



WOMEN'S FUND
OF CENTRAL INDIANA



WOMEN'S FUND FOCUS

WOMEN'S FUND OF CENTRAL INDIANA

The expert resource for issues
impacting women and girls in
central Indiana.

A publication of Women's Fund
of Central Indiana

HELPING WOMEN SUCCEED THROUGH SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Sadly, women in central Indiana continue to face significant barriers to economic security and often lack access to the resources that can help them gain self-sufficiency, such as job skills training and employment placement services. Women's Fund's research shows that economic self-sufficiency is a critical and pressing issue for women in our community, so Women's Fund has focused funding on organizations helping women reach economic security and overcome the barriers to achieving self-sufficiency. Since 1999, Women's Fund has invested \$727,500 to address insufficient income challenges.

The consequences of economic insecurity are real and support the need for Women's Fund to continue its important work in the way of economic empowerment. Being unable to afford quality childcare and invest in the tools to succeed in the workforce can present a serious threat for women and their children. For women who are experiencing domestic violence, their economic situation can force them into a position where they have to choose between feeding their children and leaving an abusive partner.

Women in our community struggle daily to achieve economic security – some struggle silently, others reach out for help. Many Women's Fund grantee partners are leading the way to address the challenges to women's economic security and have programs and services in place to help women in need.

Continued on page 3

DID YOU KNOW?

Women working full-time
and year-round earn 71% of a
man's earnings.

*(source: Indiana Community Action Association;
The Status of Working Families in Indiana, 2009)*



DID YOU KNOW?

32% of female-headed families
in the Indianapolis area with
children under 18 lived in
poverty in 2005.

(source: Still on Shaky Ground 2006)

This girl benefits from
Hawthorne Community Center's services
to Indianapolis' Westside.

Thank you to our
Newsletter Sponsor:



DEAR FRIENDS OF WOMEN'S FUND,

Women's Fund has had an exciting 2010 and we are excited to share the latest activity with you.

This summer, we launched a new interactive website at www.womensfund.org. Through our site you can learn how your support is making a difference for central Indiana women and girls by viewing videos which share stories of impact. You can also learn more about who we are and what we do and connect with us through our blog.

Philanthropy education programs, OPTIONS and GO: Give Back are celebrating their 10th Anniversaries this year. Through these programs we empower women, children, and families to be thoughtful in how they give and to have a gender lens when doing so. OPTIONS has engaged 230 women over the past ten years. These women are giving, volunteering and leading in all aspects of our community and have donated \$450,000 to Women's Fund. Their reach is truly transforming central Indiana through leadership on boards, commitment to giving, and volunteering of time to enrich the core of our community. We encourage you to take time to see the phenomenal women in OPTIONS Class 10 on page 7.

GO: Give Back continues to engage children who have GO Funds through participating in educational programming about philanthropy. In the spring, we held a Family Philanthropy Day, sponsored by The Glick Fund of CICF. You can learn more about the success and excitement around this event on page 6. Also, learn about *Power of Girls* on page 5; don't miss this opportunity to join your favorite girl age 13-16 in learning about healthy relationships.

We are grateful to partner with Saks Fifth Avenue for their benefit "I'm Going to SAKS... for my favorite charity". Please read about our partnership and learn how you can get involved on page 5.

Thank you for giving to Women's Fund. We truly appreciate your support. If you would like to get involved in our philanthropy education programs, or as a donor, please call us at 317.634.2423 or visit our new website at www.womensfund.org to learn more.

Sincerely,



ANN D. MURTLOW
Advisory Board Chair
Women's Fund of Central Indiana
Central Indiana Community Foundation
wfboardchair@cicf.org



JENNIFER POPE BAKER
Director
Women's Fund of Central Indiana
Central Indiana Community Foundation
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Coordinator

JENNIFER PLETCHER
GO Educational
Consultant

ST.VINCENT HEALTH JOB READINESS PROGRAM EMPOWERS WOMEN

Job readiness is the foundation of economic stability and empowerment. To meet this need, St.Vincent Health, one of the state's largest employers, created the Special Talents to Achieve and Rise (STAR) Program. Established in 2002, the STAR Program aims to enrich lives and provide job readiness to individuals in Marion and surrounding counties who have a sincere desire to work in a healthcare environment.

Developed to provide job readiness and life skills, the STAR Program has reached out helping both disadvantaged individuals and those who find themselves in situational stress due to a recent job loss or an inability to find employment. In addition, the STAR Program provides a stipend assisting participants to overcome barriers that may stand in their way of success.

