Ms. Foundation for Women's Mission

To build women's collective power to realize a nation of justice for all.

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Dear Friends:

The Ms. Foundation for Women began in 1973 with a revolutionary feminist mission: to fund grassroots organizations created and led by women. Since then, the Ms. Foundation has continued its mission, focused on organizations advocating for women's reproductive healthcare choice and access, economic opportunities, and safety. Feminism matters more than ever before, especially in a year when we celebrated the first woman nominated by a major political party to be President of the United States – yet saw more restrictive state and federal legislation curbing women’s rights.

Our work is not done. Every challenge deepens our commitment to feminism and to activists working tirelessly to defend and promote our hard-won rights. Their impact surges through every woman who becomes empowered to speak and act against policies and institutions that threaten her ability to choose when to have a family, to earn a living wage, and to live without fear of violence or abuse in her home or community.

The Ms. Foundation is committed to fueling this dynamic and multi-dimensional movement of activists. We are growing and advancing the movement for the social, political, and economic equality of all genders – from funding more than 70 organizations, to launching a conversation-provoking social media campaign, to partnering with former and current grantees for the United State of Women Summit in Washington, DC. We are organizing, shaping, and encouraging the collective power of women and feminists to realize a nation of justice for all.

In fiscal year 2016, the Ms. Foundation

• Elevated the national discussion about the devastating impact of child sexual abuse on girls, with the release of the Sexual Abuse to Prison Pipeline report. Created in partnership with Human Rights Project for Girls and the Georgetown Law Center on Poverty and Inequality, the report details how systemic violence and abuse place girls at higher risk of landing in the criminal justice system, which offers few resources to address deep-seated trauma.

• Doubled down on our commitment to improving women’s economic security. As one of the leading women’s foundations for Prosperity Together, we are partnering with 43 other women’s funds nationwide in a bold financial initiative investing $100 million over five years to increase women’s economic equity, particularly for women and girls of color.

• Helped fund the critical and successful efforts of Raising Women’s Voices to safeguard New York state women’s access to reproductive healthcare services guaranteed under the Affordable Care Act, as they worked with legislation to ensure insurers complied with coverage guidelines in order to offer programs in the state.

Our accomplishments are not ours alone. Our strides and our successes are possible thanks to the investments of individuals and organizations that share a vision of a true democracy, in which the worth and dignity of every person are valued. The Ms. Foundation is indebted to activists and donors, from the grassroots to the grass tops, whose fierce feminism is changing lives and laws.

On behalf of the board, the staff, our grantee-partners, and myself, I am proud to share this report with you. Thank you for all you have contributed to our partnership to create a progressive, equal nation.

With gratitude,

Heather Arnet
Chair, Ms. Foundation Board of Directors
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Programs
As more women participate in the U.S. labor force, racial and gender bias negatively impact women's ability to earn a living wage and gain more economic opportunities. Women are the primary earners in four out of 10 households and remain primary caretakers for children, yet women represent more than 60% of the minimum wage workforce and overall earn less than men for the same work. Women make up the country's largest voting block and women of color are the fastest-growing population segment, yet policies and legislation rarely accommodate women's issues, continuing to reflect sexist, racist legacies that undervalue care responsibilities as “women’s work.”

The Ms. Foundation for Women’s Economic Justice program promotes organized, grassroots-based efforts to address challenges women face to greater economic security. Our grantmaking strategy advances universal access to quality, affordable childcare to alleviate the burdens that working women face; raising the value and quality of jobs for childcare workers; and increasing the collective economic and political power of women in the U.S. South – a region with significant political influence.

Increasing Universal Access and Opportunities to Childcare for Low-Income Women

In 2016 our Economic Justice program continued to invest in state and local childcare advocacy groups, low-wage worker centers, and childcare provider networks to align multiple advocacy strategies advancing universal childcare access.

Within this focus, we support the work of our grantee-partners at the intersections of childcare and labor rights, building an integrated movement to address workplace issues, transform public policy on childcare subsidy access, and improve job quality for childcare providers. The resulting new understanding and analysis around the nexus of these components have made significant impact on how these various components are linked and framed by sector stakeholders, developing the leadership capacity of childcare workers and low-income parents while advancing jobs in the care sector.

Southern Strategy: Centering Women's Economic, Social, and Political Power in a Challenging Political Landscape

The South continues to be critically important to America’s political, cultural, and economic landscape. The Ms. Foundation's investment in building women’s power in the South – economic, social, and political – advances women’s leadership as crucial to improving economic conditions for communities throughout the region. We leverage both the momentum of public opinion and perspectives on women’s safety, health, and economic security, and the bold work of grantee-partners in Southern states, to advance and build a bolder, more inclusive economic justice movement.

In 2015, the Ms. Foundation invested in grantee-partner Mississippi Low-Income Child Care Initiative and their development of a Women’s Economic Agenda - Making Mississippi Women Secure - in Mississippi, focusing on higher earning jobs for women, affordable access to education and childcare, and other issues that impact working women and women who want to work. During 2016, the Economic Justice program deepened its understanding of Women’s Economic Agendas across the nation, with a focus on replicating ways in which grassroots platforms informed by women can be built in other cities and states. Learnings from this exploratory work by the Economic Justice program will inform Women’s Safety and Health and aid in developing a cross-issue focus in the South.
Advancing Universal Access & Opportunities in Childcare

**Adhikaar for Human Rights and Social Justice** ........................................ $50,000
Executive Director: Luna Ranjit, Woodside, NY

Adhikaar for Human Rights and Social Justice, a women-led organization, promotes human rights and social justice for Nepali-speaking women and South Asian immigrants working in the informal sector as childcare providers, domestic workers, and nail salon technicians. Ms. Foundation's grant supports the continuation of Adhikaar's Quality Childcare for Economic Security project, which aims to create a new paradigm supporting low-income parents and childcare providers.

**African Communities United** .............................. $40,000
Executive Director: Amaha Kassa, Bronx, NY

African Communities Together (ACT) is a mutual aid, organizing, and civil rights organization for African immigrants and their families. Ms. Foundation's grant supports ACT's LivelyUP program, which empowers low-income African immigrant women, especially hair braiders and childcare providers, to achieve economic security.

**All Our Kin** ................................................. $45,000
Executive Director: Jessica Sager, New Haven, CT

All Our Kin (AOK) trains and supports childcare providers to build quality, sustainable childcare businesses. Ms. Foundation's grant supports AOK's efforts to preserve funding for Connecticut's Care 4 Kids childcare subsidy program; and advocacy on behalf of childcare providers in local communities and at the state level so they have the chance to inform and shape policies that improve job quality, service, and recognition of their contributions.

**California Child Care Resource and Referral Network, Parent Voices** ......................... $50,000
Statewide Organizer: Mary Ignatius, San Francisco, CA

Parent Voices (PV) is a parent-led, parent-run grassroots advocacy project fighting to make quality childcare accessible and affordable for all families. Ms. Foundation's grant supports PV's continued efforts to increase access to affordable childcare for working families; advocate legislation and appropriations; and train low-income women as leaders and organizers in campaigns and policy building.

