



THE FUND
FOR WOMEN & GIRLS
IGNITING CHANGE IN CHESTER COUNTY

ANNUAL
REPORT
2021-2022

www.thefundcc.org

Dear Friends,

In our 26th year, we said goodbye to our longtime Executive Director Michelle Legaspi Sanchez and hello to The Fund's new Executive Director, Kim Andrews, after a comprehensive search process. The Fund's board, committee members, and staff worked hard to maintain our excellent work during this period of transition and are poised to collaboratively move into the next phase of the organization, to be envisioned in a 3-5 year comprehensive strategic plan ready for implementation in 2023.

As you will see in this report, The Fund continues to ignite change, even through these challenging times. It was evident through the critical programs and services delivered by our grantee partners, the budding passions of young women on the Girls Advisory Board and GirlGov Chester County, and the actions taken by The Fund, our stakeholders, and our partners.

With deepest gratitude,

Denise Wine
Board Chair

Kim Andrews
Executive Director

"I'm excited to come to a Fund that is poised for growth even while we respond to new conditions in Chester County. In the coming year, we will complete a strategic planning process to expand The Fund's grantmaking, fundraising, and educational opportunities. We will also launch the 2022 Blueprint Report, The Fund's fourth comprehensive research study that provides critical data to identify areas of progress for women and girls in Chester County and Pennsylvania and indicates where additional improvements must be implemented. Chester County's women and girls need The Fund's advocacy, grantmaking, and programming more than ever."

Kim Andrews

The Fund's Executive Director

“I am proud of the entire team for stepping up during the past year to keep The Fund relevant and progressing as an essential advocate for women and girls in Chester County.”

Denise Wine, Board Chair



DENISE WINE, BOARD CHAIR
KIM ANDREWS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We Center Women and Girls

The need to center our work in our guiding principles has never been more important.

We uphold the following principles in all we do to realize our vision of a world where women and girls will have equality and security:



L-R: West Chester Mayor Lillian DeBaptiste, State Representative Dianne Herrin, and GirlGov alumna Blake Ciresa at the Women's March in West Chester.

Community members and partners attend the 2022 Blueprint Report Launch.





We Invest and Fund

When it comes to families and communities, women and girls are often at the hub. Investing in their lives leads to benefits and improvements for all. The Fund provides **Core** and **Impact Grants** to non-profits in Chester County who are working to give women and girls the resources and opportunities to thrive.

\$239,680

in funding awarded this year to **30 non-profit organizations**

26,241

people in Chester County this year were impacted by The Fund

22,478

people impacted this year were women and girls

\$4 million

in funding awarded to **86 non-profit organizations** since 1996

The Fund:

- Multiplies the impact of our philanthropy by using participatory-based grantmaking. Our **Grants Allocation Committee (GAC)** serves as a national model for community-led altruism and leadership development. The Fund facilitates a holistic process where community residents learn about local needs and grantmaking, visit non-profit organizations, and distribute funds through consensus.
- Invests in local, effective **non-profit organizations that improve key dimensions of women's lives** such as economic empowerment, health, education and personal safety.
- Fosters trust with our grantee partners by engaging in conversations with them about how to most effectively partner together during challenging times.
- Remains nimble and responsive to pressing needs in the community. Through our **Impact Grants: Moving Her Forward** this year, we funded projects related to timely issues such as food insecurity, health access and education, support for survivors of domestic abuse, and racial equity.

in Communities Critical Work

The Fund's vision is that women and girls will have equality and security, making our communities stronger and more vibrant for everyone. Realizing that dream is not possible without investing in non-profit organizations committed to serving Chester County's women and girls.

2021-22 Grantee Partners

\$239,680 to 30 organizations

Impact Grants: Moving Her Forward (\$27,500)

ChesPenn Health Services (\$8,750)
Chester County Food Bank (\$5,000)
Community Warehouse Project (\$5,000)
Domestic Violence Center of Chester County (\$8,750)

Core Grants (\$192,180)

Alianzas de Phoenixville (\$10,000)
Arts Holding Hands and Hearts (\$5,000)
Bridge of Hope Chester County (\$6,000)
Coatesville Youth Initiative (\$7,500)
Community Volunteers in Medicine (\$10,180)
Community Warehouse Project (\$10,000)
Family Promise of Southern Chester County (\$5,000)
Friends Association (\$6,000)
Gateway Horseworks (\$7,500)
Health Care Access (\$8,000)
Home of the Sparrow (\$10,000)
Kennett Area Community Services (\$6,000)
LCH Health and Community Services (\$10,000)
Maternal and Child Health Consortium (\$8,500)
Mom's House Inc. of Greater Philadelphia (\$10,000)
North Star of Chester County (\$5,000)
The POINT (\$7,500)
Phoenixville Area Community Services (\$6,500)
Stroud Water Research Center (\$6,500)

