

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOCAL NON-PROFIT AWARDS \$225,000 TO PROGRAMS BENEFITTING WOMEN AND CHILDREN

March 13, 2020, Spokane, Wash. -- Women Helping Women Fund has announced its grant recipients for the 2020-2021 funding period. An estimated \$225,000 will be awarded to 16 local programs that are focused on helping ensure women and children have opportunities to reach their highest potential. The size of each grant ranges from \$10,000 to \$22,500, with the final amount determined based on funds raised at the group's Annual Benefit Luncheon, Tuesday, May 19, at 11:30 am, at the Spokane Convention Center.

Members

Stephanie Baumann

Sarah Carlson

Anne Cowles

Tija Danzig

Stacy Destito

Laureen Driscoll

Elisabeth Hooker

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Melanie Miller

Anne Oakley

Tara Pendleton

Stacy Wenzl

The following programs have been selected to benefit from the 2020 luncheon:

CAREER PATH SERVICES: Proactive Success Coaching

Offers individuals' needs as they transition off state assistance and prevent them from cycling back to the TANF system and help them move toward financial stability and success.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: Forging a New Path with At-Risk Mothers: Circle of Security-Parenting and Secure Beginnings

Helps mothers who are pregnant or with infants stop cycles of abuse and neglect.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES OF SPOKANE FOUNDATION: SCC WorkFirst Women's Leadership Program

Helps welfare reform women gain knowledge, confidence in choosing career directions, managing finances, accessing community services and other life skills necessary to successfully transition in stable employment.

CREATE YOUR STATEMENT: Take a Stand

Equips youth aged 12-18 with the knowledge, resources, and tools to avoid unhealthy relationships and understand how to form healthy relationships for their future.

Emeriti

Mari Clack

Marcy Drummond

Executive Director

Heather Hamlin

FAMILY PROMISE OF SPOKANE: Neighbors & Village: Homelessness Prevention Programs

Supports at-risk families by preventing them from entering homelessness through diversion-first practices, rental assistance, life-skills courses, case management, and a peer support network.

GONZAGA UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Campus Kitchens

Recovers and repurposes surplus food providing an average of 1,500 meals each month, seeking to reduce barriers for low-income individuals and families to access food resources and critical services.

HUMANITIES WASHINGTON: Prime Time Family Reading Program in Spokane

Focuses on engaging low-income, academically at-risk children and their family members, this program is an outcomes-based family literacy curriculum that engages children and their family members in the exploration of humanities through the reading and discussion of children's literature.

JOYA CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT: Child and Family Development

Serves children aged birth to three with developmental delays and disabilities to include speech, occupational and physical therapy, in conjunction with special education.

OLIVE CREST: Safe Families for Children in Spokane

Provides a critical need for safe, temporary host family homes to protect vulnerable children and youth, and strengthen their families and communities.

PARTNERS WITH FAMILIES AND CHILDREN: Mental Health Services / Parent-Child Interaction Therapy Training

Provides an effective trauma-informed intervention that improves the parent-child relationship, increase parenting skills, decrease child conduct problems and reduce the risk of maltreatment for families and young children with behavioral problems.

SPOKANE VALLEY PARTNERS: Food 4 Thought

There are more than 800 reported homeless students in the four greater Spokane Valley school districts. Food 4 Thought provides weekend food to more than 500 homeless or extreme low-income household students.

THE SALVATION ARMY OF SPOKANE: Emergency Foster Care Receiving Facilities

The Salvation Army's Emergency Foster Care placement, Sally's House and Evangeline's House are the only receiving facilities in the state providing emergency placement for children and transitioning youth, ages 2 – 20, who have been removed from their home due to extreme abuse and/or neglect.

TRANSITIONS: EduCare

Childcare program serving children (infant-5 years old) in low-income Spokane-area families impacted by homelessness, addiction, abuse, and other traumas.

VANESSA BEHAN CRISIS NURSERY: Emergency Respite Care

Provides care services for children living in crisis situations and engaging them in activities that promote gross, fine, communication, and social skills to support the whole child.

WOMEN'S & CHILDREN'S FREE RESTAURANT AND COMMUNITY KITCHEN: Nutrition-to-Go

Reaches out across the community in collaboration with 29 partner locations to feed and provide other essential services to Spokane's most vulnerable women, children, and teens, including those experiencing homelessness, family violence, mental health issues, trauma, and pervasive poverty.

YWCA SPOKANE: Hospital and Legal Advocacy for Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence

Embeds confidential advocates within existing systems of healthcare, law enforcement, and civil and criminal justice to connect victims and their children with lifesaving services.

Women Helping Women Fund is a non-profit organization dedicated to empowering women and children to create healthy families and vibrant communities. This year's Luncheon speaker is Stephanie Land. Stephanie is an American author who writes about poverty in the United States. After several years of living below the poverty line and cleaning houses in Washington, she graduated from University of Montana and ended her dependence on food stamps. Stephanie released her debut book *Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay and a Mother's Will to Survive* in 2019 and it debuted at #3 on the New York Best Seller list.

Over the past 27 years WHWF has raised over \$6 million and funded over 480 programs that focus on women and children. Funds stay local and grant recipients are thoroughly screened during an allocations process that includes financial review and site visits by board members.

Register for the Luncheon and learn more about this year's speaker at <http://whwfspokane.org/luncheon-events/luncheon/>

About Women Helping Women Fund (WHWF) - Spokane

Women Helping Women Fund was established in 1992 to raise the level of awareness about the plight of women & children living in poverty in our community. The non-profit believes that empowering women & children builds healthy families & vibrant communities.

The organization is committed to helping women & children by raising money to assist programs that are making a difference in the lives of those in need.