**Center for Frontline Retail** ................................. $20,000
Executive Director: Anika Campbell, New York, NY

The Center for Frontline Retail (CFR) is dedicated to achieving quality employment in the retail sector through services, education, advocacy, and civic leadership. Ms. Foundation's grant supports CFR's Just Hours campaign, which highlights the practice of erratic and unpredictable scheduling among retailers, and advocacy for the expansion of childcare subsidies for working families in the retail industry.

**Centro de los Derechos del Migrante, Inc.** ........ $25,000
Executive Director: Rachel Micah-Jones, Baltimore, MD/Mexico City, MX

Centro de los Derechos del Migrante (Center for Migrant Rights) is the first transnational workers’ rights law center based in Mexico that focuses on U.S. workplace rights. Ms. Foundation's grant supports CDM as it strengthens and expands labor protections for migrant childcare workers, particularly those working under J-1 visas.

**Childspace Day Care Centers, Inc.** ............... $50,000
Chief Operating Officer: Susan A. Kavchok, Philadelphia, PA

Childspace Day Care Centers works to improve the quality of jobs for traditionally low-paid childcare workers, increase resources, and improve the quality of care. Ms. Foundation's grant supports Childspace as it further develops worker-owned childcare cooperatives; and its Provider Committee, comprised of women of color, which trains providers in advocacy for high quality childcare programs in Pennsylvania.
The Garment Worker Center (GWC), a worker rights organization, organizes low-wage garment workers in Los Angeles to fight for social and economic justice. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports the advancement of efforts to increase access to quality childcare services through advocacy, developing statewide alliances, and education about services available.

**Mississippi Low-Income Child Care Initiative** .......................... $50,000
Executive Director: Carol Burnett, Biloxi, MS

Mississippi Low-Income Child Care Initiative (MLICCI) is a statewide, grassroots organization of childcare providers, parents, and community leaders. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports MLICCI’s efforts to promote universal childcare access in Mississippi, by advocating for policy reforms that eliminate requirements for single working parents; strengthening the financial viability of childcare providers; and promoting racial equity in childcare subsidy programs.

**Mujeres Unidas y Activas** ............................ $50,000
Co-Director: Andrea Lee, San Francisco, CA

Mujeres Unidas y Activas (MUA) is a Latina-founded and -led grassroots organization that promotes personal transformation and building community power for social and economic justice. MUA was instrumental in passing the historic California Domestic Workers Bill of Rights. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports MUA’s efforts to eliminate the sunset provision on the Bill of Rights to ensure permanent protection of domestic workers, as well as their continued advocacy on behalf of domestic workers and their families.

**The OLÉ Education Fund** .......................... $25,000
Executive Director: Matthew Henderson, Albuquerque, NM

The OLÉ Education Fund (OLÉ) is a grassroots community organization comprised of working families in New Mexico. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports OLÉ’s efforts to engage childcare workers in more direct action on childcare policies through training, education, and advocacy, and to increase funding and support for childcare subsidies and access.

**Restaurant Opportunities Centers United** .... $15,000
Co-Director: Saru Jayaraman, New York, NY

Restaurant Opportunities Centers United (ROC United) is a national organization committed to organizing restaurant workers, conducting national research on the restaurant industry, and advocating on the national level to improve restaurant working conditions. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports ROC United’s actions based on its 2015 childcare initial needs assessment for restaurant workers, especially work around its assessment of non-traditional-hours care needs, including a convening in partnership with the foundation to further explore needs, access to childcare, and related issues.

**Building a New Economy - Centering Women’s Economic, Social, and Political Power in the South**

**Blueprint NC** ................................. $55,000
Executive Director: Erin Dale Byrd, Raleigh, NC

Blueprint NC (BPNC) is a partnership of state-level public policy, advocacy, and grassroots organizing groups dedicated to achieving a better, fairer, healthier North Carolina through the development of an integrated communications, civic engagement, and policy strategy. BPNC works in direct partnership with the North Carolina Black Women’s Roundtable, and co-convened with Spirithouse to provide a network and safe space for black women to convene, identify, and address the unique barriers black women face regarding economic security, health, and reproductive justice. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports BPNC’s efforts to increase its membership list, host additional community listening sessions, and implement a communications strategy to support policies that provide safety and opportunity for Black women and their families.
Miami Workers Center ...................................................... $55,000
Executive Director: Marcia Olivo, Miami, FL

Miami Workers Center (MWC) is Miami's leading social change nonprofit organization advocating for social, racial, economic, and gender justice. Ms. Foundation's grant supports MWC's coalition with New Florida Majority and other organizations representing women, women of color, workers, and community groups to advance economic security and gender justice for low-income women of color and their communities, under the FEMME Agenda program; and to create, advance, and advocate for a Women's Economic Agenda for Florida.

Making Mississippi Women Secure .............................. $30,000
Co-Founder & Director: Cassandra Overton-Welchin, Biloxi, MS

In 2014 the Mississippi Low-Income Child Care Initiative (MLICCI) launched the Mississippi Women's Economic Security Initiative (MWESI) to holistically address barriers to women's economic success. Ms. Foundation's grant supports MLICCI's efforts to develop a strategy for a women's economic security platform in Mississippi and to reinstate the Women's Legislative Caucus in the Mississippi state legislature.

Spotlight on: Mississippi Low-Income Child Care Initiative

The Ms. Foundation for Women's Southern Strategy focuses on women living in southern states, and our work with Southern-based grantee-partners as they raise the voices and power of women at local and state levels. We were proud to support our grantee-partner Mississippi Low-Income Child Care Initiative, in their work to launch the historic Making Mississippi Women Secure Summit in October 2015. The summit, developed from MLICCI's statewide townhall tour, brought together over 500 participants from across the state; partnered MLICCI with 35 cohorts that included Planned Parenthood and the ACLU; and featured guest speaker Professor Anita Hill of Brandeis University to discuss and implement strategies that will create more economic opportunities and security for Mississippi's women.

Learn more at www.mschildcare.org
Ms. Foundation’s Reproductive Justice Program is designed to achieve equity in access to abortion, contraception, and the full range of reproductive health services for all women.

The Hyde Amendment turned 40 in 2016. The amendment continues to prevent low-income women from accessing a full range of reproductive health services, even as reproductive justice activists celebrated when the United States Supreme Court ruled in Whole Woman’s Health v. Hellerstedt that Texas could not place restrictions on abortion services delivery that create an undue burden for women seeking abortion. The political climate surrounding women’s health remains tumultuous, with anti-abortion measures being introduced through states at an alarming rate.

Women’s reproductive healthcare needs are still compromised in the aftermath of the 2014 Supreme Court ruling of Burwell v. Hobby Lobby, which favored corporations’ religious liberties over women’s preventive health needs for contraception under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Congress’s failure to pass funding to combat the Zika virus has deeply affected women in areas such as Louisiana, Florida, and Puerto Rico. These trends continue to impact women with the least power and political capital – women of color, low-income women, and uninsured women.

In 2016, our Reproductive Justice program focused on two strategies to resource, develop, and strengthen state and local organizations as powerful and sustainable leaders for reproductive justice: cross-movement building in Southern states; and leadership capacity and sustainability of reproductive health/reproductive justice organizations.

