



TOGETHER, INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

Women's Funding Alliance

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2005
inside:

Women's Funding Alliance Receives \$200,000 Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Grant

The Women's Funding Alliance (WFA) is thrilled to announce that we have received a \$200,000 grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for our new advancement campaign. This is the first time the foundation has provided funding to WFA, and we are grateful and excited about the partnership!

Half of the funds will support capacity building over the next two years, and half will be used for re-granting to organizations serving women and girls in the Puget Sound region that have traditionally not received funding from the Bill & Melinda

Gates Foundation. WFA is undertaking various strategies to strengthen our internal systems and long-term effectiveness, including strategic planning, improving our infrastructure, and launching a study on the status of women and girls. This funding gives us even more momentum toward those goals.

At the same time, the re-granting money will help us contribute more resources to organizations that might not currently have access to mainstream funders. WFA fills a unique

niche: funding lesser-known agencies serving marginalized women and girls. By supporting these agencies, the Alliance increases their credibility, thus enhancing their ability to obtain funding from other sources.

We are excited about this next step of growth and look forward to keeping you updated on our progress. For more information about the advancement campaign, contact LeAnne Moss at leanne@wfalliance.org or (206) 467-6733. ■

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Ripples of Hope, Ripples of Change Ripple Fund 2005 Awards

For the second year in a row, women have joined together to participate in the age-old tradition of shared giving through the Ripple Fund Donor Circle. This year five women (up from three last year) collectively contributed and distributed \$25,000!

The application process was competitive. WFA received 27 letters of interest requesting a total of \$223,500 in support, all for worthy programs. After careful consideration, the donor circle members funded three programs. The Women's Funding Alliance and the Ripple Fund are pleased to announce these awards in 2005:

- \$7,500 to the Kinderling Center for the Support Group for Spanish Speaking Mothers and an extra \$2,500 to be used as needed in recogni-

tion of the superior leadership of the Center's executive director, Mimi Siegel

- \$7,500 to Metrocenter YMCA for their Girls of Promise program
- \$7,500 to Parent Trust for Washington Children for their Families in Recovery Support Group program

Donor circles are gaining in popularity, as giving becomes more intentional, strategic, and values-based. At WFA, Ripple Fund donors pool their gifts and serve as grantmakers to fund specific projects. Each member contributes a minimum of \$5,000 and actively participates in proposal review and evaluation, site visits, and award decisions. WFA is committed to making the experience an educational one. Staff provide support by preparing materials, researching issues and organizations to

Mimi Siegel, Executive Director of Kinderling Center



fund, staffing the grantmaking process, and serving as a liaison to the grantee agencies.

We are grateful to the Ripple Fund members, who wish to remain anonymous, for their gifts, time, commitment, and passion for the women and girls in our community.

If you are interested in joining the Ripple Fund or starting a donor circle for yourself and your colleagues or friends, please contact Julia Maywald at julia@wfalliance.org or (206) 467-6733. ■

Seattle, WA 98101-1229
Suite 207
603 Stewart Street
Women's Funding Alliance

TOGETHER, INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

WOMEN'S FUNDING ALLIANCE



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TOGETHER, INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

Women's Funding Alliance

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Visit us online: www.wfalliance.org

Women's Funding Alliance
603 Stewart Street
Suite 207
Seattle, WA 98101

T (206) 467-6733
F (206) 467-7537

wfa@wfalliance.org
www.wfalliance.org

Our Next Adventure

You may have heard the familiar saying, "You cannot control the wind but you can adjust the sails." Isn't that the truth? As we



LeAnne Moss

all know, the only constant in life is change. And while change can be challenging, scary, and a bit unnerving, it also can bring new opportunities and life.

There's a lot of change happening here at the Women's Funding Alliance. As you'll read on page 4, we have some new faces gracing our office, while we also said goodbye to two of our

colleagues. And although we will miss Savitha and Shanna, we are happy to have Julia, Sara, Erin, and Mala on our team.

Additionally, we are laying the groundwork for making strategic changes in priorities around our grantmaking and community collaborations. In our spring newsletter, we wrote about our research project, A Closer Look, which will examine the status of women and girls in King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Whatcom Counties. This information will help us set priorities and be clear about the impact we want to have on the lives of women and girls in our area. Since our last newsletter, we've completed six forums, at which we sought feedback from 77 service providers and activists about areas they would like us to research. We plan to complete the research sometime next year.