Core Grants, continued

The Clinic (\$10,000)
The Garage Community and Youth Center (\$6,500)
Unite for HER (\$8,500)
Volunteer English Program (\$7,500)
Wings for Success (\$7,500)
YoungMoms (\$7,000)

Girls Advisory Board (GAB) Grants (\$20,000)

Alianzas de Phoenixville (\$4,500)
Crime Victims' Center of Chester County (\$4,000)
Chester County OIC (\$500)
The Clinic (\$3,200)
Domestic Violence Center of Chester County (\$3,800)
Volunteer English Program (\$4,000)

"When we first met Reyna, from Guatemala, she was 17 years old and pregnant. Reyna wanted to learn English. When she officially joined our program, her YoungMoms Case Manager encouraged her to enroll in school. We connected her to the Kennett School district and Migrant Education and secured her transportation. Reyna began attending our monthly club nights where she learned key parenting skills and connected with other young and expecting moms. We helped her secure daycare and supported her with breastfeeding... this fall, she attended the nursing program at the Technical High School."
-Grantee Partner YoungMoms



**Scan to learn more
about the work of
our grantee partners.**



**A young mom
and her child
access services
and support from
grantee partner
YoungMoms.**



We Uplift Voices & Shared Values

We remain committed to viewing what's going on in our backyard through a gender lens. The Fund seeks to understand how women and girls are uniquely impacted by income inequality, housing and transportation availability, access to healthcare and education, and all things in between.

Here are a few highlights from the year:

Celebrating Caregivers Event

The Fund partnered with Mom's Rising to host a special event at the Chester County Library celebrating local parents and caregivers. The event attracted **over 75 attendees**, and featured treats, games, and the chance for attendees to brainstorm and share with elected officials ways that Congress can support families to recover and rebuild moving forward out of the pandemic.

Together Trivia Night and Holiday Gift Drive

The Fund's millennial young women's networking group of over **130 members** hosted quarterly events, including a virtual trivia night and in-person holiday gift drive for women and families in need in partnership with the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County.

Women in the Workplace Speaker Series

We partnered with the Chester County Women's Commission to host a Women in the Workplace Speaker Series discussion with **50 attendees** on strategies to create responsive, inclusive, and supportive workplaces as a follow up to the #ChescoKnows initiative.

Op-ed on Roe v. Wade

In response to the overturning of Roe v. Wade, The Fund released a statement in solidarity with women, especially those from marginalized communities most impacted by attacks on reproductive healthcare.

Grants Celebration

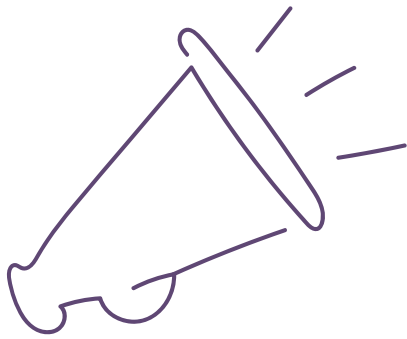
Nearly **70 community members**, grantee partners, and Fund Board and committee members gathered to honor our grantee partners who work tirelessly to better the lives of local women and girls.

Young attendees at the Celebrating Caregivers Event add to an artist's representation of the crowd's responses to 'How Does Caregiving Keep Families Afloat?'





*Attendees at The Fund's
Grants Celebration.*



We Equip Future Leaders

Girls Advisory Board

Over the **past 17 years**, more than **190 young women** have participated in the Girls Advisory Board (GAB), our nationally recognized girls' grantmaking program. Each year through GAB, a diverse range of **20 Chester County high-school-aged girls** have the chance to learn about the deep and varied needs in their communities and equip themselves with the skills needed to address them. Since the start of GAB, these young women were empowered to award over **\$360,000** to local agencies tackling issues like poverty, domestic violence, homelessness, support for single moms, and mental health. Along the way, GAB members learn about many of the components of being strong leaders today and in their future.