Over the last year, Ms. Foundation’s support to our grantees has continued to help build state-level capacity to mobilize underrepresented constituencies, increase civic engagement through organizing, support ACA implementation and Medicaid expansion, and shift power so as to contribute to longer term, sustainable policy wins for reproductive health, rights, and justice.
Reproductive & Sexual Health, Rights, & Justice

**ACT for Women and Girls** ....................... $35,000  
Co-Director: Erin Garner Ford, Visalia, CA

ACT for Women and Girls (ACT) works in California’s rural Tulare County, engaging young women in leadership and advocacy to promote reproductive justice activism and social change. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports ACT’s Female Leadership Academy (FLA) and Central Valley Alliance for Women (CV Alliance), their leadership programs cultivating grassroots activism, and ACT’s Pharmacy Access campaign to increase access to emergency contraception.

**California Latinas for Reproductive Justice** … $30,000  
Executive Director: Laura Jimenez, Los Angeles, CA

California Latinas for Reproductive Justice (CLRJ), a statewide policy and advocacy organization, advances reproductive health and rights for California’s Latina families and communities. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports CLRJ’s mission to ensure all Latina adolescents and young women have access to culturally appropriate, comprehensive, accurate, and unbiased reproductive rights and sexual health information and services.

**Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights** ....................... $35,000  
Executive Director: Cristina Aguilar, Denver, CO

Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR) promotes and protects reproductive health for Latinas and their families through leadership development, organizing, and advocacy. This portion of Ms. Foundation’s grant supports COLOR’s continued engagement of the Latina community through advocacy, organizing, and training for reproductive justice, with the goal to move the state in a direction where low-income women can access abortions; contraception is available to all women; and information about family planning is readily available for all families.

**El Pueblo** ..................................... $35,000  
Executive Director: Angeline Echeverria, Raleigh, NC

El Pueblo strengthens the Latino community in North Carolina through leadership development, proactive and direct advocacy, education, and promotion of cross-cultural understanding. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports Derechos Sin Fronteras, El Pueblo’s core, intensive reproductive health and justice training program for Latinx youth leaders that also focus on voter registration and engagement for Latinx populations across the state.

**Kentucky Health Justice Network***  ........... $20,000  
Board Chair: Caitlin Willenbrink, Louisville, KY

Kentucky Health Justice Network (KHJN) promotes broad-based, inclusive participation in the reproductive justice movement to increase the access, quality, and scope of culturally-relevant and accurate health information and services for low-income women of color and the LGBTQ community. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports KHJN’s coalition-building activities for reproductive justice; grassroots education and training for women of color, low-income women, and women from rural communities; and continued work on its Trans Health campaign to raise awareness of and education on health barriers among the trans community.

**National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum*** .............................. $40,000  
Executive Director: Miriam Yeung, Brooklyn, NY

National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum (NAPAWF) advances expanded access to reproductive health for Asian and Pacific Islander (API) women and girls, and political visibility and power as critical components of progressive social change movements. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports NAPAWF’s continuing efforts to combat sex- and race-selection and abortion bans at the state and federal levels through strategic education and advocacy; build leadership support amongst the API community to engage in reproductive health that meets the needs of API and immigrant women and girls; and build support for publicly-funded abortion.

* Denotes funding through the Groundswell Catalyst Fund
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health* ......................... $40,000
Executive Director: Jessica González-Rojas, New York, NY

The National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health (NLIRH) works to ensure Latinas’ rights to reproductive health and justice through public education, community mobilization, and policy advocacy. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports NLIRH in three critical areas: increasing abortion access, eliminating reproductive health disparities, and advancing immigrant women’s rights. The grant also supports NLIRH’s Latina Advocacy Network (LAN), building and strengthening grassroots advocacy in the Rio Grande Valley.

Native American Women’s Health Education Resource Center* .................. $30,000
Executive Director: Charon Asetoyer, Lake Andes, SD

The Native American Women’s Health Education Resource Center (NAWHERC) addresses Native American issues regarding health, education, land and water rights, and economic development issues. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports their efforts to train emerging Native women activists in civic engagement and reproductive justice issues in South Dakota, Oklahoma, and New Mexico, in addition to NAWHERC’s advocacy for standardized sexual assault policies and protocols, including access to Plan B/emergency contraception.

Planned Parenthood Southeast ............... $15,000
Director of Public Policy: Felicia Brown-Williams, Atlanta, GA

Planned Parenthood Southeast (PPSE) works in Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi to ensure quality reproductive health, by providing comprehensive, medically accurate sex education, services, and advocacy. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports PPSE’s constituency power building efforts; research on innovative ways to serve its population; and listening meetings in Alabama and Mississippi, with a particular focus on women of color and young women.

Reproductive Justice Collective* .................. $30,000
Program Director: Charmaine Lang, Milwaukee, WI

Reproductive Justice Collective (RJC) works to increase engagement and leadership among women of color and assists progressive organizations, policymakers and institutions with policy, service, and constraints analysis that disproportionately affect these women. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports RJC’s continued goal to address reproductive justice issues for low-income women of color and families, through increased political participation, organizing, community outreach, and civic engagement.

SisterReach* .................................. $30,000
CEO: Cherisse Scott, Memphis, TN

SisterReach supports the reproductive autonomy of women and girls of color, poor women, rural women and their families. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports SisterReach’s institutional growth and sustainability of grassroots organizing work that empowers women and girls in the Memphis community around their reproductive and sexual health.

SisterSong* ................................... $30,000
Executive Director: Monica Simpson, Atlanta, GA

SisterSong is a national organization that unites and strengthens the voices of women of color and indigenous women to dismantle reproductive and racial oppression. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports their regional and national networking work, such as the Southern Reproductive Justice Policy Initiative, Artists United for RJ, the Trust Black Women campaign, and their cross-movement building with the Fight for $15 and Black Lives Matter movements.

SPARK Reproductive Justice NOW ............ $25,000
Executive Director: Dr. Krystal Redman, Atlanta, GA

SPARK Reproductive Justice NOW (SPARK) builds and sustains a powerful reproductive justice movement in Georgia by organizing and building the leadership capacity of African-Americans, Millennials, LGBTQ youth, and young families of color communities. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports SPARK’s fight for equitable abortion access through advocacy, leadership development, and civic engagement. In particular, this grant supports SPARK’s two leadership development programs, the Speak Justice Take Action (SJTA) initiative and Fierce Youth Reclaiming & Empowerment (FYRE), along with the Healthy Access resource guide to increase understanding of the ACA’s impact in Georgia.

* Denotes funding through the Groundswell Catalyst Fund
URGE (Unite for Reproductive and Gender Equity) ........................................ $45,000
Executive Director: Kierra Johnson, Washington, DC

URGE (Unite for Reproductive and Gender Equity), a national organization, supports emerging young leaders through training, organizing, networking, and idea exchanges. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports URGE’s work building a national base of reproductive advocates through strategic state chapters (KS, OH, TX, GA, and FL), and framing and influencing national policy dialogues around reproductive justice, abortion rights, and access.

WV FREE ........................................ $35,000
Executive Director: Margaret Chapman Pomponio, Charleston WV

WV FREE works for women and families to improve education on reproductive options and rights. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports WV FREE’s continued efforts to defend reproductive decisions, increase access to affordable birth control, and educate the public, policymakers, and health providers about reproductive justice policies that help decrease poverty levels and rates of unintended pregnancies.

