



CCFWG

Chester County Fund for Women & Girls

2018-19 ANNUAL REPORT

Leading and uniting the community for women and girls

DEAR FRIENDS

As Melinda Gates once said, *“When we invest in women, we invest in the people who invest in everyone else. So when we match their commitment with our own, great things are possible.”* Over the past year, we have worked tirelessly to match the commitment and energy of women and girls throughout Chester County.

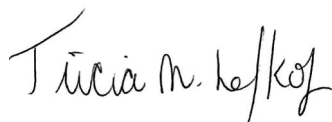
Girls have made it clear that they want opportunities to develop their skills to become passionate, empathetic, and confident leaders. We have responded through our award-winning Girls Advisory Board and inaugural Girls in Action Summit.

Local non-profit organizations and the women and girls they serve have demonstrated the desire to create a community where women and girls have equality, security, and safety. We have responded by investing \$217,000 into these local organizations through our grantmaking.

Our community at large has been seeking data, information, and resources to learn more - through a gender lens - about what goes on in our backyard. We have responded by creating spaces where the voices of women and girls are heard, valued, and respected.

In the pages that follow, we now celebrate all the great things that were made possible this year, and look forward to all that is yet to come. Thank you for being part of our journey!

With deepest gratitude,



Tricia Lefkof
Board Chair



Michelle Legaspi Sánchez
Executive Director



As we grow, we maintain an unwavering belief in our core which makes us **strong, inspired,** and committed to **bold** and **innovative action.**

CCFWG upholds these principles in all we do.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Equality Achieving equal status, rights and opportunities for women and girls.

Security Ensuring that women and girls have safe and stable lives, and access to opportunities that will improve economic independence, health and wellness.

Community Connecting partners, ideas, dialogues and resources by investing in leadership of women and girls, collaborating with partners, and supporting organizations that provide service and advocacy.

Knowledge Raising awareness, educating the community and generating solutions through research, data, community input and outreach.

Inclusion Welcoming all who seek to learn, serve and support others in the pursuit of our mission, recognizing that our work will be strongest with a rich variety of perspectives and diverse leadership.

Integrity Remaining thoughtful, strategic, transparent and responsive to community needs.

Strength Building on the strength of women and girls. Raising issues and taking stands. Together, we will achieve positive change for women and girls.





Creating Spaces

CCFWG creates spaces where the voices of women and girls are heard, valued and respected - and all of these created spaces are aimed at making a brighter, safer and healthier future for all of Chester County's women and girls. Here are a few highlights from the year:

TEDxWestChester

CCFWG teamed up with TEDxWestChester and WomenWillpower for a powerful program, bringing forth the voices of some amazing women among us. The TEDxWestChester featured speakers whose lives and projects are at the crossroads of change. They are influencers and innovators improving lives locally in Chester County and Philadelphia neighborhoods. Their experiences have shaped their ideas - and their ideas are shaping the future.



"The women that I've encountered through WRAP, and in the many years in the Department, are some of the most resilient women I know and have so much strength. And as much as we're giving to them they are giving back to us through their resiliency."

-Jennifer Lopez



Kitchen Table Talks

This year, CCFWG launched "Kitchen Table Talks," an online segment featuring community experts speaking on a range of issues related to women and girls. The first talk shed light on incarcerated women in Chester County and what is being done on the county level through innovative programming to help these women rebuild their lives and face past trauma with supportive community connections. Other topics included voting, mental health, and female entrepreneurs.



Jennifer Lopez (left), then Deputy Chief of the Chester County Office of Probation, Parole and Pretrial Services, and current Executive Director of Friends Association for the Care and Protection of Children, joins client Beth and CCFWG Executive Director Michelle Legaspi Sanchez for our first Kitchen Table Talk.



Honorees Roberta Torian (third from right) and West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc., employees connect at our Champions of Change Breakfast.

Champions of Change Breakfast

CCFWG hosted our second annual Champions of Change Breakfast to honor those working to shatter the glass ceiling and pave the way for the success of women in our community. The event spotlighted the barriers many women face in their climb to economic advancement and leadership positions, and the leaders committed to eliminating those barriers. This year's honorees were Roberta Torian, former Partner at Reed Smith LLP, and West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc.

TogetHER

CCFWG re-launched TogetHER, a group uniting young women (ages 21-35) through philanthropy, community engagement and networking opportunities. The mission is to activate the next generation of emerging female leaders to create positive social change for women and girls in Chester County.



Mentors and their mentees speak on the TogetHER 'Mentor It Forward' Panel at Victory Brewing in Downingtown.