GirlGov Chester County

For a third year, The Fund partnered with the Women and Girls Foundation in Pittsburgh to offer a local Chester County chapter of the GirlGov program. This year, **20 GirlGov Chester County members** worked on advocacy campaigns in four committees focused on reproductive justice, environmental justice, mental health, and racial justice. Participants gained advocacy skills and increased their confidence in using their voice for change.

"GAB is honestly so eye-opening, and helped me realize how many problems there are in our community that we don't even think or know about. GAB inspired me to want to make a difference in the lives of people in my own community." 2021-22 GAB Participant

Girls in Action Summit

Our 3rd Annual Girls in Action Summit took place in October 2021 at the Melton Center in West Chester. The Summit engaged **nearly 30 high school girls** throughout Chester County for an empowering morning of action. Attendees learned about the deep and varied needs in their communities while engaging in strategic grantmaking. Keynote speaker **Lynette Medley**, Founder and CEO of No More Secrets: Mind Body Spirit Inc., spoke to attendees about The SPOT Period – the nation's first crowdfunded menstrual hub – that she and her daughter Nya founded in Philadelphia.

Girls Igniting Change

The Fund is proud of our GAB and GirlGov leaders who are using their voices for change every day.

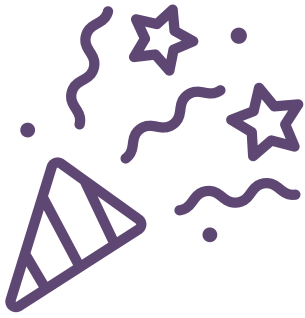
Blake Ciresa was the only student speaker at the Women's March in West Chester this summer. She served on the GirlGov Reproductive Justice Committee for the past two years, is co-President of the Kennett High School Feminist Club, and serves on the Chester County Committee for Reproductive Rights.

Nadya Dato, a second-year GAB member, and her peers in Phoenixville organized a walkout to demand stricter gun laws and gun safety.

Sophie Fontecchio, a first-year GirlGov member, raised \$500 to support The Fund through her organization Let's Bake the World A Better Place.

GirlGov Chester County members in Harrisburg to meet with local and state elected officials.





We Champion Change and Make a Difference

Champions of Change Event

Over 100 community members and supporters attended The Fund's Fifth Annual Champions of Change Event on October 27th. We recognized **Dr. JoAnne Reifsnnyder** of Genesis Healthcare and law firm **MacElree Harvey** as they work to shatter the glass ceiling for women in the workplace.

Making a Difference Luncheon

The Fund's 17th Annual Making a Difference Luncheon drew in nearly 300 attendees who joined us as we recognized the power of local impact, honored the contributions of Kitchen Table Award winner **Matrie Johnson**, highlighted the wisdom of keynote speaker **Renay Loper**, and leaned into a bold future for women and girls. We were also thrilled to introduce our new Executive Director, **Kim Andrews**, to the Chester County community. Musicians **Meghan Cary** and **Peter Farrell** provided lively entertainment.

Kitchen Table Award

The Fund presented **Matrie Johnson**, a longtime and devoted advocate for women and girls in Chester County, with the 2022 Kitchen Table Award, named in celebration of the many conversations among The Fund's founders around kitchen, board room, and coffee tables. In a heartwarming tribute, Matrie's friends and colleagues recognized her passion for giving back to women and girls. In her remarks, Matrie touched on the power of collaboration and community in uniting together to get things done.

"We are in a period of becoming. Becoming that new, better, just society... and in this period of becoming, it is our responsibility to do four things – rebirth, reinvest, rebuild, for regeneration." Keynote Speaker Renay Loper

Top: Honoree Dr. JoAnne Reifsnnyder delivers acceptance remarks at Champions of Change. Bottom: Executive Director Kim Andrews, Keynote Speaker Renay Loper, Kitchen Table Award honoree Matrie Johnson, and Board Chair Denise Wine at the 2022 Luncheon.





Participants from grantee partner
The POINT's Girls Program.



Looking to the Future

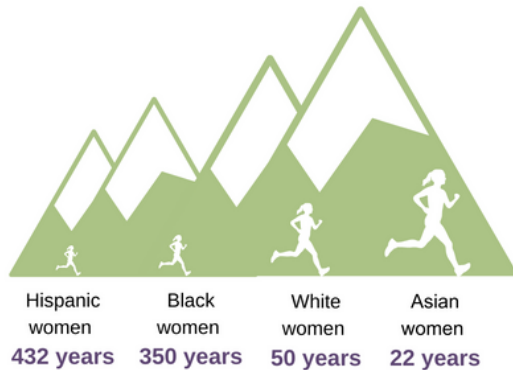
The Fund will blaze forward thanks to our impact, relationships, and lessons learned over the past **26 years**. We will continue strengthening our organization's ability to ignite change and improve the lives of women and girls in Chester County.

