenges.
- **Healing Justice Circle Nurturing:** Host healing circles that benefitted more than 25 youth participants and included self-care toolkits, yoga techniques, and effective breathing practices to empower youth to manage stress and anxiety effectively.
- **Influential Political Forums:** Orchestrate a Mayoral Candidate forum and a General Councilmember candidate forum ahead of the primaries for 17 candidates, fostering essential conversations on issues critical to youth.

Thank you for your
generous support.

We couldn't have
done it without you!

OUR 2022 GRANTEE PARTNERS



For 25 years, The Women's Foundation has remained steadfast in our commitment to empowering and safeguarding women, girls, and gender-expansive individuals of color in the Washington metropolitan region. We tirelessly work at every level to enhance their well-being now and for generations to come. Learn more about our impact and how you can be involved at www.thewomensfoundation.org.

Scan the QR Code below to view or download a digital copy of the report!



Washington Area Women's Foundation is a community-supported foundation that invests in the power of women and girls of color in the Washington, DC region. We open doors to opportunity, safety, and security through grantmaking and advocacy.



thewomensfoundation.org



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