Stories of Womanhood

In partnership with Surrey Services for Seniors, CCFWG hosted "Stories of Womanhood," an intergenerational conversation aimed at harvesting the stories of countless moments of strength and heroism. The ages of attendees ranged from 12 to 100! Many of the conversations and stories were documented through audio and video so they can be passed down and called upon for inspiration.



(Right) Our oldest event participant catches up with our youngest!



Equipping girls to lead now AND in the future

Over the past 15 years, **more than 160 young women** have participated in the Girls Advisory Board (GAB), our nationally recognized girls' grantmaking program. Through GAB, Chester County high-school girls in their sophomore or junior year 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 the program, these young women were empowered to award over **\$301,500 to local agencies** that are 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, including consensus, civic engagement, entrepreneurship and assertive communication.



Girls Advisory Board



Members of our Civic Engagement Track worked with Senator Katie Muth (center) on women's healthcare legislation. The partnership continues today.

Second-year girls who chose our entrepreneurship and civic engagement tracks were paired with mentors, experienced professionals and community leaders willing to connect our young women into their worlds. Thank you to those who served!

Jeanne Casner
Lynn Detwiler
Blake Emmanuel
Karen Flynn
Ashley Fox

Meghan Kelly
Fredda Maddox
Audrey Ross
Lindsey Sweet
Joanne Vitali

"Incredible. The knowledge, public speaking skills, and friendships that came out of this program are life changing."
-First Year GAB Girl



Young women who are taking action and making change in their communities spoke to high school girls who attended our inaugural Girls in Action Summit. Over 100 girls registered for this event.

Girls in Action Summit

In response to the growing interest in GAB, CCFWG hosted an inaugural Girls in Action Summit at West Chester University. The Summit brought together female high school students from all over Chester County for a one-day experience focused on community, philanthropy, and ways to foster change. As part of the experience of empowering them through philanthropy, the attendees **awarded \$500 mini-grants** to two local organizations: Coatesville Youth Initiative and La Comunidad Hispana.



(Above) Members of the GAB Entrepreneurship Track organized and held a collection drive for Home of the Sparrow. (Right) GAB volunteered at Wings for Success, making hygiene bags for clients.



"I loved being able to meet such a wide variety of inspirational women who are contributing so much to their community. It was also incredible to learn about the different issues and how certain organizations are addressing them."
-Summit Participant

"I loved the opportunity to learn more about my community and I feel very empowered. I now know that I can make a change."
-Summit Participant

What's Our Return on Investment?

Over **15,000** in Chester County were impacted by CCFWG. Nearly **12,500** of them were women and girls.



91%* success rate of programs focused on housing stability.



90%* of young women participating in youth programs have an increased sense of self-confidence.



1,942 women received critical women's health services. Victims were accompanied to **3,072** meetings, medical exams, or legal proceedings.

*Rates are average among grantees.

CQ, a 41-year-old, uninsured resident of Chester County, was experiencing significant breast pain. She turned to Chester County Hospital for help. Their staff was quick to connect CQ to Linda Creed Breast Cancer Program who responded immediately. The program provided a mammogram, ultrasound, and a referral for a biopsy, extending a lifeline to CQ when she had no one else.

Carmen, an immigrant, received the support she needed from Alianzas de Phoenixville upon her recent arrival from her country. Alianzas provided her with tutoring for her children, emotional support, and other resources to help them adjust to their new life in Phoenixville.

CHESTER
COUNTY

Claudia and her family were living in a relative's mildew-infested basement in Coatesville. With the help of North Star and the reputation their programs have with local landlords, she was able to find a one-bedroom apartment in West Chester. Now, her son can breathe better in their home, and Claudia is up for a promotion at work.

Bianca, a student at Parkesburg Point, has experienced far more loss and trauma than most young individuals, including the loss of her mother, older sister, and home due to a fire. Parkesburg Point has been an ongoing source of love and stability for her, providing meals, clothing, academic support, recreation, mentorship and financial assistance for over ten years. Bianca is now a high school graduate and attributes her ability to meet her goals to Parkesburg Point.



Grantmaking

CCFWG keeps our eye on our vision 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 effective non-profit organizations committed to serving Chester County's women and girls. In 2018, **27 organizations** were awarded grant funding, totaling **\$217,000**.

Grants Allocation Committee

Our Grants Allocation Committee (GAC) serves as a national model for community-led altruism and leadership development. CCFWG's philanthropy is more than granting out money; we are a convener, partner and collaborator to create sustainable change in the lives of women and girls, thereby making our communities stronger. In 2018, **\$177,000** was invested in **23 organizations** across Chester County to address persisting needs impacting women and girls through our Core Grants Program. We facilitate diverse groups of community residents in a holistic process to learn about community needs and grantmaking, visit non-profit sites, and distribute funds through consensus.

