2020 Annual Report

COLLABORATE. CONVENE. EDUCATE.

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sarah Beth Estes, PhD President

Jill Floyd First Vice President

Wendy Johnson Second Vice President

Liz Story Treasurer

Corey Alderdice At-Large Representative

Gena Wingfield *At-Large Representative*

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Jennifer Browne

Lee Lee Doyle, PhD

Mildred Franco

Yolanda Hughes

Chris Jones, PhD

Kim Lane

Kim O'Guinn

Melanie Taylor

Cindy Thornton

Cici Conger Portie

First Lady Susan Hutchinson Honorary Member

TEAM

Anna Beth Gorman Executive Director

Ryder Buttry Director of Programs & Strategic Initiatives

Sophie Wise

Operations & Communications Manager

Eliana Scully AmeriCorps VISTA Strategic Initiatives Program Coordiantor

Caitlin Camper

AmeriCorps VISTA Statewide Impact Coordinator

Marie Kressin AmeriCorps VISTA Marketing & Brand Awareness Coordinator

CONTRACTORS

Courtney Childers Grantwriting & Development Jensyn Hallett Grantwriting

Trisha Guenther Accounting Lacy Selig Development

Angela Shirey Development

MISSION

To ensure economic security for Arkansas women and girls through collaboration and focused philanthropic

investment.

VISION

WFA envisions an Arkansas in which women achieve economic equity and security.

VALUES

Empowerment | Equity | Responsiveness | Influence | Education | Commitment | Compassion | Boldness | Innovation | Perseverance | Inclusion | Ambition

A NOTE FROM LEADERSHIP



ANNA BETH GORMAN Executive Director



SARAH BETH ESTES Board President

Dear WFA Community,

It won't surprise you to hear that this was a year that pushed our boundaries and forced us to reimagine how we were going to continue doing the work we know to be so important. It was immediately clear that the pandemic would disproportionately affect women and as such we knew we had to take action.

In March, the WFA committed to supporting women owned business through the pandemic. We raised \$80,000 to disperse to women-owned businesses across the state. The need was so great. We received almost 1000 applications to our Women-Owned COVID-19 Grant Relief Fund. In each, women told stories of how their businesses were struggling at the beginning of the pandemic. We the creation of a fund from which raised \$80,00, which was dispersed to women business owners across the state. We committed 75% of these funds to businesses owned by women of color in light of the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 in this community.

Almost immediately following we witnessed the death of George Floyd. an event that touched off an historic movement for social justice. We know that our work in gender equity cannot be done until racial equity is achieved, in June of 2020 the WFA released a statement supporting protests of systemic racial inequality. We know that we as need to do more to support marginalized communities. as we work to make Arkansas a more We are committed to DEI training as part of our official Strategic Plan and to making DEI principles central to our operations.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, our annual Girls of Promise Conference was switched to a completely virtual format. The WFA team mailed Girls of Promise At Home boxes to all 200 eighth-grade girls who were accepted, and hosted virtual yoga and cooking sessions.

Finally, in our most challenging year we continued to experience an exciting time of growth and unprecedented investment in the Foundation's work. We received a grant from the Women's Funding Network that allowed us to create a Women's Economic Mobility Hub. Recognizing that the entrepreneurial ecosystem has historically and systematically disadvantaged women and people of color, our model will collaboratively and uniquely support women-owned businesses through women business owners can access critical capital.

Our community - volunteers, donors, corporate sponsors, grantees, collaborators, board members, and staff - played a part in every success you will see in the following pages. Thank you for trusting us to collaborate, convene, and advocate for the improved circumstances of women & girls in our state. We are proud to share our successes but we know there is more work to be done. Thanks to your continued support, the Foundation will sustain our work on behalf of Arkansas' women and girls into 2021 and beyond. Join us equitable place for women & girls to live and lead.