Young Women United ................................. $35,000
Executive Director: Tannia Esparza, Albuquerque, NM

Young Women United (YWU) focuses on improving young people’s access to comprehensive sexuality education, information, and services in Albuquerque public schools. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports YWU’s innovative and dynamic methods to engage and increase a grassroots voter base in rural communities; strengthen partner relationships; organize to eliminate barriers to reproductive health access; and campaigns dismantling myths about young parents and supporting LGBTQ youth.

Healthcare Reform - Making the Affordable Care Act a Reality for Women; Advancing Outreach & Enrollment; Ensuring Access to Reproductive & Sexual Health Services

Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights ........................ $15,000
Executive Director: Cristina Aguilar, Denver, CO

This portion of Ms. Foundation’s grant to Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR) supports COLOR’s efforts to develop impact messaging and outreach to educate low-income Latina women and youth on the importance of healthcare services; and the Pledge to Enroll campaign, ensuring that reproductive and sexual healthcare services are not excluded from any component of health care reform implementation.

Northwest Health Law Advocates ..................... $35,000
Executive Director: Janet Varon, Seattle, WA

Northwest Health Law Advocates (NoHLA) is a legal and policy advocacy organization dedicated to improving access to affordable, quality healthcare for low-income women in Washington. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports NoHLA’s goal to secure preventive reproductive health as a core component of primary care throughout partnerships; and support NoHLA’s advocacy for improved affordability and retention of existing reproductive health program safety nets.
Oregon Foundation for Reproductive Health . . $20,000  
Executive Director: Michele Stranger Hunter, Portland, OR

Oregon Foundation for Reproductive Health (OFRH) works to improve access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare, including preventing unintended pregnancy, planning healthy families, and preventing sexually transmitted infections. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports OFRH’s efforts seeking to guarantee that women’s preventive reproductive health is a core component of health care reform in Oregon; and supports the ONE KEY QUESTION (OKQ) Initiative to integrate reproductive health service into primary care, and to eliminate the continued siloing of reproductive health for low-income women and communities of color.

Planned Parenthood Public Policy Network of Washington .................................. $10,000  
CEO: Elaine Rose, Seattle, WA

Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest (PPGNW) ensures that low-income women and immigrants, women of color, and underrepresented populations have full and equitable access to reproductive and sexual health services. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports PPGNW’s healthcare reform organizing, advocacy, and policy efforts to ensure that women have direct, confidential access to reproductive healthcare including contraception, abortion care, and access to an adequate network of providers in Washington.

Raising Women’s Voices - New York ................. $30,000  
Co-Founder and Director: Lois Utley, New York, NY

Raising Women’s Voices - New York (RWV-NY) works to protect access to reproductive health services that are threatened by religious restrictions and ensures the needs of diverse women and their families are addressed in health reform implementation. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports RWV-NY’s advocacy for implementation of New York State’s health benefits marketplace that embodies reproductive justice principles; and RWV-NY’s emerging work to increase the health literacy of newly-insured women.

WV FREE ..................................... $20,000  
Executive Director: Margaret Chapman Pomponio, Charleston, WV

This portion of Ms. Foundation’s grant to WV FREE supports its ongoing work to ensure that reproductive health services and women-centered approaches to care are a part of healthcare reform implementation, through public outreach and education and grassroots advocacy with state and federal level decision makers for policies that promote women’s health.

Spotlight On: SisterReach

SisterReach, Tennessee’s first reproductive justice organization, promotes the reproductive autonomy of women and girls of color, poor women, rural women, and their families in the state. Their expertise and leadership has earned them a place in critical discussions about the reproductive health needs and concerns of vulnerable communities.

That expertise led to SisterReach’s CEO and Founder, Cherisss Scott, being asked to join Memphis’s new roundtable exploring the needs of young people in the city. The Ms. Foundation is proud to support the grassroots efforts of SisterReach, and their commitment to improving, expanding, and promoting reproductive healthcare access, services, education, and justice in Tennessee.

Learn more at www.sisterreach.org.
The Ms. Foundation for Women has prioritized the safety of women and girls since our founding, and supported organizations that work to end all forms of gender-based violence.

After six years, we concluded our investment in child sexual abuse prevention and pivoted our focus to redefine the Safety movement through a Black, queer, feminist lens. To this end, Ms. Foundation’s Safety program is building a cohort of local, regional, and national organizations working to address the effects of criminalization, sexual violence, and state-sanctioned violence on the lives of Black women and girls. Safety prioritizes work that advances a proactive agenda for long-term systemic changes in the political and public spheres, where the safety of all people is envisioned through a lens that centers on those most historically underrepresented in social justice movements, including trans women.

The Ms. Foundation selected the inaugural cohort of seven Safety grantee-partners in June 2016. In this first phase of grantmaking, our focus is on organizations led by Black women and girls that utilize organizing, advocacy, policy, and healing justice to dismantle systems that harm them, and us all. As the work of the cohort evolves, the Safety program will elevate and support policy platforms and advocacy campaigns, coalition-building, public education campaigns, as well as strategies to identify unlikely allies and new communities.
Redefining Safety through a Black, Queer, Feminist Lens

Black Women’s Blueprint .......................... $25,000
Executive Director: Farah Tanis, Brooklyn, NY

Black Women’s Blueprint (BWB) amplifies the voices of women, girls, and gender-fluid people of African descent in all their diversity. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports their mission to secure social, political and economic equality and to demand a culture where people of African descent are fully empowered and where disparities predicated on gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, incarceration status, and other statuses are erased.

BYP 100 Education Fund ......................... $35,000
Executive Director: Charlene Carruthers, Chicago, IL

BYP100 is an activist member-based organization of Black youth dedicated to creating justice and freedom for all Black people. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports BYP100’s grassroots work, as the only member-led, base-building, young Black, queer, and feminist organization in the United Sates that is engaged in community organizing and public policy advocacy towards social, economic, and racial justice.

#EveryBlackGirl .................................. $22,500
Executive Director: Vivian Anderson, Columbia, SC

#EveryBlackGirl works to create a world where every black girl can thrive. #EveryBlackGirl was created in response to the Columbia, South Carolina high school assault on a Black female student by a school resource officer. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports #EveryBlackGirl’s campaign to get all charges dropped against the student and her friend who tried to help; revolutionize the school system’s policies and practices to protect Black students from school push out; and educate local community members and national stakeholders about how we can transform public safety policies and practices to increase protection of and reduce criminalization of Black women and girls and their families.

Girls for Gender Equity .............................. $35,000
Executive Director: Joanne Smith, Brooklyn, NY

Girls for Gender Equity (GGE) is an intergenerational organization committed to the physical, psychological, social, and economic development of girls and women. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports GGE’s work through education, organizing, and physical fitness to encourage communities to remove barriers and create opportunities for girls and women to live self-determined lives.