Recently, we released our **2022 Blueprint Report: Lighting a Path** at a launch event at The Colonial Theatre in Phoenixville. A few Report highlights include:

Gender Wage Gap

(United States, 2019)

Number of years it will take to close the wage gap compared to white men's earnings



Median Annual Earnings for Women by Race

(2019)



As we look to the future, The Fund will:

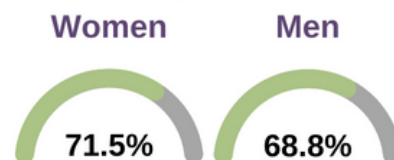
CONTINUE TO IGNITE CHANGE through our *2022 Blueprint Report: Lighting a Path* to educate the community on the needs of women and girls on a local, state, and national level, with a deep dive on conditions in Chester County. We will use this fourth edition of the Report as a centerpiece to create the space for nonprofits, elected officials, and the community to learn, build coalitions, develop solutions and promote women's equality and inclusion. Read the *2022 Blueprint Report* at thefundcc.org/research/.

COMPLETE our next long-term strategic plan, in partnership with Strategy Arts, to build on the strides we have made while pushing ourselves to go further as individuals and an organization.



Voting Rates in Pennsylvania

(2020)



www.thefundcc.org/research/

Tribute Gifts

In Honor of Tylee and Katie Abbott
Caroline Moran

On the Occasion of Natalie Donahue
Suzanne Donahue

**In Honor of Elle Lewis and
Mary Stuart Lawrence**
Rev. Phoebe Kitson-Davis

In Honor of Allyson Legnini
Caroline Moran

In Honor of Michele Legnini
Caroline Moran

In Honor of Aria Mazzone
Dawn Mazzone

In Honor of Miss Fia Moran
Caroline Moran

In Honor of Janet Northcott
James Northcott

In Honor of Moira Owens
Bridget Fahey

In Memory of Madeline Snyder
Wendy Gavin

In Honor of Mary Lou Sterge
JoEllen Jordan
Ms. Marguerite Adams

In Memory of Peter Waitneight
Mr. and Mrs. Francis & Frances Abbott Jr.
Ken & Nancy Ames
Carolyn Caruso
Janet Dobey Haws
Mrs. Barbara M. Jordan
Sandra Leduc
Joseph and Bridget Steen

In-Kind Donations

The Academy of Natural Sciences of
Drexel University
Adventure Aquarium
Nora Alvarez
Black Women of Chester County in Action
Brandywine River Museum of Art
Cabot Creamery Cooperative
Carrabba's Italian Grill
Pattie Diggin
Fava Ristorante
Find Your Strength Fitness
Connie Fogarty
Fred Astaire Dance Studios - West Chester
The Fund's Board
The Fund's Development Committee
The Fund's GirlGov Chester County Chapter
The Fund's Education Committee
The Fund's Finance and Investment
Committee
The Fund's Grants Policy Committee
Sonal Gandhi
Honeybrook Country Club
Joseph Anthony Salon and Spa
Meatball U. - West Chester
Mary Beth Morrissey
Northbrook Canoe Company
Ohlala Wellness Center Corp.
Opa Taverna
Outback Steakhouse
Party Shoppe of the Main Line
Lisa Passante and Mike Kaplan
Philadelphia Union Foundation
Pietro's Prime
Chasity Riddick
Hilary Truong and Nancy Wyant
Jay Wiley
Winterthur Museum

Corporate Donors

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Carroll Engineering Corporation
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MacElree Harvey, Ltd.
Mill Creek Capital Advisors
Morgan Stanley Matching Gift Fund*
Northwestern Mutual
OpExecs
Pegasus Technologies
SEI
Sugartown Communications
Tolsdorf Oil Lube Express
Wegmans
West Pharmaceutical Services
WSFS CARES Foundation

*Denotes matching gifts

Legacy Circle

Our 'Visionaries at the Table' Legacy Giving Society program connects supporters who include The Fund in their estate planning to establish a strong foundation for local women and girls. Our current Legacy Circle members include Judi Bell, Patricia Diggin, Sandra Donahue, Mary Beth Morrissey, Mary Lou Sterge, and Denise Wine.

To include The Fund in your estate plans, contact Christy McMains at cmcmains@thefundcc.org or 484-356-0940.