Anna Beth & Sarah Beth

2020 GRANTEES

Through our grantmaking this year, we were able to collaborate with non-profits and funder collaboratives throughout Arkansas that were working to improve the economic circumstances of women & girls in our state. In our twenty-one year history, we have distributed more than \$400,000 to organizations statewide. In 2020, the grant award total, in this year alone, is over \$100,000. This brings our foundational lifetime investment to more than \$500,000. This year we granted to thirty-six organizations, small businesses, and schools under our two initiatives, Girls of Promise and Women Empowered. A total of \$40,500 was granted out to organizations under our Girls of Promise Initiative and \$88,700 was granted out under Women Empowered.

WOMEN EMPOWERED GRANTEES

Arkansas Impact Philanthropy

Arkansas Asset Funders Network

UCA Minority Vendor Partnership Initiative Research on Entrepreneurship among Women of Color in the Delta Region of Arkansas

University of Arkansas Little Rock

WOMEN-OWNED: **COVID-19 GRANT RELIEF FUND**

Mother Goose Daycare	Kharis Grants & Services
Renaissance Healthcare	Eunoia Therapy & Self Development
Elder House Adult Daycare Center	Career Development & Training Institue, LLC
1 More Life	
Brooklyn's "Bridge to Learning" Daycare	Kiki Dance Studio & Wellness Center, LLC
Essence Stylz & Kutz	Praise Printing & Photography
B's Wedding Rentals	Mell's Beauty Studio
Bella Cleaning Services	Wonderlust Hair Studio LLC
	YGFBF Kitchen Mobile Food & Catering LLC

GIRLS OF PROMISE GRANTEES

Arkansas Cinema Society Filmmaking Lab for Teen Girls

> **EAST Initiative** Dr. Mary Lowe Good Legacy Scholarship

Museum of Discovery

Arkansas Regional Innovation Hub

Augusta School District

Barton School District

Barton-Lexa School District

Dumas School District

Forrest City School District

Lakeside School District

Lee County School District

McCrory School District

Augusta School District

McGehee School District

Brinkley School District



SHOOT DAY Filmmaking Lab participants pose for a group photo



GIRL POWER

Filmmaking Lab participants focused on empowering the image of the young girl in this year's short film project.



BAILEY DOSS Scholarship Recipient

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Bailey Doss Dr. Mary Lowe Good Scholarship

This year we expanded our grantmaking to the EAST initiative to support the creation of the Dr. Mary Lowe Good Legacy Scholarship. This scholarship was designed for a high school senior girl, involved in the EAST program, with a desire to go into a STEAM career.

Dr. Mary Lowe Good, a WFA founder, spent her life dedicated to advocating for women in the STEM field. Good was a distinguished chemist, professor, industrial innovator, and government leader who broke many glass ceilings for women in science.

This EAST Initiative scholarship was awarded to a young woman who would continue to carry on the Good legacy..

RECEIVING THE GOOD SCHOLARSHIP WAS AN HONOR AND ONE OF THE MOST IMPACTFUL THINGS IN MY LIFE THUS FAR. AS A STUDENT WANTING TO GO INTO NURSING, THERE IS NOBODY ELSE I WOULD WANT TO ASPIRE TO BE LIKE. WITH THAT SAID, WITHOUT THE GOOD SCHOLARSHIP, I WOULD NOT BE AS CONFIDENT OR PREPARED FOR THE STUDENT LIFE I'VE ENCOUNTERED AT UCA THIS FALL.

Bailey Doss, Scholarship Recipient

WOMEN EMPOWERED

Women Empowered Initiative 2020 Steering Committee

Patricia Ashanti

Cindy Conger

Margaret Ellibee

Sara Beth Estes

Mildred Franco

Erika Gee

Dorothy Hall

Devin Hancock

Abby Hughes Holsclaw

Kimberly Lee

Laura Nick

Carole Smith

Cindy Thorton

Cindy Varner

Women-Owned Grant Committee Katherine Berry

Ryder Buttry

Jensyn Hyman

Kimberly Lee

Martie North

Chauncey Pettis

Angela Shirley

Adena White

Kara Wilkins

WOMEN-OWNED: COVID-19 GRANT RELIEF FUND

In 2020, the majority of our Women Empowered Initiative was dedicated to battling the affects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, women-owned businesses were among the highest fiscal losses due to this pandemic. The WFA saw need, and made the decision to roll out \$80,000 in grants to 16 women-owned businesses within the state of Arkansas. The WFA team & volunteers reviewed over 1,000 applications from businesses across the state, expressing their furvent need for funding during the pandemic.