The STAR Program has helped individuals with a minimal level of education through graduate degrees; those who have never worked in a job; those who have secured employment but are unable to keep it, and those who have worked for many years in a particular job but find themselves now searching for work with no clue as to the process required. In addition to work history diversity, the STAR Program enjoys diversity in ethnicity and socio-economic levels.

Participants are referred to the STAR Program directly, through St.Vincent Human Resources, the court system, public assistance workers, shelters, churches, friends and family. Applicants are

screened by STAR Team Members to determine the individual's commitment to the program. Participants meet four days a week, four hours a day for six weeks in a classroom setting where they gain and/or enhance job readiness and life skills. They learn the importance of positive attitude, interviewing techniques, resume building, professionalism and dressing for success. Following classroom training, students are placed with mentors who are associates in various departments throughout the St.Vincent system.



For more information about STAR, call (317) 415-5775 or email IndySTARProg@stvincent.org.



St.Vincent
HEALTH

Women's Fund provides this space to St.Vincent Health in recognition of its annual newsletter sponsorship.

Helping Women Succeed through Self-Sufficiency continued from page 1

• Business Ownership Initiative (BOI)

Women's Fund has provided two transformational grants to BOI to help women start or enhance their own businesses and to start caregiving-specific businesses in the community. This funding has supported the launch of 650 new women-owned businesses since

2006, resulting in increased employment, stability, and opportunities for families and neighborhoods across central Indiana.

• Dress for Success Indianapolis

the community. Community Centers provide everything from before- and after-school care, daycare, financial assistance for families in need, and programs and events for infants to seniors, and everyone in between.

Whether helping women reach their dreams of owning a business, equipping them to dress for success, or providing a safe, quality place for their children while working, Women's Fund and the organizations it funds are truly helping women reach economic security and overcome the barriers to achieving self-sufficiency.

Thanks to the support of donors and volunteers, Women's Fund is able to provide strategic grants and focused leadership around this issue impacting our entire community. Women's economic self-sufficiency is critical to all of central Indiana because "when a woman thrives, her family thrives, and therefore our entire community thrives."

DID YOU KNOW?

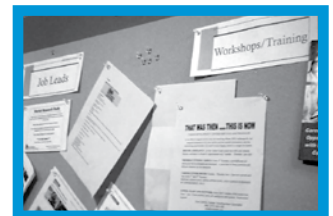
In 2006, a single mother living in Marion County with two children would need to earn at least \$40,000 a year to be considered self-sufficient.

(source: Indiana Coalition on Housing and Homelessness Issues)

• Community Centers

(Concord, Hawthorne and John H. Boner)

Women's Fund has provided operational support to help fund programs and services for women, children and families throughout



The job board at Dress for Success helps women find employment.



Training, Inc. provides professional clothing options for clients.



Women in the Professional Women's Group at Dress for Success share "steps to success."

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE: MELISSA PROFFITT REESE



Melissa Proffitt Reese firmly believes in the message “To whom much is given, much is expected,” and is very giving of her own time, talent and treasure to Women’s Fund. She first became involved with Women’s Fund a little over a year ago, when asked by Jennifer Pope Baker, Director, and Julie Davis, former Board Chair, to host a reception for friends and colleagues. Since then, Melissa has become more directly involved with the organization as an Advisory Board member, a member of the Nominating Committee, and as the Partners Chair for the Finance Committee.

Melissa credits other women in the community for her continued commitment to Women’s Fund.

“I know and admire so many women in our community who serve in various capacities for Women’s Fund,” said Melissa. “Their enthusiasm for this organization has been a strong influencing factor in my desire to become more involved.”

Melissa’s concern for women and girls parallels that of Women’s Fund. Her first concern is that women and children in our community are safe – and that protecting them from harm should be our first and foremost priority. Second, she believes we need to do all that we can to make our women and children self-sufficient so that they can take care of themselves as adults. Then, and only then, can they ensure the best for their own families, serve as appropriate role models for the rest of the community, and eventually give back to their communities. When women are strong, our entire community is strengthened. Oftentimes, women just need a hand up - not a handout - in order to better their lives and the lives of their families. The positive results of those changes will ultimately trickle out to our community.