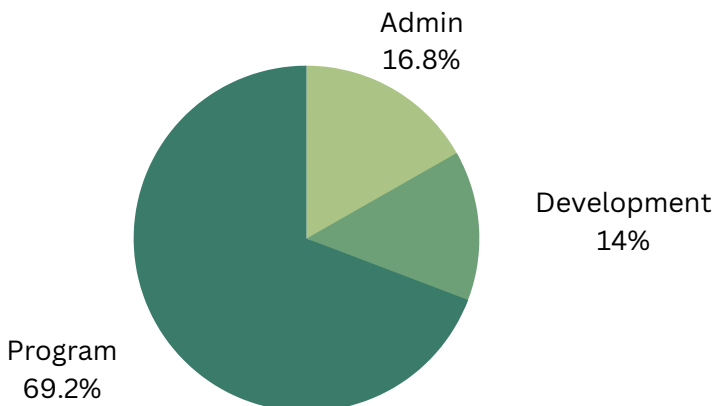
Legacy Circle members Sandra Donahue (left) and Judi Bell (right) with Sandra's mom and longtime Fund supporter Peg Scholl.



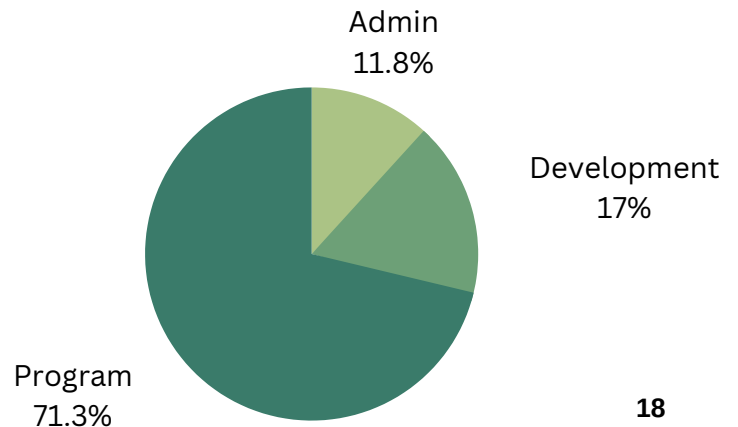
Statement of Financial Position

	2021-2022	2020-2021
Assets		
Current	\$531,190	\$480,225
Investments	\$4,195,917	\$5,320,987
Total	\$4,727,107	\$5,801,212
Liabilities		
Current	\$34,601	\$38,420
Net Assets	\$4,692,506	\$5,762,792
Total Net Assets & Liabilities	\$4,727,107	\$5,801,212
Expenses		
Education and Grants	\$511,395	\$639,694
Management and General	\$123,864	\$105,472
Development	\$103,568	\$152,445
Total Expenses	\$738,827	\$897,611
Revenue		
Contributions	\$475,469	\$490,444
Investment Income	\$281,706	\$256,337
Other	\$32,681	\$22,334
In Kind	\$20,953	\$202,868
Total Revenue	\$810,809	\$971,983
Surplus (Deficit)	\$71,982	\$74,372

2021-2022



2020-2021



Board and Staff

2021-22 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Denise Wine *Board Chair*

Tiffany Scott *Vice Chair*

Maxine Cuffe *Treasurer*

Jocelyn Young *Secretary*

Nora Alvarez

Susan Beauchamp

Pattie Diggin

Sandra Donahue

Connie Fogarty

Debbie Gawrylowicz

Alexandria Kochinsky

Cheryl Miles

Rosa Moore

Christina Norland

Ashley Orr

Lisa Passante

Chasity Riddick

Ingrid Tomlinson

Roberta Torian

Honorary Chair

Barbara M. Jordan

2021-22 STAFF

Kim Andrews

Executive Director

Dana Wiley

Development Director

Brandon Szerenyi

Director of Operations

Maeve Kelly

Director of Programs and Comms

Our Mission

The Fund for Women and Girls leads and unites the community through philanthropy and advocacy to ensure that women and girls have the resources and opportunities to thrive.

Our Vision

Women and girls will have equality and security, making our communities stronger and more vibrant for everyone. The Fund will be seen as a vital partner and leader, known for our boldness, connectivity, and creativity as we bring together and support individuals and organizations around a shared commitment to the well-being and self-determination of women and girls.

Follow us on social media

@[thefundchesco](#)

Sign up for email updates at [thefundcc.org](#)