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT



MaryAnn Strange, YGFBFKitchen

This year, we released \$80,000 in COVID-19 relief funds to womenowned businesses across the state of Arkansas. Under our Women-Owned COVID-19 Grant Relief Fund, we were able to support 16 womenowned businesses. One of those being, MaryAnn Strange, owner of YGFBF Kitchen restaurant and catering. MaryAnn used grant funds to cover her business's rent and bills since her business had closed for COVID-19 precautions.

THE WOMEN-OWNED GRANT HELPED US GET FROM THE RED TO THE CLEAR AND GAVE US SOME ROOM TO NOT BE SO STRESSED IN AN ALREADY STRESSFUL SITUATION AND YEAR..

MaryAnn Strange,, Women-Owned Grantee Recipient

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC MOBILITY HUB

This year, WFA was chosen to join a cohort of nine women's foundations across the country to partake in the Women's Funding Network's Regional Women's Economic Mobility Hub project, as part of an 18-month effort funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to increase support and resources necessary to advance economic mobility among women and girls. We dedicated our Economic Mobility Hub to continue the work done through our Women Owned COVID-19 Grant Relief Fund. Recognizing that the entrepreneurial ecosystem has historically and systematically disadvantaged women and people of color, the model will educate the ecosystem on how to collaboratively and uniquely support women-owned businesses, serve as a bridge and create a fund from which women business owners can access critical capital.

Our first step to creating our Women's Economic Mobility Hub was to support research on women of color entrepreneurs within the state of Arkansas. Through collaboration with the University of Central Arkansas, we were able to support the creation of **Women of Color Business Owners** and Entrepreneurs in Arkansas.

Through collaboration with Arkansas Asset Funders Network we were able to join a cohort to support the creation of **CAPITAL. What Women Really Want.** This report identifies Arkansas women entrepreneurs and the barriers they face to access capital.



WOMEN OF COLOR BUSINESS

OWNERS AND ENTREPRENEURS

IN ARKANSAS

In AR, 1 in 4 small bu

Of the \$1 billion in SBA financing to AR small businesses to 2019, only 1.2% (\$12M) supported Black-owned busine 1.8% (\$18M) supported Latinx-owned businesses

arly \$10 billio

eive only 2% of all venture capital fundi

RESEARCH Stories of women of color business owners and entrepreneurs in Arkansas.

IT'S TIME FOR US TO START SHARING OUR STORIES AND THEN NOT BE AFRAID TO THRIVE IN THAT SPACE. 77

ARKANSAS WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE CAPITAL THEY NEED



Access to capital is what women want and what women need. Capital is necessary to create and grow a business. Data shows that many women cannot secure startup capital for their new business, and even when they do, women receive lower levels of funding than their male peers.²

RESEARCH

Arkansas women entrepreneurs face systemic barriers to accessing capital that prevent them from developing and growing wealth-building businesses.

A VIRTUAL GIRLS OF PROMISE

GIRLS OF PROMISE INITIATIVE 2020 Steering Committee

Janet Cinfio

Megan Craig

Carl Frank

Una Garimella

Suzanne Mitchell

Daniel Moix

Steve Rice

GIRLS OF PROMISE CONFERENCE 2020 Planning Committee

Katie Story

Faith Anaya

Jamie Collins

Amanda Day

Avery McLean

Sandra Leiterman

Shelsea Veloz

Rachel Zimmerman

This year, we had to pivot our Girls of Promise Conference to a completely virtual platform. After cancelling our original date, we made the decision to still bring the Girls of Promise Conference experience to the 200 hundred eighth-grade girls that were accepted into the original conference. We convened our conference committee and brainstormed how to continue to serve the communities of girls. In April, the WFA committed to a virtual program. We mailed out boxes to all 200 girls containing conference swag & promise cards, we held virtual yoga sessions & cooking classes, ensuring that the Girls of Promise Conference would not hold as a cancelled event. None of this could have been possible without our donors and dedicated committee members. This year taught us how to continue to bring the Girls of Promise Conference to all platforms; we are excited to continue a virtual Girls of Promise in 2021.