National Black Women’s Justice Institute .... $15,000
Executive Director: Sharon Lettman-Hicks, Washington, DC

The National Black Women’s Justice Institute (NBWJI) focuses on the reduction of racial and gender disparities in the justice systems affecting Black women, girls, and their families. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports NBWJI’s research work, technical assistance activities, public education, civic engagement projects, advocacy and coalition-building efforts.
Trans Sistas of Color Project ................. $22,500
Executive Director: Bré Anne Campbell, Detroit, MI

Trans Sistas of Color Project uplifts, impacts, and influences the lives and welfare of trans women of color in Detroit. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports TSOCP’s work to remove systemic barriers for trans women of color, through trans-centric programming, projects, services and events; and the TSOCP Health, Wellness & Safety Project, which seeks to challenge the conventionally held ideas of what health, safety, and wellness look like for trans women of color in Detroit.

Women With A Vision .................. $35,000
Executive Director: Deon Haywood, New Orleans, LA

Women With a Vision uses relentless advocacy, health education, supportive services, and community-based participatory research to improve the lives of marginalized women, their families, and communities by addressing the social conditions that hinder their health and wellbeing. Ms. Foundation’s grant supports their continued efforts to promote policy-level initiatives that positively impact women and communities of color within Louisiana and elsewhere.

Spotlight On: Girls for Gender Equity

Women and girls of color are disproportionately impacted by violence and abuse, driven by both gender and racial discrimination that negatively affects their physical, social, psychological, and economic conditions. Addressing deeply-rooted systemic bias lies at the heart of the mission of Girls for Gender Equity (GGE), a grassroots organization based in Brooklyn, NY. The intergenerational, multicultural GGE uses community organizing and service provision in its efforts to train, educate, and teach advocacy among young people, focusing on eliminating the breeding grounds for biases that lead to violence and abuse.

GGE fosters emerging feminists, working with more than 600 young people with the belief that creating safe lives for girls and women of color will not only improve their wellbeing; creating safe lives will create greater safety, greater opportunities, and greater possibilities for entire communities.

Learn more at www.ggenyc.org
Special Opportunity/Capacity Building Grants

**SisterSong** .................................... $10,000
Executive Director: Monica Simpson, Atlanta, GA

This special opportunity grant supported SisterSong and its Trust Black Women convening, where organizations analyzed attacks on reproductive justice efforts, assessed the organizing efforts of the Black reproductive justice movement, and determined strategies for the movement to gain more victories that center the lives of Black women and girls.

**Black Women’s Blueprint ..................... $10,000**
Executive Director: Farah Tanis, Brooklyn, NY

This special opportunity grant supported Black Women’s Blueprints’ “Justice Ride” program for sexual assault survivors and advocates to travel to Oklahoma City to stand with the survivors of assault committed by Oklahoma City police officer and convicted serial rapist Daniel Holtzclaw. This collective journey serves as a symbolic gesture of solidarity with the survivors of Holtzclaw while also raising the media profile of this severely underreported case.

**National Black Justice Coalition .............. $10,000**
Executive Director: Sharon Lettman-Hicks, Washington, DC

The National Black Justice Coalition (NBJC) empowers Black lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people. This special opportunity grant supported NBJC’s convening of the Black LGBTQ/SGL Women’s Health Roundtable during the 6th Annual OUT on the Hill Black LGBT Leadership Summit. This roundtable will aid NBJC in developing its health and wellness footprint and advocacy agenda for this sector of the Black LGBT population.
Capacity Building: Discretionary Grants

**National Partnership for New Americans**  $3,000
Executive Director: Joshua Hoyt, Chicago, IL

The National Partnership for New Americans (NPNA), a national multiethnic, multiracial partnership, represents the collective power and resources of the country’s 37 largest regional immigrant and refugee rights organizations in 31 states. Ms. Foundation’s grant supported the WE Lead personal and professional development training program for women leaders in immigrant communities.

President’s Discretionary Grants

Grants listed represent those made at the discretion of the Ms. Foundation for Women President and CEO.

**Advancement Project**  $20,000
Co-Director: Judith Browne-Dianis, Washington, DC
To support intergenerational movement building with Black women leaders.

**Criterion Institute**  $15,000
President and Founder: Joy Anderson, Haddam, CT
To support the Feasibility Study: Pension Funds to Impact Gender Equality.

**Essie Justice Group**  $10,000
Founder and Executive Director: Gina Clayton, Oakland, CA
To support the #StandWithHer Summit: Decarcerating for Gender Justice.

**Family Values at Work**  $5,000
Executive Director: Ellen Bravo, Milwaukee, WI
To support worker participation in the May 2016 White House Summit.

**Gloria Steinem Fund**

This designated fund disburses grants based on recommendations made by Ms. Foundation for Women Co-Founding Mother Gloria Steinem.

**Service Women’s Action Network**  $5,000
CEO: Judy Patterson, Washington, DC
To provide general operating support in educating the American public about the need for military culture change and the specific reforms required to resolve the military sexual violence crisis.

**Feminist Majority Foundation**  $30,000
Executive Director: Katherine Spillar, Beverly Hills, CA
To support the Global Reporting in Ms. Magazine, which aims to inspire and empower feminists to take action to achieve equality and global justice.
Donor-Advised Funds Grants: Oma Fund

The Oma Fund is a donor-advised fund of the Ms. Foundation for Women. Established in 2010 as a descendant of the Dickler Family Foundation, the Oma Fund supports organizations working to tackle the most challenging issues in reproductive health through the leadership of younger generations of activists. A small subset of discretionary grants that fall outside the area of reproductive health are also included as part of this donor advised fund.

Writers in Baltimore Schools $1,000
Director: Patrice Hutton, Baltimore, MD
To support the program that provides low-income middle school students with a vibrant environment for literary development through in-school, after school, and summer creative writing workshops taught by Baltimore writers.

Ibis Reproductive Health $10,000
President: Kelly Blanchard, Cambridge, MA
To support the Later Abortion Network (LAN), which aims to mobilize a coordinated effort within the reproductive health, rights, and justice communities to identify innovative strategies to ensure access to and provision of later abortion in the U.S.

Media Voices for Children $3,000
President: Len Morris, Vineyard Haven, MA
To provide general operating support for raising public awareness about the impact of poverty on children through the internet, social networks, and interactive media.

University of Oklahoma Center for Social Justice $10,000
Director: Dr. Maria Davidson, Norman, OK
To support Take Root: Empowering Red State Perspectives on Reproductive Justice Conference.

National Network of Abortion Funds $20,000
Executive Director: Yamani Hernandez, Boston, MA
To provide general operating support toward fighting threats to abortion access, and responding to the growing need for services, especially among disadvantaged women and girls.

Nursing Students for Choice $20,000
Executive Director: Karmann Peters, St. Paul, MN
To provide general operating support to build an activist network, providing reproductive health care training for nursing students and strengthening program capacity.

Provide, Inc. $25,000
Executive Director: Melanie Zurek, Cambridge, MA
To provide general operating support to expand abortion education and training, facilitate abortion care in the most difficult environments, and prepare for increasingly restricted and/or post-Roe abortion care.

South Africa Partners $3,000
Executive Director: Mary Tiseo, Boston, MA
To provide general operating support toward serving as a catalyst and technical advisor for the implementation of mutually beneficial partnerships between organizations and institutions in the U.S. and South Africa in the areas of health and education.

The Yard, Inc. $500
Executive Director: Alison Manning, Chilmark, MA
To provide general operating support to create contemporary dance and related arts, where women are the primary drivers of the art form.