Finally, we are in the middle of creating a five-year strategic plan and advancement campaign that will position WFA to take the next step in improving the social and economic status of women and girls. Yes, strategic planning can be tedious (do I hear a collective groan?!), but it's also an exciting, dynamic process that helps us look toward the future. We've crafted a 15-year vision to provide the context for our planning, and I look forward to sharing more with you in the next newsletter.

None of this would be possible without the enduring support of people like you. Over the last five years, our individual donor income has increased by more than 120 percent. Clearly, we have much to be thankful for and much to look forward to. So pat yourself on the back and get ready to set sail for the next adventure! ■

Warmly,

LeAnne Moss

The 2005 Granting Cycle is in Process!

This summer we received 70 letters of inquiry, and narrowed that pool down to 30 agencies, which are submitting full proposals for review. We will announce our 2005 grantees at our Chocolate and Champagne event on November 1. We hope to see you there!

OUR MISSION

The Women's Funding Alliance promotes justice, health, and opportunities by investing in the future of women and girls.

WE BELIEVE:

- Valuing women and girls is fundamental to creating a just and equitable society.
- All women and girls have a basic right to physical, mental, and spiritual health and well-being.
- Opportunities to collaborate, learn, and give are essential to success.

TOWARD THIS END, THE WOMEN'S FUNDING ALLIANCE...

- Seeds, strengthens and supports organizations serving women and girls in the Puget Sound region through strategic funding and capacity building.
- Creates positive social change by engaging and educating the public on issues affecting women and girls.
- Advances philanthropy through individual giving, workplace fundraising, events, and donor involvement.

Community Events

SEPTEMBER 24

SEATTLE WOMEN'S SUMMIT
Seattle Central Community College Student Activities Center
8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Free
Info: www.seattle.gov/womenscommission
To register: (206) 684-4537

OCTOBER 4

JUBILEE WOMEN'S CENTER - 8th ANNUAL BENEFIT BREAKFAST
The Future Takes Shape
Sheraton Hotel and Towers, Seattle
7:30-8:45 a.m.
Suggested donation: \$100
Info: Andrea Johnson, andrea@jwcenter.org / (206) 957-1971

OCTOBER 12

POWERFUL VOICES - ANNUAL FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON
Westin Hotel, Seattle
12:00-1:30 p.m.
Suggested donation: \$75
Info: Christine Underwood, christineu@powerfulvoices.org / (206) 860-1026

OCTOBER 15

NORTHWEST WOMEN'S LAW CENTER - ANNUAL AUCTION AND DINNER
Grand Hyatt Seattle
Tickets: \$85 (\$35 silent auction only)
Info: Kelli Maguire, (206) 682-9552

OCTOBER 20

WASHINGTON CASH - WINE AND CHEESE WITH CASH
CASH office, 1912 E Madison, Seattle
5:30-7 p.m.
Free
Info: Zanne Garland, zanne@washingtongcash.org

NOVEMBER 1 SAVE THE DATE Chocolate and Champagne

Mark November 1, 5:30 p.m., for this year's Chocolate and Champagne Celebration, to be held at Mount Baker Community Club.

We'll announce this year's grantees, showcase our 21 federation agencies, and honor the 2005 Inspirational Philanthropist. Please join us!

DECEMBER 7

WASHINGTON CASH - COLUMBIA TOWER SOUP NIGHT CHARITY
Columbia Tower, Seattle
5:30-7:30 p.m.
Tickets: \$20
Info: Zanne Garland, zanne@washingtongcash.org

FEBRUARY 16

WASHINGTON CASH "I HEART SMALL BUSINESS" VALENTINE'S DAY WINE AND CHEESE
CASH office, 1912 E Madison, Seattle
5:30-7 p.m.
Free
Info: Zanne Garland, zanne@washingtongcash.org

Who We Are

Established in 1983, the Women's Funding Alliance is the only independent funder in the Puget Sound region focused solely on the needs of women and girls. WFA invests in organizations working on the ground level to promote social and economic equity for women and girls. By strategically supporting marginalized and underfunded groups that advocate for and provide direct services to women and girls, WFA has a dramatic impact on their increased ability to serve our community.