HAVING BEEN INVOLVED IN THOSE EARLY YEARS, WHEN I LOOK AT OUR PROGRAM NOW, I REALIZE HOW MANY YOUNG WOMEN HAVE HAD THIER HORIZONS BROADEN BY BEING ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS WONDERFUL PROGRAM. ""

Dr. Lee Lee Doyle Girls of Promise Founder and WFA Board Member







GOP AT HOME Boxes mailed to 200 eighth-grade girls to allow participation in the Girls of Promise Conference

POWER OF THE PURSE HONOREES





WOMAN OF THE YEAR IN PHILANTHROPY Sissy Jones, Owner & Founder, Sissy's Log Cabin



BROWNIE LEDBETTER CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AWARD Dr. Karama Neal President of Southern Bancorp Community Partners



WOMAN OF THE YEAR IN BUSINESS Marnie Oldner, CEO Stone Bank

AR FIRST LADY'S WOMAN IN PUBLIC SERVICE Amy Fecher, Cabinet Secretary for the State of Arkansas, Department of Transformation and Shared Services.



POWER OF THE PURSE LUNCHEON



Power of the Purse Co-Chairs

Mandy Richardson & Mitch Bettis

Our Power of the Purse Luncheon was a hybrid event; a limited amount of guests were invited to join us in-person in the gardens of the Arkansas Governor's Mansion while we livestreamed the event for our virtual attendees. Although completely different from our original format, we were able to host a successful fundraiser. Thanks to sponsors like Sissy's Log Cabin, we were able to host a drawing of Lagos jewelry! This, partnered with our amazing co-chairs & honorees, helped us surpass our fundraising goal

THE WFA IS SO THANKFUL FOR EACH OF THESE VENDORS THAT HELPED BRING OUR VISION OF A HYBRID POWER OF THE PURSE TO LIFE. IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN A SUCCESSFUL EVENT WITHOUT THEM.

BYLITES

VINES BROOKSHIRE

ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S MANSION

DYV EVENTS

STRATEGIC Planning

In 2020, the WFA committed to the creation of our Stratgeic Plan, which has mapped out the WFA's work for the next five years. With guidance from Inveritas Consulting & CEO Ruth Whitney, the WFA team and board was able to build out a plan that would allow us to focus on empowering Arkansas women & girls into the forseeable future.

OUR MISSION

To ensure economic security for Arkansas women and girls through collaboration and focused philanthropic investment.

OUR VISION

WFA envisions an Arkansas in which women achieve economic equity and security.

OUR VALUES

Empowerment | Equity | Responsiveness | Influence | Education | Commitment | Compassion | Boldness | Innovation | Perseverance | Inclusion | Ambition



STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1

Create, fund, and promote systems and programs that provide education, mobility and economic security for Arkansas women and girls



STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2

Grow WFA's relevancy and impact statewide with a focus on underserved communities



STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3

Ensure organizational vitality that results in active and sustained investment in Arkansas women and girls



STRATEGIC PRIORITY #4

Utilize data-informed research to collaborate with communities to build engagement on behalf of Arkansas women and girls

VENDORS

In 2020, the Women's Foundation of Arkansas committed to continuing to support local women-owned businesses through our vendors. Below are women-owned businesses we were able to support through our vendors, contractors, and others that were able to help us make our 2020 events safe and enjoyable.



