

The Women's Fund of Central Ohio

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The Women's Fund of Central Ohio Awards \$60,000 in Grants to Programs to Transform the Lives of Women and Girls

Today, The Women's Fund of Central Ohio is awarding six \$10,000 grants to programs for women and girls in Central Ohio. Twice yearly, The Women's Fund makes grants to programs that assist women in becoming economically independent, develop women as leaders, and provide girls with life skills. The six new grant partners of The Women's Fund listed below represent programs that will transform the lives of women and girls throughout Central Ohio by addressing root causes of social issues and creating social change that can be passed on to others.

- **\$10,000 for the Multi-Cultural Initiative of Franklin County by Children's Hunger Alliance.** This program will assist newly-immigrated women in creating home-based child care businesses throughout Franklin County. The participants will learn how to access federal meal program dollars as a stable funding stream into their businesses. The program will also include nutrition and early childhood education training, as well as professional child care certifications for the home-based child care providers.
- **\$10,000 for Gidget: a Technology Pipeline for women and girls by TECH CORPS Ohio.** This program will develop a Girls Technology Club and curriculum for elementary school girls in two Columbus Public Schools. These clubs will be part of a sustainable and replicable "pipeline of support" which stretches from elementary school into adulthood, helping girls to build critical technology skills tied directly to their future educational and professional success. Ultimately, the pipeline will produce women with the essential skills and networks to participate fully, and assume leadership positions in a technology driven society.
- **\$10,000 for the Home Child Care Providers Empowerment Program by Columbus ACORN.** This program will develop home child care providers in Columbus into strong leaders who are able to advocate for a fairer system, both for parents who utilize home child care, and for the providers themselves. The participants will be empowered through training workshops, which will give the necessary skills to go into their neighborhoods as informed leaders.
- **\$10,000 for development of a Mentorship Program for girls in Madison County by Ministry for Community.** The project will develop an effective mentorship program for young women, ages 12-17, within Madison County. The goal of the program is to help the girls become productive citizens who will be successful in school, build friendships with positive peers and adults, and make wise choices about substance abuse and sexual activity. This is the first grant awarded by The Women's Fund to a program in Madison County.

- **\$10,000 for Getting Ahead, a program by Mental Health Association of Licking County.** The program will assist twenty-five women living in poverty in analyzing their own situations, developing their own plans, and support them in taking action. The staff will teach women how to develop social skills and social supports that will help the women break free from poverty. The goal of Getting Ahead is to end generational poverty by teaching women how to escape from poverty and achieve economic independence.
- **\$10,000 for Services to Immigrant Women Victims of Domestic Violence, a program of Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS).** This program will deliver legal services to immigrant women victims of domestic violence. It will enable the women to leave abusive relationships in which a spouse is frequently using a woman's immigration status as a means of control. This program will assist women in applying for employment authorization, so they can find employment and become self-sufficient. As these women gain control of their own destinies, they can also be involved in a public information campaign to their community about the rights of immigrant women in abusive relationships.

The Women's Fund of Central Ohio was founded in 2001 to transform the lives of women and girls by mobilizing the collective power and passion of all women working together. The Women's Fund promotes social change by growing philanthropy and making grants to programs that expand opportunities for women and girls. The Fund serves Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Licking, Madison, Pickaway and Union counties, giving voice and visibility to the over 800,000 women and girls in Central Ohio.

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