

FORWARD

News & Updates from the New Hampshire Women's Foundation



ON OCTOBER 19 we gathered with hundreds of Women's Foundation friends, supporters and colleagues for our 19th Annual Women Building Community Luncheon (WBC).

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Thank You

As we close out the year, I am reminded again and again of how grateful I am for our donors, volunteers, friends and supporters. Your commitment to investing in women and girls makes the work of the Women's Foundation possible—from our grantmaking to our research to our Women Run! program.

We are proud of all we accomplished in 2023: releasing our latest *Status of Women in New Hampshire* and *Gender Matters* reports, empowering and training women across the state to run for local and statewide office, advocating on behalf of women and

girls in the legislature including the "Mominibus" bill and increasing mental health education in schools, while also defending abortion access and the rights of our transgender siblings, hosting a record-breaking GALA honoring our 2023 AmplifiHER, Congresswoman Annie McLane Kuster, welcoming world-renowned speaker Elizabeth Nyamayaro to our WBC Luncheon, announcing the creation of the Clark Leadership Program, and funding more than 30 organizations from every county in the state who are providing vital resources and support to Granite State women and girls including our Women and Girls of Color Fund and our She Change Grantees.

Yet despite all our successes this year, we have also seen unprecedented rollbacks of rights and protections long afforded to women, girls and marginalized genders. In the same year we marked the one-year anniversary of the fall of Roe v. Wade, we fought back against numerous bills in the New Hampshire Legislature to limit and/or deny access to abortion. We don't expect the next year to look much different, so as a result, we are joining a coalition of partners to support a constitutional amendment protecting access to abortion in the Granite State. Our Reproductive and Sexual Health Access Fund will be investing in this effort and we encourage you to get involved and invest in this effort with us. Unequivocally, the New Hampshire Women's Foundation is committed to ensuring that all people have access to high quality reproductive health care—including abortion.

As the only foundation in New Hampshire focused solely on gender equity, we are propelled by the strong financial support of donors who share our commitment to advancing opportunity and equality for women, girls and marginalized genders. We are proud to be the philanthropic home to Granite Staters who, like us, believe that when you invest in women and girls, you strengthen communities. Moreover, I know you share our commitment to ensuring high quality data is the foundation for any policy or legislation that impacts women and girls. And finally, I know that you share our vision of political parity—that women should have 50% of the seats at the decision-making table.

Making an investment in the Women's Foundation means you're making an investment in the women and girls of the Granite State. Please join us this year—whether you're a first-time donor or a long-time supporter—by investing in the Women's Foundation. Together we can change the future by investing in women and girls.

With you in action and in spirit,

Tanna



Thank you, Linda!

This month, Linda Johnson steps down from her role as Board Chair, but will remain on the Board for another three-year term, serving on the Executive and Governance Committees.

Linda's successor, Allison Potter, says "Linda's leadership and mentorship to to other board members, including myself, has been invaluable."

Thank you for your leadership, Linda!

Women Building Community Luncheon



Our 19th Annual Women Building Community Luncheon (WBC) on October 19th in Manchester was an incredible celebration. Our largest event of the year, WBC once again convened feminists and champions of gender equality from around the state to fellowship with hundreds of like-minded people. Our Grantee Showcase allowed attendees to learn more about our grantee organizations' work as they made their way into the Luncheon. During the program, we heard from outgoing Women's Foundation Board Chair Linda Johnson, and incoming Board Vice-Chair Dan Weeks, representing incoming Board Chair Allison Potter, who will be the youngest Board Chair in Women's Foundation history!

We honored longtime Board member and Founding Mother of the Women's Fund, and co-founder of Women's Policy Institute and the Women's Lobby, the Honorable Martha Fuller Clark. On behalf of her late husband, Dr. Geoffrey Clark, and herself, and in honor of her daughter and granddaughters, and the many women with whom she's worked for

the past 30 years, she announced the Clark Leadership Fund, which will permanently support a leadership program.