Impact Grants: Moving Her Forward

We continue to seek opportunities to be nimble and responsive to pressing needs in the community through our grantmaking. This year, we awarded \$20,000 through four Moving Her Forward Impact Grants to local organizations on the front lines of social impact:

Bianca Nikol Merge with Mercy Foundation

\$4,500 to launch a local grief support group for family members of victims lost to acts of violence.

Black Women of Chester County in Action

\$8,000 to support leadership development and recruitment, and promote self-care through its AYA Health Project. The project was initially established in response to CCFWG's 2016 Blueprint Report, which revealed alarming data regarding challenges to the well-being of Black women.

Chester County OIC

\$5,000 to implement changes to its Nurse Aide Training Program to better set students up for career development in the field and to identify the systemic challenges to economic advancement faced by program graduates.

Chester County Women's Commission

\$2,500 to support a survey to shed light on the prevalence of sexual harassment and assault in Chester County workplaces. CCFWG and the Commission continue to partner to launch the findings and a plan on how to address them.



2018 Grants Allocation Committee

"I gained a lot of insight into the operations of non-profits. I liked learning about the different services and organizations in Chester County. I also liked getting to know a group of individuals I probably would have never crossed paths with if it wasn't for us being a part of the committee."

-GAC Member

Core and Girls Advisory Board Grants

Celebrating 20 years of grantmaking, CCFWG is pleased to have awarded over **\$3.5 million** in grants to **75 non-profit organizations** addressing the needs of women and girls in Chester County. By increasing the investment in women, girls and their families, we strengthen the entire community. This year's grantees include:

Crime Victims' Center of Chester County, Inc.

\$10,000 to continue serving its growing number of clients through direct services and county-wide programming.

Domestic Violence Center of Chester County

\$10,000 and **\$5,000 from GAB** to continue providing direct services necessary to help victims become safe and self-reliant. The GAB grant will provide staff training on the emerging issue of human trafficking in Chester County.

Family Promise of Southern Chester County

\$9,000 to assist in serving the core needs of more families and strengthening governance, organizational, and corporate infrastructure capacity.

Friends Association for the Care and Protection of Children

\$8,000 to further the Homelessness to Independence Initiative in order to provide women and girls with long-term housing.

Home of the Sparrow

\$5,000 to ensure the continuation of work to restore the self-sufficiency of women and girls.

Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania

\$10,000 to support a program that aids low-income mothers involved in custody disputes.

Women's Resource Center

\$5,000 to run its Girls Lead program at five Chester County schools, serving approximately 85 girls identified by their counselors as having "untapped leadership potential."

Economic Opportunities

Coatesville Youth Initiative

\$10,000 to support young women in the Service Corps, a program giving youth the opportunity to engage in meaningful direct-service activities while preparing them to seek future opportunities and meet challenges head-on.

The Garage Community and Youth Center

\$9,000 to support the Girls After School and Summer Program that helps girls continue their education and development in the community outside of school hours.

Mighty Writers

\$12,500 (year one of multi-year funding) to support Mighty Writers Kennett Square's writing workshops specifically for girls, with a goal of serving 150 girls.

North Star of Chester County

\$10,000 (year two of multi-year funding) to continue providing case management and financial assistance to single-parent families with children to help them avoid homelessness.



Wings for Success

\$5,000 to follow up with participants after six months to ensure they are on a path to fiscal freedom and stability.

Young Moms

\$7,000 (year one of multi-year funding) to support the Case Management and Advocacy Program that provides support, advocacy, life skills, mentorship, and case management to pregnant and parenting young women.

Health and Wellness

Alianzas de Phoenixville

\$7,500 (year two of multi-year funding) and **\$4,000 from GAB** to support its Mariposas Women's Program that provides clinical trauma counseling, a women's support group, and English tutoring program to immigrant women and girls in Phoenixville.

Community Volunteers in Medicine

\$7,000 and **\$2,000 from GAB** to provide a comprehensive approach and wide variety of healthcare services to low-income women and girls. The GAB grant will support the purchasing of oral contraceptives.

ChesPenn Health Services

\$7,000 to support the Women's Reproductive Health Program, including providing bilingual family planning, prenatal care and health education to uninsured or underinsured women and girls.



In June, our **Grants Celebration** served as an inspiring forum for sharing real-life stories from grantees to illustrate how, with CCFWG's support, women and girls overcome tremendous odds to lead healthy, productive lives. Organizations came together and newcomers learned about important community work.