Trustees of Hampshire College $5,000
CLPP Director: Mia Sullivan, Amherst, MA
To provide general operating support to spark and mentor diverse new generations of activists; support a robust and inter-generational leadership pipeline; and build the capacity of reproductive rights, health and justice organizations nationally.

CoreAlign $5,000
Executive Director: Dr. Sujatha Jesudason, Oakland, CA
To provide general operating support for the program Speaking Rate to Power Fellowship. It is designed for a multi-racial group of leaders who are ready and willing to speak about how racism impacts them, their relationships, and the movement. The program highlights how issues of race and power, and the inability to constructively address them, pose among the most significant barriers to trust, collaboration, strategizing, and action in the movement.
Donor-Advised Funds Grants: Asian Women Giving Circle

Asian Women Giving Circle is a donor-advised fund of the Ms. Foundation that pools resources from Asian American women and other supporters toward Asian women-led social change projects in New York City. The current focus is Arts & Activism.

**Asian American Writer’s Workshop** ........ $8,000  
Executive Director: Ken Chen, New York, NY  
To support the project Home Stories: Elderly Public Housing Residents Share Their Stories.

**CAAAV Organizing Asian Communities** ...... $10,000  
Executive Director: Cathy Dang, New York, NY  
To support the project Here to Stay.

**Equality Labs** .................................. $3,500  
Executive Director: Thenmozhi Soundararajan, Jersey City, NJ  
To support the project Mukti.

**Interstate: A Musical** .......................... $2,500  
Producer: Kit Yan, Brooklyn, NY  
To support the project Interstate: A New Musical.

**Jahajee Sisters Empowering Indo Carribbean Women** .................. $4,000  
Co-Director: Simone Jhingoor, New York, NY  
To support the “Bolo Bahen: Indo-Caribbean Women Speaking Our Truth!” web series.

**Just Vision** ...................................... $8,000  
Executive Director: Suhad Babaa, Washington, DC  
To support the Women Leaders of the First Intifada Untitled Film Project.

**Kayhan Irani** ..................................... $8,000  
Artist: Kayhan Irani, Jackson Heights, NY  
To support the project Voices of Amnesty.

**Sarah Khan** ...................................... $7,000  
Executive Director: Jennifer Cook, New York, NY  
To support the project Asian Migrant Kitchens.

**Studio REV** ..................................... $5,000  
Executive Director: Marisa Moran Jahn, New York, NY  
To support the project CareForce.

**The Argus Project** .............................. $8,000  
Creative Director: Gan Golan, Brooklyn, NY  
To support the Argus Project.

**The Asian Pride Project** ....................... $8,000  
Founder and Co-Director: Aries Liao, New York, NY  
To support the project Okduki: Never Stand Down.
What do you feel are the greatest challenges facing women and girls today?

Women’s rights took a significant step backward after the [U.S.] election. Many issues which were moving in a forward direction, such as reproductive freedom, a curtailing of sexist speech, access to healthcare, and equal pay, are now in the crosshairs again.

I have lived through historic moments like this one before and know that change will come very quickly. But we cannot give up or speak in terms of defeat. We have to keep fighting for what we believe in and speaking in terms of hope.

The Isabel Allende Foundation is going to redouble its efforts in three areas: reproductive rights, freedom from violence, and economic empowerment for all women.

The Ms. Foundation addresses challenges faced by women of color, immigrant women, and low-income women through funding grassroots organizations that support women and their families. How do you believe this strategy creates the most impact?

We believe that three types of work must be supported in order to achieve widespread and lasting impact. These include: grassroots and local efforts to provide direct services; organizations educating the public about these issues; and those working to effect policy and legislative change (through judicial and other means). In our grant making, we have been persuaded that all three are necessary to address the immediate and long-term issues impeding women’s equality and power.

You’ve been a donor to the Ms. Foundation for Women since 1991, which is a remarkable legacy of sustaining support. What attracted you to MFW?

I was a feminist in Chile before there was even a word for feminism. When I created my foundation, I knew I wanted to help women working towards a vision of a world in which women have achieved social, economic and political equality. So the mission of my foundation and that of the Ms. Foundation are very similar. Of course, I also love Gloria and am proud to support work she supports.

Chilean author Isabel Allende won worldwide acclaim when her bestselling first novel, The House of the Spirits, was published in 1982. She has since written 20 more works which have sold more than 67 million copies, all written in her native Spanish and translated into more than 35 other languages. Allende made her first gift to the Ms. Foundation for Women in 1991. She describes her fiction as rooted in her remarkable upbringing, and the mystical people and events that fueled her imagination. Her writings are equally informed by her feminist convictions, her commitment to social justice, and the harsh political realities that shaped her destiny.
The Ms. Foundation for Women’s 28th annual Gloria Awards: A Salute to Women of Vision took place on April 27, 2016 at the Pierre Hotel in New York City. More than 400 supporters, board members, and partners joined us to honor activists, innovators, and philanthropists working to advance gender equality.

The gala opened with a special video welcome from Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton. Economic Justice grantee-partners Clarissa Doutherd and Mary Ignatius from Parent Voices (PV) and Miriam Yeung from National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum (NAPAWF), along with Marcy Syms of the Sy Syms Foundation, received our Woman of Vision award, while Melissa Silverstein from Women in Hollywood was honored with our Marie C. Wilson Emerging Leader award. Kyle Zimmer of First Book was the recipient of the second Peggy Charren/Free to Be You and Me award. Our celebration also included performances from crowd favorite rock-activists BETTY and “Fun Home’s” Sydney Lucus (“Small Allison”) and Jeanine Tesori, composer of the musical’s award-winning score.

The gala was immediately followed by our second annual after party, hosted by actor Matt McGorry (“Orange is the New Black,” “How to Get Away with Murder”) and writer Luvvie Ajayi, with DJ Jaz Dux orchestrating an evening of dancing.

Every year the gala raises critical funds to support the Ms. Foundation’s efforts to fund, train, and advocate for activists advancing women’s rights and gender equality. We are grateful to everyone who supported this year’s event and made it a success!

See more from the Gala: forwomen.org/gala
January 19, 2016 marked the return of one of the Ms. Foundation for Women’s most popular events: our **Comedy Night at Carolines on Broadway**! More than 300 guests, including board members and Founding Mothers, joined us as we proved that feminists can be fun – and funny.

Lea DeLaria (“Orange is the New Black”) emceed the 20th Comedy Night that showcased six of the most talented female comics working today – the award-winning Judy Gold, “Daily Show” co-creator Lizz Winstead, Sara Armour, Aparna Nancherla, Yamaneika Saunders, and Liza Treyger. The evening was unforgettable, and the Ms. Foundation thanks the comics, our supporters, and especially Carolines Comedy Club founder Caroline Hirsch, a longtime supporter and our gracious host for the event.