Our keynote speaker was Elizabeth Nyamayaro, an award-winning humanitarian, Special Advisor at the United Nations and author of *A Girl from Africa*. Elizabeth shared her story in a moving address, including a reading of her book — bringing many attendees to tears.

Thanks to the many who were a part of this event, including sponsors: Eversource, Revision Energy, McLane Middleton, Wild Valentine, Dartmouth Health, Impax Asset Management, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, NHPR, New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and Lovering Auto Group. Many thanks to our incredible team of volunteers who help make our events a success. And of course, thanks to everyone who marks their calendar and joins us for this every year — we love hearing how much you enjoy the luncheon and all the connections you make at WBC. We can't wait to see you all next year!

Girls in the #603 Symposium

Before the Luncheon, we held our annual #603 symposium, this year focused on girls' mental health.

NHWF Research Fellow Caitlin McMonagle presented updated data on girls' mental health, which will be published in our forthcoming *Status of Girls in New Hampshire* report, followed by a panel discussion with experts on girls' mental health in New Hampshire.



2023 She Change Award: Belknap House

The 2023 She Change Award was presented to Belknap House, the only family-centered homeless shelter in Belknap County. Executive Director Paula Ferenc shared stories of families that Belknap House — the only family homeless shelter in Belknap County — serves each year.

"When you hear about homelessness, it is often stigmatized with a vision that appears in your head about the population. But in reality the homelessness and housing crisis happening in NH, a systemic problem with a devastating impact is happening to women, children and families"

Grantmaking in Action

Our Community Grantmaking program fuels positive change in our communities by supporting the most innovative and promising solutions to issues related to gender equality today. We know that when women and girls prosper, communities thrive. Here are our 2023 Community Grantees:

Organization	Description
Amoskeag Health	Amoskeag Health, serving Hillsborough County, improves the health and well-being of patients and communities by providing exceptional care and services that are accessible to all and was funded to support expansion of the Family Advisory Council for New Americans.
Boys & Girls Club of Greater Nashua, Inc.	Boys & Girls Club of Greater Nashua, Inc., serving Hillsborough County, focuses on enabling all young people to reach their potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens and was funded to support scholarships (6 weeks - 5 years old) for low-income families at the Early Learning Center.
Breakthrough Manchester	Breakthrough Manchester, serving Hillsborough County, is a 6-year college access program for Manchester students in under-served communities, and was funded to support costs for middle school girls attending Breakthrough Summer Program.
Circle Program	Circle Program, serving Belknap, Carroll, Grafton, and Merrimack counties, was funded to strengthen Circle's Teen Adventure Camp for 14-18 year old girls.
Claremont Learning Partnership	Claremont Learning Partnership, in Sullivan County, focuses on increasing educational access, attainment and opportunity for all and was funded to support team building programming at Oasis Drop-In Teen Center.
Community Action Partnership	Community Action Partnership of Strafford County's mission is to reduce barriers to economic stability and well-being and was funded to support the Domestic Violence Housing Supports Program.
Cornucopia Project	Cornucopia Project, serving Hillsborough County, is focused on healthy eating through garden, kitchen, and farm education and was funded to support the youth farmer program which employs high school students.
Granite State Roller Derby	Granite State Roller Derby, in Merrimack County, empowers members and enriches the community through the sport of roller derby and was funded to support community outreach and reduce economic barriers to participation.
Haven Violence Prevention and Support Services	Haven Violence Prevention and Support Services, in Rockingham and Strafford Counties, was funded to support their mission of preventing sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking and to support and empower all women, men, non-binary, and transgender adults, youth and families to heal from abuse and rebuild their lives.
Hope on Haven Hill	Hope on Haven Hill, in Strafford County, was funded to support their mission of providing treatment and services for pregnant and parenting women in recovery and their children.
International Institute of New England	International Institute of New England, which serves Hillsborough and Merrimack counties, was funded to support their continuing "LNA for Success" project, which provides low-income immigrants with job training and placement in a growing industry offering family-sustaining wages.