Cocoa Belle Chocolates

Rx Catering

CONSULTANTS & CONTRACTORS

Courtney Childers Grantwriting & Development Jensyn Hallett Grantwriting

Lacy Selig

Selig Strategies

Trisha Guenther Guenther Accounting Solutions

Michelle Stewart

Angela Shirey Development

COMMUNICATIONS

Mangan Holcomb Partners

FLORIST

Hodge Podge

PHOTOGRAPHY

Callie Neal FTP Collective

Katie Childs Katie Childs Photography



Magna IV

DONORS

\$25,000 - \$75,000+

Cynthia Conger Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation Women's Funding Network

\$15,000 - \$24,999 Arkansas Business Publishing Group

\$10,000 - \$14,999

Arvest Bank AT&T Arkansas Corporation for National and Community Service Economics Arkansas Mangan Holcomb Stone Bank Vines Brookshire Wells Fargo Windstream Communications

\$5,000 - \$9,999

61 Celsius Arkansas Community Foundation Bank of America Linda Hargis McLarty Automotive Group Nucor-Yamato Steel Rebsamen Fund John Selig Simmons Bank Sissy's Log Cabin

\$2,500 - \$4,999

3M

Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield Minority and Women Business Division, AEDC Citizens Bank Crafton Tull Dassault Falcon Jet Sandra Franecke Garver, LLC Inveritas Research and Consulting Southern Bancorp Southwest Power Pool Stone Ward - Little Rock Liz Story Cynthia Thornton United Health Group

\$1,000 - \$2,4999

ABB Motors and Mechanical Inc Arkansas Children's Hospital Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation **BEI Precision Systems and Space** Katherine Berry Jennifer Browne Tjuana Byrd **CDI** Contractors Ann Childs Robin Connell Lee Lee Dovle EGP LLP **Entergy Charitable Foundation** Mildred Franco Office of the Governor Governor Asa Hutchinson Nancy and William Henderson Mary Helen Henry Annabelle Imber Tuck Impact Management Group Wendy Johnson **Emily Money** Munro Foundation Museum of Discovery Kimberly O'Guinn Marnie Oldner Periscope Holdings Quattlebaum, Grooms & Tull **Regina Radke** Barbara Sugg Melanie Taylor Alison Williams Gena Winafield Carolyn Witherspoon

\$500 - \$999

Gregory and Helen Burton Chambers Bank Ellon Cockrill Community Partners Sarah Beth Estes Julia Garcia Colin Gorman Debby Thetford Nye John Owens Plantation Services Potluck & Poison Ivy Steve Rice Mary Beth Trubitt UALR College of Business University of Arkansas at Little Rock

\$250 - \$499

Arkansas Federal Credit Union Jamie Bandv Christina Drale Laura Fine Trisha Guenther Hodge Podge, Etc. Heather Honaker Jennifer Hoss Ellen Kreth Theresa Mount Network For Good Hillis Schild Mary Gay Shipley Millie Ward Sarah Wengel Kara Wilkins

\$100 - \$249

Acxiom Corporation Viviane Aiarrista **Catherine Anne Atkinson** Ann Bain Karen Baugh Gail Bellingrath Peyton Bishop Jean Block Lekita Brown Belinda Brown Susan Brown Lori Burrows Elizabeth Camper **Centennial Bank Cross Gunter Witherspoon & Galchus** Jerry Damerow Melissa Dean -Karrah Dickeson Matt & Jill Dozier DEBORAH DRAYTON Cheryl Drury Angela Duran Marianne Estes Olivia Farrell Amy Fecher Karen Fetzer **Fidelity Charitable** Erin Finzer Jill Floyd Jennifer Fowler James Gorman Dorothy Hall Jensyn Hallett Hank's Furniture, Inc.