The Clinic

\$8,000 (year one of multi-year funding) to support its Women's Health Program that provides gynecological care to uninsured or underinsured women.

Gateway Horsecworks

\$5,000 to support the Galloping Home program for veteran women with histories of trauma.

La Comunidad Hispana

\$9,500 and **\$3,000 from GAB** to support its Women's Health Services program that includes various family planning services and health and cancer screenings.

Linda Creed Breast Cancer Foundation

\$5,000 to provide yearly mammograms and diagnostic testing to women in the community who do not have access to healthcare.

Maternal and Child Health Consortium

\$5,000 and **\$5,000 from GAB** to support its Healthy Start program that provides prenatal and parenting home visiting for pregnant and parenting women and their infant children.

Parkesburg Point

\$10,000 (year two of multi-year funding) for its Girls Program: Steps to Success, providing a free and safe environment for girls experiencing homelessness, hunger and academic challenges.

Unite for HER

\$5,000 to support a Wellness Program for 90 breast cancer patients.



Making a Difference Luncheon

In May, over 300 community leaders, sponsors and advocates came together at our annual Making a Difference Luncheon to recognize the power of CCFWG's impact, honor the advocacy of Cheryl Miles and lean into a bold future for local women and girls.

The afternoon kicked off with networking and a silent auction that featured a selection of luxury trips for two, courtesy of The American Fundraising Foundation.

Luncheon Keynote Speaker **Morgan Berman**, Founder and CEO of MilkCrate, reflected on her many successes – and inevitable frustrations – as a woman in the male-dominated startup and tech industries. An accomplished Brazilian jiu-jitsu competitor, Morgan also spoke to the inspiration – and life lessons about resiliency and persistence against a formidable opponent – that she pulls from each time she is on the mat.

Kitchen Table Award

CCFWG also presented **Cheryl Miles**, a connector and passionate advocate for the underserved in Chester County, with the 2019 Kitchen Table Award, named in celebration of the many conversations among CCFWG founders held around kitchen, board and coffee tables.

In a touching video tribute to Cheryl, some of her dearest friends and colleagues spoke to her selfless heart and guiding presence as a leader in Chester County. In her remarks, Cheryl emphasized the importance of community and how vital it is to the work we all do as partners throughout the county. She also reminded the crowd that we “are our sisters’ keepers” and serve as “drum majors for the vulnerable.”

“We need community. There is no significant learning without significant relationships.”

-Cheryl Miles

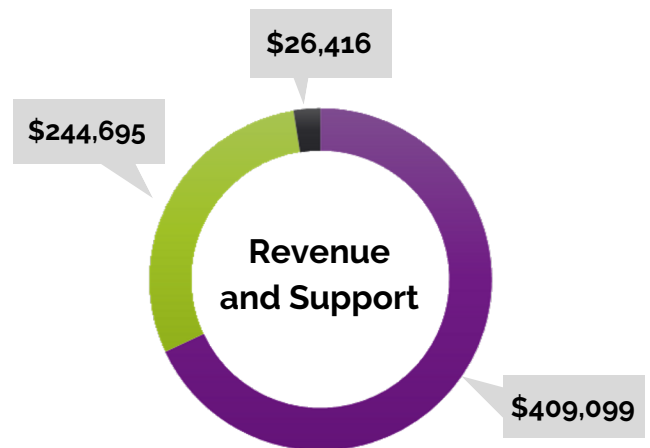
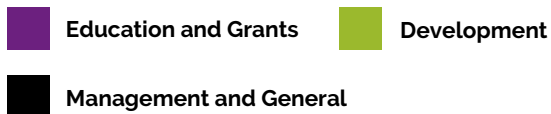
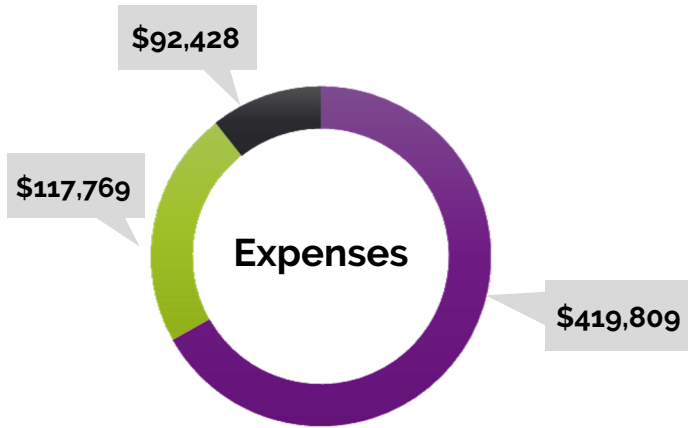
Statement of Financial Position

Assets

Current	\$361,999
Investments	\$4,328,868
Property & equipment	\$3,632
Total	\$4,694,499

Liabilities

Current	\$27,253
Net assets	\$4,667,246
Net total liabilities & net assets	\$4,694,499



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Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information. Should you have any comments or questions, please contact us at (484) 356-0940.