Organization	Description
Joan G. Lovering Health Center	Joan G. Lovering Health Center, in Rockingham County and serving patients throughout NH, was funded to support their mission of ensuring sexual and reproductive healthcare is accessible to over 400 patients.
Kimball Jenkins	Kimball Jenkins, in Merrimack County, cultivates creativity, makes arts education accessible, and honors historic preservation. Funding will support the Performing and Comedy Workshop for incarcerated women in Concord.
Manchester Community Action Coalition	Manchester Community Action Coalition, in Hillsborough and Merrimack Counties, elevates the voices of People of Color in NH and was funded to support co-creation of high quality, accessible, and culturally appropriate family childcare options.
Overcomers Refugee Services	Overcomers Refugee Services, serving Merrimack County, empowers refugees to become successful, contributing members of NH society and was funded to support and strengthen capacity to serve refugee women through hiring a female caseworker.
Reproductive Freedom Fund of New Hampshire	Reproductive Freedom Fund of New Hampshire, which serves people Statewide, was funded to support their mission of removing financial barriers for anyone receiving abortion care in or from NH.
Shelter From the Storm	Shelter From the Storm, in Cheshire County, was funded to support their mission of providing transitional housing and support programs.
Spark! Community Center	Spark! Community Center, in Grafton County, is a welcoming place for all people of differing abilities and was funded for the support group for women with developmental and intellectual disabilities to connect and build trusting relationships.
Turning Points Network	Turning Points Network, in Sullivan County, enhances the safety and well-being of victims and survivors of domestic and sexual abuse and stalking through empowerment and advocacy and was funded for the Violence Prevention and Education program for children and youth.
United Way of Greater Nashua, Inc	United Way of Greater Nashua, Inc, works to make measurable improvements in lives by mobilizing the caring power of communities and was funded for Rosie's Pantry which provides feminine hygiene products for female residents of Nashua.
Waypoint	Waypoint, serving Hillsborough, Merrimack, Rockingham, Strafford, and Grafton counties, empowers people of all ages through an array of human services and advocacy, and was funded to support outreach and critical services for homeless youth and young adults in Manchester, Concord, and the Seacoast.

2023 Women & Girls of Color Fund aims to reverse the historic and persistent underinvestment in women and girls of color. The Fund augments our existing grantmaking and provides low-barrier, faster turnaround grants to projects led by and serving women and girls of color in New Hampshire. We are pleased to announce our 2023 grantees:



- New American Scholars, serving Hillsborough and Merrimack counties, provides refugee students in New Hampshire the resources to successfully transition into their new school communities through academic assistance, social support and peer-mentorship.
- Hero Mama, serving Hillsborough County, helps African women to integrate and to overcome their challenges and become financially independent. Funding was provided to support refugee women to prepare, take, and pass the written driver test with goals that include increased mobility and independence.
- Overcomers Refugee Services, serving Merrimack County, empowers refugees to become successful, contributing members of NH society and was funded to provide incentives to refugee women clients who attend ORS Women's meetings, removing barriers and encouraging participation.

Around the State



Four *Women Run!* alum won their elections on November 7th!

Grant Review Committee members gathered throughout the state this summer to review more than 65 applications.



NHWF team members attended the Women's Funding Network's bi-annual "Feminist Funded" conference in DC in September.