*See more from the Comedy Night: forwomen.org/carolines20/*
Ending The Sexual Abuse To Prison Pipeline For Girls

Young women who are victims of sexual abuse and violence are at higher risk of landing in the juvenile justice system, especially if they are girls of color, from low-income backgrounds, or identify as LGBTQ. The Sexual Abuse to Prison Pipeline: The Girls’ Story, released July 2015, critically analyzes continued traumatization and criminalization of girls victimized by abuse, and how they wind up in a system ill-equipped to address the trauma they face to provide help they truly need. “Sexual Abuse to Prison Pipeline” represents the partnership of the Ms. Foundation for Women, the Human Rights Project for Girls, and the Center on Poverty and Inequality at Georgetown University to highlight the experiences of girls in the juvenile justice system.

Read: The Sexual Abuse to Prison Pipeline: The Girls’ Story
https://forwomen.org/resources/sexual-abuse-to-prison-pipeline/

Ms. Foundation Survey Explores Public’s View On Women’s Issues And Feminism

In August 2015 the Ms. Foundation released the results of our national survey, taking a fresh look at the public’s thinking on community problems and solutions, and promoting feminism as the belief in the social, economic, and political equality of all genders. The findings offered a glimpse into what the public wants when candidates for office, elected officials, and nonprofit organizations address our most challenging issues; and also showed that when it comes to women’s roles in those discussions, we still have a long way to go toward equality.

Read: Ms. Foundation National Survey
https://forwomen.org/national-survey/

Parsons School Of Design Partnership

Ms. Foundation’s Reproductive Justice Program and the Parsons School of Design partnered to pair graduate students with our grassroots activist grantee-partners to produce visually-stunning and effective media. In 2016 the pairings resulted in the Native American Women’s Health Education Resource Center’s What to Do When You are Raped: An ABC Handbook for Native Girls, which received national attention through Huffington Post, Teen Vogue, TakePart, and Colorlines. Parsons worked with Northwest Health Law Advocates to redesign the organization’s logo and website (nohla.org); and with Oregon Foundation for Reproductive Health to design new brochures, posters, and web materials for their ONE KEY QUESTION campaign. In addition to receiving support from Parsons, Raising Women’s Voices worked with the Ms. Foundation’s external affairs team to produce My Health, My Voice: A Woman’s Step-By-Step Guide to Using Health Insurance.
Convenings For Economic Justice And Women’s Health

Each year the Ms. Foundation hosts convenings to bring our grantee-partners together to receive in-depth trainings, engage in presentations and focused discussions, and have the chance to foster partnerships and networks with other grassroots activists committed to improving the lives of women and their communities and families. Our Women’s Health grantee-partners met in September 2015 and May 2016, while our Economic Justice grantees met in March 2016, where they brainstormed and strategized on strengthening and expanding the movement for gender equality and social justice.

Tackling Garment Workers’ Need For Quality Child Care

Ms. Foundation grantee-partner Garment Worker Center fights against labor abuses, for worker safety, and for services that improve the lives of low-income garment workers in Los Angeles. In 2015 the GWC released Hanging by a Thread detailing garment workers’ struggles to find affordable, quality child care as they work long hours for little pay – and what can be done to support working families and communities.

Read: Hanging By a Thread! https://forwomen.org/materials/publications/

#MyFeminismIs: Broadening Conversations On Feminism

In October 2015 the Ms. Foundation for Women launched #MyFeminismIs, a thought-provoking campaign about feminism, inclusion, and intersectionality. The campaign followed up on the Listening Tour and Ms. Foundation’s national survey about women’s issues and feminism (August 2015); and featured more than 42 interviews with activists, advocates, philanthropic leaders, and organizers, including Cecile Richards from Planned Parenthood, former NFL football player and LGBT advocate Wade Davis, TV host Melissa Harris-Perry, and comic and “Daily Show” co-creator Lizz Winstead. #MyFeminismIs generated over 12,500 tweets and 135 million views, expanding the conversation to include more voices and ideas about the belief in the social, economic, and political equality of all genders.

See: #MyFeminismIs https://forwomen.org/my-feminism-is/

Raising Women’s Voices: My Health, My Voice

More than seven million women enrolled for healthcare under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in 2015. Along with more women having healthcare, there were more women in need of answers and assurances to their questions and concerns about having coverage. That led to Ms. Foundation grantee-partner Raising Women’s Voices (RWV) creating My Health, My Voice: A Women’s Step-by-Step Guide to Using Health Insurance with an accompanying journal. Produced with input from RWV’s national and regional coordinators and public health experts, with funding and design support from the Ms. Foundation through our Parsons Project, the guide and journal offer an easy-to-use, visually-appealing healthcare resource.

Read: Raising Women’s Voices’ efforts https://forwomen.org/grants-2/meet-our-grantees/

See: My Health, My Voice http://www.myhealthmyvoice.com/
White House Summit On Women And Girls: Committing To Women's Economic Security

In November 2015 the Ms. Foundation for Women joined current and former grantee-partners, academics, government and private sector experts, and policymakers for the revolutionary White House Summit on Women and Girls, with a focus on advancing equity for women and girls of color. As a way to emphasize the importance and commitment to ensuring that every woman and girl has the opportunities and chance to improve her life, the Ms. Foundation also announced our partnership in Prosperity Together, a nonpartisan coalition of public women’s foundations committing a $100 million investment in programs and policies to support women and girls of color.

See: Prosperity Together
http://www.womensfundingnetwork.org/blog/2015/11/17/prosperity-together-launches/

Public Voices Fellowship

In February 2016 the Ms. Foundation, in partnership with the OpEd Project, launched the Public Voices Fellowship aimed at diversifying the voices and quality of ideas about women’s economic security, reproductive justice, and women’s safety in mainstream media. Nineteen grantee-partners joined the Fellowship, receiving intensive training through workshops and presentations, as well as resources and access to speak up and out about the issues they work every day to advance. The fellowship, as part of the highly-successful pilot initiative by OpEd Project and partners from the country’s leading universities and foundations, promoted conversations on gender in America from the viewpoints of representatives from marginalized communities. Seventy op-eds produced by the Fellows have appeared in news outlets such as Huffington Post, Time, and Ebony.

Read: Public Voices Fellowship
https://forwomen.org/grants-2/public-voices/

Fighting For Reproductive Health Access And Choice

As states continued to introduce legislation opposing a woman’s right to make her own healthcare decisions, the Ms. Foundation and our grantee-partners continued to fight for reproductive choice and access. In March 2016 we joined grantee-partners on the U.S. Supreme Court steps to rally during arguments for Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt. Whole Woman’s Health challenged abortion restrictions in Texas that have decimated the number of clinics performing abortions in the state. In June, we all celebrated the tireless efforts of our partners, such as the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health and their public education campaign about the harm such restrictive laws would have on women of color and immigrant communities, when the Supreme Court struck down those restrictions.

Read: Statement on Whole Woman’s Health v. Hellerstedt
https://forwomen.org/wholewomanshealth/

Helping Survivors Of Sexual Assault

Longtime grantee Native American Women’s Health Education Resource Center (NAWHERC) created an illustrated handbook to help women and girls surviving sexual assault. What to Do When You’re Raped: An ABC Handbook for Native Girls, released in 2016 and produced through the Ms. Foundation’s Parsons Project, addresses tragic statistics: Native American women experience sexual assault at a rate 2.5 times higher than any other race or ethnicity in this country; and few resources are available to victims of sexual assault living on tribal lands. NAWHERC has long fought for access to Plan B/emergency contraception for tribal communities, and finally achieved a victory when the Indian Affairs Bureau (the federal agency managing Native American territories) granted access in late 2015.