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Thank you to our anonymous donors.

* Many thanks to organizations that match gifts.

Many Faces of Philanthropy



CCFWG Board member Debbie Gawrylowicz nominated CCFWG as the recipient of funds raised for "jeans day" at her workplace.

1



2 Sisters from the Alpha Sigma Tau sorority at Kutztown University planned and hosted a fundraiser to support CCFWG.

2



3 Chester County couple Blair Thornburgh and Josh Maxwell designated CCFWG as their charity of choice on their wedding registry last August. Photo courtesy of The New York Times.

3

Ways to Give

There are so many ways for you to help CCFWG support individuals and organizations around a shared commitment to local women and girls.

Online

Make your donation securely via credit card at www.ccwomenandgirls.org. Join those who give recurring monthly donations, for as little as \$10 per month, to ensure stable support for CCFWG's mission.

Donor-Advised Funds (DAFs)

Recommend a gift to CCFWG through your donor-advised fund. These gifts are essential parts of the lasting changes we help make in the lives of women and girls in Chester County. (EIN#: 76-0724241)

Matching Gifts

Double your impact in the lives of women and girls. Please check with your HR department to see if your employer will match your gift.

Gifts of Stock and Appreciated Assets

By making gifts of stock or appreciated assets, you receive an immediate income tax deduction for the fair market value of the securities on the date of transfer while supporting our mission

Legacy Giving Society Program

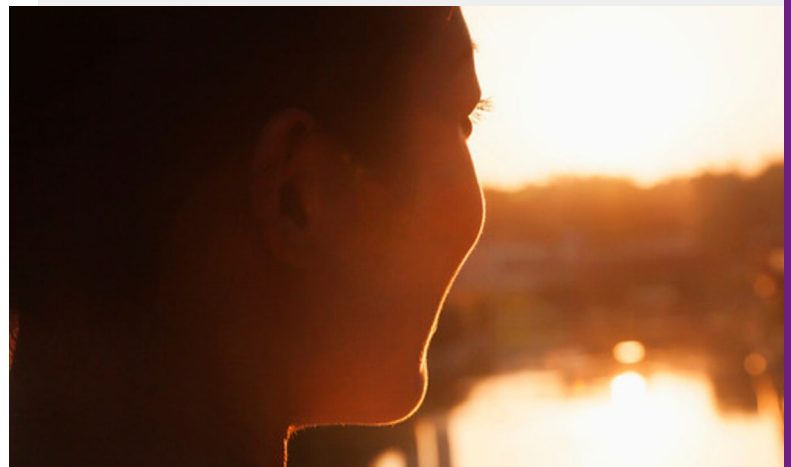
Join CCFWG's Legacy Circle, which connects supporters who seek to establish a strong foundation for local women and girls. Let us know of your plans to leave a Legacy gift that will ensure our three pillars of support – Community Engagement, Grantmaking and Advocacy – continue to grow in perpetuity.

For more information on ways to give, reach out to Dana Wiley, Development Director, at dwiley@ccfwg.org or 484-356-0940.

Looking Forward to 2020

As we continue to move forward, we have our vision and goals before us. In 2020, we are committed to:

- Strengthen our girls' programs and young women's initiatives in order to **equip the next generation** to step up now and in their future.
- Commission the next **Blueprint Report** to bring to the forefront what's working and what's not as it relates to giving women what they need to reach their full potential.
- Utilize our Blueprint as a centerpiece to create the space for non-profits, elected officials, and the community at large to **learn, build coalitions, develop solutions and promote women's equality and inclusion**.
- Deepen our **impact of the dollars we invest into local organizations** who work to set women and girls up for success.
- Grow our **grantmaking programs** so that we can continue to operate in perpetuity as a **permanent resource for women**, especially for those in life's transitions from young to senior.



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CCFWG

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West Chester, PA 19380
484-356-0940



Follow us on social media at @ccwomenandgirls!
Sign up for email updates at ccwomenandgirls.org.

OUR MISSION

The Chester County 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. CCFWG 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.