The Alliance improves the lives of women and girls by investing in organizations that work to secure the following for women and girls:

- Economic security
- Freedom from violence
- Health and reproductive rights
- Freedom from discrimination
- Leadership development

ADVISORY BOARD

Bobbe Bridge, Mindy Cameron, Christine Di Stefano, Ellen Ferguson, Nancy C. M. Hartsock, Carolyn Kelly, Eunice Letzing, Anne Levinson, Connie Mao, Alene Moris, Nancy Nordhoff, Constance W. Rice, Pam Schell, Paul Shoemaker

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STAFF

Erin Culbertson, Development Assistant
Kate Dabe, Director of Annual Fund and Communications
Julia Maywald, Senior Development Director
LeAnne Moss, Executive Director
Mala Nagarajan, Operations Manager
Sara Reyerson, Associate Director of Workplace Campaigns and Corporate Relations



WOMEN'S FUNDING ALLIANCE

Women's Funding Alliance
603 Stewart Street, Suite 207
Seattle, WA 98101-1229
(206) 467-6733
www.wfalliance.org

The Women's Funding Alliance—improving the lives of women and girls since 1983.

REFRESHED

I speak but no one hears me
I remain silenced by the world
Look in the mirrors & what do I see
A confused little girl
They say I can't be the best
So I stand here oppressed
Need 2 rise above the lies
Tired of feelin' this self hate
So success is what I'll take
Drown myself inside my sorrows 'til I feel like
I'm awake

Reprinted with permission from *Living Diary*, a book of poetry and prose by adolescent girls served by Powerful Voices, a WFA funded agency.

Powerful Voices instills leadership skills, fosters development of critical thinking and promotes the individual potential of adolescent girls through programs in Seattle public middle schools and in and out of juvenile detention.

For more information on Powerful Voices or *Living Diary*, visit www.powerfulvoices.org.

Storm Game



Special thanks to Seton Fitzmacken and Susan Eidenschink, who volunteered to shoot free-throws at the July 31 Seattle Storm game and won WFA \$500!

Federation Agencies

Workplace campaign donations allow WFA to provide our 21 federation agencies with ongoing grants and opportunities for peer networking and collaboration.

Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services

BABES Network

Chaya

FaithTrust Institute

Harborview Center for Sexual Assault & Traumatic Stress

Intercommunity Mercy Housing

Jubilee Women's Center

King County Coalition Against Domestic Violence

King County Sexual Assault Resource Center

NARAL Pro-Choice Washington Foundation

Northwest Women's Law Center

Passages Northwest

Planned Parenthood of Western Washington

Positive Women's Network

Powerful Voices

Refugee Women's Alliance

Residence XII

Seattle Girls' School

Washington CASH

Welfare Rights Organizing Coalition

Women's Housing, Equality and Enhancement League

2005-2006 Workplace Giving Campaign Begins!

Thanks to the generosity of our workplace donors, the Women's Funding Alliance granted more than \$222,000 last year to 21 federation agencies (see page 6). Together, we can raise even more funds during the 2005-2006 workplace campaign! Workplace giving campaigns offer employees an easy, effortless way to support causes and organizations they care about.



WFA staff member, Sara Reyerson, with Regence Campaign Coordinator, Neva Barry

If your workplace has a campaign, please consider giving to the Women's Funding Alliance! You can also help spread the word and tell your co-workers about the Alliance and the impact of your workplace dollars.

If your workplace doesn't have a campaign, WFA can help! Contact Sara Reyerson at sara@wfalliance.org or (206) 467-6733 for more information about workplace giving and how to include the Alliance in your company's 2005-2006 campaign. Thank you to everyone who contributes to the Alliance through payroll deduction and their workplace giving campaign! ■

Workplace Donors Become Office Volunteers

WFA has noticed a trend over the last few years: our workplace donors want to volunteer! Kristine Wright, Susan Eidenschink, and Kim Nagle have all offered the Alliance their time and talents after learning of WFA through their workplace giving campaigns. We offer them our wholehearted thanks for helping to make our work possible. Thanks also to Axio, Boeing, and Washington Mutual for bringing WFA and these volunteers together.

Interested in volunteering? Contact Mala Nagarajan at mala@wfalliance.org or (206) 467-6733. ■

Want To Help?

Here are some upcoming volunteer opportunities.