Read: An ABC Handbook for Native Girls
https://forwomen.org/resources/an-abc-handbook-for-native-girls/
Dispelling Myths About Teen Pregnancy

In May 2016 Ms. Foundation grantee-partner Young Women United (YWU) released *Dismantling Teen Pregnancy Prevention*, a report focusing on dispelling myths about teen pregnancy, replacing them with fact-based programs and services – and greater understanding of the systems of inequity - to help young parents and their children. YWU, as a champion of reproductive healthcare and justice for young women in New Mexico, offers a report that reflects their continued advocacy against stigmatizing women’s reproductive healthcare decisions.

Read: *Dismantling Teen Pregnancy Prevention*
https://forwomen.org/resources/

United State Of Women Summit

In June 2016 the Ms. Foundation, current and former grantee-partners, and other organizational partners headed to Washington, DC for the United State of Women Summit (USOW). The summit focused on six pillars to address gender inequity: economic empowerment; health and reproductive justice; access to education; support for survivors of gender-based violence; human rights; and civic engagement, leadership and community organizing. The USOW summit also featured keynote speeches from both President Barack Obama and Vice-President Joe Biden, and charged organizations and individuals to act more in support of gender equality.

Read: *United State of Women Summit*
https://www.theunitedstateofwomen.org/

In Brief

Win: Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights' (COLOR) efforts earn Colorado women more reproductive healthcare coverage with passage of HB1294 and HB1322

Influence: Ms. Foundation President and CEO Teresa C. Younger named one of 50 Most Powerful Women in Philanthropy (Inside Philanthropy)

Win: El Pueblo’s efforts help defeat HB100 in South Carolina, protecting immigrant communities from law enforcement intimidation

Win: All Our Kin executive director Jessica Sager named a 2016 Pahara-Aspen Fellow, training high potential leaders working to reimagine public education

Win: Parent Voices successfully advocates to get $265 million more to expand childcare vouchers and preschool slots in California, gaining more childcare access for working families

Influence: Ms. Foundation and NBC Black, Latino, and Asian America launch #31Days of Feminism, highlighting our grantees and women of color leading the way to a more equal world
It began with a simple tweet. In October 2015 Samantha Jacobson tweeted the Ms. Foundation for Women to tell us she had chosen our organization as her charity of choice in an upcoming fundraiser, pledging to run 20 miles in October – a mile for every day that girls should be in school learning.

The Ms. Foundation welcomed the news, and our development team reached out to Samantha to discuss ways to support her efforts more directly.

Throughout October Samantha hosted contests and awarded feminist t-shirts, mugs, and other Ms. Foundation items to her top supporters. She regularly posted blog updates that featured a Gloria Steinem photo that she carried on her run. Donations poured in from across the country.

Her commitment did not end there. After raising more than $2,500, which she donated to the Ms. Foundation, she joined our Young Professionals Advisory Committee (YPAC) and hosted a collaborative event between the Ms. Foundation and the employee resource group at her workplace.

When asked about what she has in store next, this proud feminist said:

“Being a part of the Ms. Foundation is a new and thrilling experience. I am so excited to learn about the Foundation and support its mission in every way I can. I truly believe that by working together we can achieve great advances for women’s health, safety, and economic justice. Spreading awareness of inclusive and supportive behavior for all women regardless of class, race, sexual identity, physical ability, or any other factor is extremely important. Through YPAC and the Ms. Foundation, I’m learning about equity and inclusion and also supporting and encouraging every person I meet.

“Throughout my life I’ve had great support from many women, from family and friends to mentors and bosses. I want to give the same support to women I encounter. The Ms. Foundation is one organization that I will continue to support for the rest of my life. The progress we are seeking is achievable through hard work and dedication to the empowerment of women and girls, families, and communities. I am so thankful that Ms. Foundation is supporting my participation in this essential work.”

**Spotlight On:** 
**Young Professionals Advisory Committee**

The Ms. Foundation for Women’s Young Professionals Advisory Committee (YPAC) represents the next generation of feminist professionals. If you are young and proudly feminist, find out how you can join more than 100 emerging leaders from across the financial, political, editorial, legal, fashion, entertainment, non-profit and philanthropic industries to support gender equality and social justice.

Learn more by visiting forwomen.org/ypac
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### Thank You

The Ms. Foundation is grateful to the following individuals and organizations for their support of our programs during 2015-2016. The list reflects gifts received between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016.

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- NoVo Foundation

### $100,000 - $499,999

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- The Estate of Dr. Idella M. Evans
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- Groundswell Catalyst Fund
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### $50,000 - $99,999

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- Anonymous (3)
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- Planned Parenthood Federation of America & Action Fund
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Statement of Activities
for the Years ended June 30, 2016 and June 30, 2015

PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions (Including Grants)</td>
<td>$2,528,131</td>
<td>$7,062,586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Events (Net of Expenses)</td>
<td>373,567</td>
<td>433,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Investment Income</td>
<td>231,771</td>
<td>430,267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Realized Gain on Investment Transactions</td>
<td>3,585,929</td>
<td>2,278,379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>2,580</td>
<td>5,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Public Support and Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,721,978</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,210,384</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OPERATING EXPENSES

Program Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants and Capacity Building</td>
<td>$3,856,446</td>
<td>$3,518,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocacy and Policy</td>
<td>229,814</td>
<td>379,869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Education</td>
<td>951,687</td>
<td>1,009,881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Program Services</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,037,947</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,907,849</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supporting Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General and Administration</td>
<td>1,181,750</td>
<td>1,192,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>907,373</td>
<td>894,706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supporting Services</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,089,123</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,087,399</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Operating Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,127,070</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,995,248</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Change in Net Assets (Including Unrealized Gain on Investments)</strong></td>
<td><strong>($4,717,230)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,978,996</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMPOSITION OF NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Net Assets</td>
<td>$2,700,534</td>
<td>$2,394,309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted Assets</td>
<td>12,035,678</td>
<td>16,851,031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently Restricted Assets</td>
<td>24,567,403</td>
<td>24,775,505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$39,303,615</strong></td>
<td><strong>$44,020,845</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your Gifts Support Movement Building

- Grants and Capacity Building: 18%
- Advocacy and Policy: 5%
- Public Education: 77%

Your Gifts Make an Impact

- Economic Justice: 35%
- Reproductive Justice: 15%
- Special Grants: 19%
- Safety: 31%

Where Our Income Comes From

- Contributions (Including Grants): 37%
- Special Events: 6%
- Net Investment Income: 3%
- Net Realized Gain on Investments: 54%
FIRING UP FEMINISTS NATIONWIDE

Conversation-sparking #myfeminismis campaign ignited

135 million views & 12,500 tweets

IMPACT ON THE GROUND

21 States and Washington, D.C. where our grantees work

$3.5 mil+ to organizations in 2016

100+ Organizations funded thanks to our supporters

LEADING THE WAY

1973 First women’s foundation

1993 Fund created to support women living with AIDS/HIV

Created Take Our Daughters to Work Day

SPEAKING UP, SPEAKING OUT

Public Voices Fellows published 70 op-eds on reproductive justice, economic justice, and women’s safety