ELECTION RESULTS					
Elected Women in City Leadership					
	MAYOR	CITY COUNCIL/ BOARD OF ALDERMAN		SCHOOL BOARD	
Berlin	—	↑	50%	—	40%
Claremont	—	—	0%	N/A	86%
Concord	—	—	57%	↑	64%
★ Dover	—	↓	50%	↓	86%
Franklin	—	↑	33%	N/A	67%
Keene	—	—	20%	N/A	33%
Laconia	—	—	0%	—	86%
Lebanon	N/A	N/A	29%	N/A	78%
Manchester	↓	↓	21%	↑	43%
★ Nashua	—	↓	27%	↓	78%
Portsmouth	—	—	33%	↓	67%
Rochester	—	↓	17%	↓	23%
★ Somersworth	—	↑	22%	↑	78%

↑ INCREASED ↓ DECREASED — NO CHANGE ★ **WOMEN RUN!** ALUM(S) ELECTED

N/A = No Election Held in Nov. 2023
 Percentages Shown Reflect Nov 7 Election
 * Special state house election, resulting in Women Run! alum victory

Women's representation shifted in elected city leadership across New Hampshire.

Ways to Support the Women's Foundation



HOST A FACEBOOK BIRTHDAY FUNDRAISER

NHWF Board member Tara Chynoweth hosted a Facebook fundraiser for the Women's Foundation for her birthday this year. She posted: "I've chosen this nonprofit because their mission means a lot to me, and I hope you'll consider contributing as a way to celebrate with me." Her fundraiser had a goal of \$250 and she exceeded that goal, raising \$375 for the Women's Foundation! Thank you, Tara!



DONATE WINNINGS TO NHWF

Kara Ann was recently named one of "10 to Watch" in SeacoastOnline/Catapult Seacoast's "10 to Watch" event. Her research on interpersonal violence was recognized by the American Psychological Association for "its contribution to feminist research on the psychology of women and gender." Each of the chosen final 10 winners chose a nonprofit for Eversource to direct a donation of \$250 — and Kara chose the Women's Foundation! Congratulations, Kara, and thank you for choosing the Women's Foundation!



DONATE MONTHLY

Lindsey Williams showed up to our inaugural *Women Run!* training in 2017 not sure if she would run for office, but open to the possibility. The day before, so as to not miss the deadline to file, Lindsey had filed for Dover City Council, but remained uncertain of her decision.

At the *Women Run!* training that day, Lindsey and her fellow participants heard the message, "run as you are," and by the end of the training, she knew she was going to campaign for a City Council seat.

Today, Lindsey is a monthly donor, giving \$25/month to the Women's Foundation, to help keep programs like *Women Run!* going for others. Lindsey just won her third term on City Council, and she told us, "I still regularly rely on my key takeaway from that first training session: 'run as you are.' I even added my own second part: 'run as you are, serve as you are.'"

Thank you Lindsey!

BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP



We are grateful for the support of businesses across the Granite State, like ReVision Energy, who sponsor events, publications or other programs.

"As a leading construction company always in need of more skilled workers, the resources and networks we've gained by partnering with the Foundation have helped us successfully recruit and

retain women leaders throughout the business, especially in engineering and the trades. Our employee-owners of all genders benefit from the family-friendly policies we've adopted, with help from NHWF, and love attending Foundation events every year. Turns out advancing gender equity goes hand-in-hand with our mission impact and financial success," says Dan Weeks, VP of Business Development.



MAKE AN IN-KIND GIFT

This year, Wild Valentine came on board as a year-long in-kind sponsor by providing all the flowers for our two major annual events, the GALA and Women Building Community (WBC) Luncheon. One of the most exciting moments at WBC this year was the giveaway of the gorgeous Wild Valentine centerpieces — and people were coming back to snatch programs when they heard there was a Wild Valentine coupon inside!

Scan QR code or visit nhwomensfoundation.org/donate-now to make a one-time gift or become a monthly donor. For business sponsorships, in-kind gifts, stock gifts or bequeathments, contact Tanna Clews at tanna@nhwomensfoundation.org or call (603) 226-3355





**NEW HAMPSHIRE
WOMEN'S FOUNDATION**

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Let's change the **FUTURE** by
investing in women& girls **TODAY**.

Please include the Women's Foundation in your year-end giving.
Text NHWF to 44321 or visit nhwomensfoundation.org/donate.

It's never too late to invest in NHWF.
Make your gift today!