Natasha Harris -Tamhra Hutchins-Frye Cindy Ireland Stephanie Jackson Patricia Jolliff Ian King Pat Lile **Debbie MaKris** Melissa Martin Suzanne Matthew Kathryn May Karen McDaniel Mike McGibbony Lucy McNew Diane Meador Diana Millenbaugh Madeline Moore Olly Neal Susan Norton Nancy Oudin Sammye Owen Betty Owen **Barbie Pierce** Amanda Potter Cole Janelle Powell Mary Pringos Robin Reed Anne Robinson Diane Robinson Amy L. Rossi Merritt Royal Mary Beth Saad Grace Steuri Charles Stewart Stephanie Thompson **Cindy Trotter** Crystal Vint Sherry Walker Libbi Whitehurst Ruth Whitney Mary Wildgen Aseelah Williams Janalyn Williams Massey Bonnie Williamson Mary Willmuth Laveta Wills-Hale Jennifer Wilson-Harvey Shanda Winkowski-Thornton Barbara Wise Rebecca Zimmermann Mary Zunivk

\$1 - \$99

Brooke (Couch) Graham **Corev Alderdice Stephanie Alderdice** Michele Allgood Faith Anava Arkansas STEM Coalition Jeremy Ausburn **Bryn Bagwell Tiffany Barger** Kwajdo Boaitey Tawanna Broadway **Cheryl Brown** LORI BROWN **Cathy Browne** Ann Buchanan Abigail Buchanan Rachel Bunch Noelle Buttry Lisa Carlon Fran Carter Maria I. Castro Karyn Coleman Esperanza Crane Marcella Dalla Rosa Debbie Davis Amanda Day Jennifer-Kristen Dillard Diedra Dixon Jessica Dunham Jennifer Ferguson Charlene fite Debra Fithen Debra Fithen Nechi Fullerton Pam Futch Addie Gardner Kristin Gawlik Julie Gillaspy Gena Givens Anna Beth Gorman Brooke Graham Adrian Graham Karen Greer Christine Gronwald Chris Hailey Charity Hallman **Charity Hallman** Diane Hancock Alexandra Henry **Brooke Hollowoa** Stephanie Hopkins Martin

Amy Hopper Tanya James Sarah James Melissa Jenkins Abby Jennings Amy Johnson Alex Johnston Rebecca Jones Jessica Jorge-Graulau Stephanie Keet Elizabeth King -Kellie Knight Janet Korenblat Mary Koziar Mary Lackie Cara Lank Kathleen Lawson Joni Lee Johanna Lewis Kate Lonberger **Denise Lorenz** Madeline Marguette Virginia McClellan Marie McCrary Mary McCraw Jo Beth McElhanon McKenzie McMath Wavne Miller Andrea Mitton Kerry Moody **Tonya Musial** Heather Nelson Diana Nolte Abby Olivier Jennings Lucie Pathmann Suzanne Peyton **Rachel Pitre** Cora Pittard **Cindy Pugh Tiffany Rogers Phyllis Rogers Tiffany Rogers** Jana Rucker Ashley Russell Jena Selva Lottie Shackelford Susie Shinn Patty Shipp Laura Shue Kristi Smith Errin Stanger Susan Stewart Carlie Tacker

The Cresent Hotel Lorrie Trogden John Tucker Julianne Unger Kristen Vandaveer Eryn Veach Larry White Darrin Williams Erin Wood



In 2020, the Women's Foundation of Arkansas was able to grant out the largest amount to date within the life of the organization. This could not have been possible without the support of various donors & grantors that believe in the work we do. The WFA also doubled in size in 2020, bringing on the need to expand our capacity and pivot the entire team to a virtual platform. The WFA experienced a successful fiscal year which allowed us to collaborate, convene, and educate on a larger scale.

REVENUE	EXPENSES	NET ASSETS
GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS - \$721,697	PROGRAM EXPENSES - \$452,301	BEGINNING OF YEAR - \$553,559
IN-KIND DONATIONS - \$61,108	SUPPORTING SERVICES - \$216,910	END OF YEAR - \$666,877
NET CHANGE IN INVESTMENTS — (\$276)	TOTAL EXPENSES - \$669,211	CHANGE IN NET ASSETS - \$113,318
TOTAL REVENUE - \$782,529		

WOMEN'S FOUNDATION Arkansas