- Photographer at Chocolate & Champagne. *November 1.*
- Procurement Mavens for the 2006 Art of Dining auction. *Beginning in October.*
- Event assistants for Chocolate & Champagne, November 1, and Art of Dining, April 2006.
- Data entry assistant. *Ongoing.*
- File management assistant. *Ongoing.*

If you're interested in these projects or would like to be on WFA's volunteer e-mail list, contact Mala Nagarajan at mala@wfalliance.org or (206) 467-6733.

Welcome New Staff

The Women's Funding Alliance has welcomed four new staff members since our last newsletter. You can contact them at the WFA offices at (206) 467-6733.

Julia Maywald (julia@wfalliance.org) is our senior development director. Julia brings extensive leadership and fundraising experience from 14 years of involvement in the Puget Sound community, most recently at United Way of King County.

Mala Nagarajan (mala@wfalliance.org) is our operations manager, a new position here at WFA. Mala brings technical, financial, and operations expertise and savvy, as well as in-depth volunteer experience on issues affecting women, girls, and the LGBTQ community. She most recently was at AT&T Wireless and is completing her MBA at the University of Washington.

Sara Reyerson (sara@wfalliance.org) is our associate director of workplace campaigns and corporate relations. Sara was on the human resources team at AT&T Wireless and also brings solid nonprofit experience. She manages WFA's workplace campaigns, federation relations, and a new effort to build corporate partnerships.

Erin Culbertson (erin@wfalliance.org) is our development assistant. Erin is a recent graduate of the University of Puget Sound, where she was a work-study student in the development office for four years. Erin supports the work of WFA's development team, and she may be the first person you chat with when you call the WFA's office!

The Alliance bids a fond farewell to Savitha Pathi and Shanna Woody. We extend our heartfelt thanks for all of their hard work and enthusiasm! ■



Erin Culbertson, Julia Maywald, Sara Reyerson, and Mala Nagarajan

Beyond The Usual: Support WFA

Looking for creative ways to support the Alliance? Both Dan Goforth of Lake & Company and Sharon Carlsen of Coldwell Banker Bain Associates have found one. They donate 10 percent of their real estate sales commission for any customers referred by anyone affiliated with WFA. (If you're reading this newsletter, you qualify!) On the sale of a \$500,000 house (not atypical in this market), that's a \$1,500 donation! Thanks to Sharon and Dan for initiating this win-win opportunity for both of us!

If you have ideas for other creative partnerships, please contact Julia Maywald at julia@wfalliance.org or (206) 467-6733. ■

WFA Annual Report Now Available!

The Women's Funding Alliance's 2004 Report to the Community is now available online at www.wfalliance.org. To request your personal copy, contact Erin Culbertson at erin@wfalliance.org or (206) 467-6733.



The Art of Dining Raises More Than \$230,000 for Women and Girls!

The 13th Annual Art of Dining dazzled! This festive evening at Seattle's Paramount Theatre featured a tasty meal by celebrated Northwest women chefs and the opportunity to bid on artwork from renowned Pacific Northwest women artists. The gala raised more than \$230,000 to benefit the Women's Funding Alliance.

Special thanks to our co-chairs, Jody Waits and Megan Schindler; our tireless and enthusiastic volunteers; our corporate sponsors (especially DDB Seattle for producing WFA's video); our in-kind donors (especially Claire V., who sparked the handbag frenzy); and, as always, the amazing Art of Dining chefs for the special magic they pull off every year. Brava! ■



The WFA Board at the 2005 Art of Dining.



The amazing Art of Dining chefs (in alphabetical order): Lisa Dupar (Lisa Dupar Catering and Lisa Dupar's Julep), Laura Heinlein (Grand Central Bakery), Christine Keff (Flying Fish), Mary Lokar (Brasa), Jimella Lucas (The Ark Restaurant), Nanci Main (The Ark Restaurant), Vicky McCaffree (Yarrow Bay Grill), Sue McCown (Earth & Ocean), Tamara Murphy (Brasa), Cameron Orel (Yarrow Bay Beach Café), Anna Vogel (Dahlia Lounge), Debi Zerr (Dahlia Lounge).



Co-chairs Megan Schindler (second from left) and Jody Waits (right) enjoy the 2005 Art of Dining with friends Savitha Pathi, Rachel Kirkman, and Sanjay Das.

Want to join our **WILD**
and **WONDERFUL**
volunteer team for the
2006 Art of Dining?

Contact **Julia Maywald** at
julia@wfalliance.org or
(206) 467-6733