“I strongly believe in the mission and vision of Women’s Fund and the ways in which they impact women and girls in our community,” said Melissa. “As a mother of three teenagers, two of whom are girls, I feel it is particularly important to empower women by giving

them the tools they need to pursue and reach their professional and personal goals.”

“Melissa engaged in active participation from the moment she joined our board,” said Ann Murtlow, Board Chair. “As a member of our Finance Committee and as Chair of our Partners campaign, she has quickly become a valuable and effective member of the Women’s Fund leadership team. We are delighted to have her on board.”

Empathy and concern for others is something Melissa works to instill in her own children and feels the Women’s Fund philanthropy education program, GO: Give Back, is an excellent example of this mindset as it engages children at a young age and educates them about the importance of being active philanthropists.

“Even though Melissa is relatively new to our Board, she has jumped in and really made a difference,” said Elaine Bedel, president, Bedel Financial Consulting. “She gets our mission and clearly sees the role of the Women’s Fund in improving the lives of women and girls in central Indiana.”

Melissa is an Indiana University graduate, who began her legal career in 1985 as an associate at Ice Miller LLP. In 2004, she was elected Ice Miller’s first female managing partner.

“We are fortunate Melissa decided to serve her community as a committed Women’s Fund Advisory Board member,” said Julie Davis, Advisory Board Member and Immediate Past Chair. “Through her professional work and travel experiences, her legal expertise extends beyond central Indiana and she brings national and global insight of women’s issues valuable to the work we do at the Women’s Fund of improving conditions for women in our community.”

In addition to Women’s Fund, Melissa serves as a board member of the Richard G. Lugar Excellence in Public Service Series, STAR Financial Bank, the U.S. and Indiana State Chamber of Commerce, and the Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee. Melissa and her husband, Ken, are the parents of three teenagers – Samantha, 13, Nicholas, 16, and Madeline, 19. Outside of her office and the board room, you can find Melissa golfing, antiquing and spending time with her family.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Women’s Fund of Central Indiana does not provide direct services, which means volunteer opportunities are limited. However, we proudly promote the volunteer needs of organizations serving central Indiana’s women and girls.

CONCORD NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

Volunteers are needed to help our girls get up to speed and on track. Tutors are needed for one on one with girls after school from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. daily focusing on math, reading and writing. Call 317-637-4376. Visit www.concordindy.org.

DAY NURSERY ASSOCIATION OF INDIANAPOLIS

Volunteers are needed to donate and read books to the children at our centers. New or gently used books for children ages birth to 6 years old are greatly appreciated. Contact Beth, 317-636-9197 x 240 or brodriguez@daynursery.org, to arrange a donation or a time to read. Visit www.daynursery.org.

GIRLS INCORPORATED OF GREATER INDIANAPOLIS

Adult volunteers are needed to serve as facilitators of our carefully documented curriculum for girls. This opportunity requires minimal training and a very short commitment of your time. Please help inspire girls to be strong, smart, and bold by applying online. Visit www.girlsincindy.org.

If your organization would like to be included in this listing, please email Deanna Gamoian at deannag@cicf.org.

SHOPPING AT SAKS BENEFITS WOMEN'S FUND



Women's Fund of Central Indiana is one of five local charities selected by Saks Fifth Avenue Indianapolis to benefit from their "I'm Going to Saks... For My Favorite Charity" program. Now through Sunday, October 31, shoppers who use a Saks credit card to shop – and select Women's Fund as their charity of choice – can have 10% of their total purchase benefits women and girls in central Indiana.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for Women's Fund to not only raise dollars for women and girls in our community, but to raise awareness of the work of Women's Fund," said Jennifer Pope Baker, director, Women's Fund. "We are tremendously grateful to Saks Fifth Avenue for selecting our organization to participate in this program."

According to Saks Fifth Avenue officials, this is their way of giving back to the Indianapolis community.

"We want the people who shop with us to not only look their best when they leave our store, but more importantly, feel their best," says Saks Fifth Avenue Indianapolis General Manager Garry Navarre. "This program was designed to do just that for both our loyal and new clients, whose generosity continues to be an inspiration to our store and the community."

As one of the charities of choice, Women's Fund is guaranteed a minimum of \$1,000, with a maximum donation of \$20,000. Money from the program will be used to support Women's Fund's operations, including grantmaking and philanthropy education programs.

Saks is located at Keystone and the Crossing, 8701 Keystone Crossing.

POWER OF GIRLS SET FOR NOVEMBER 20

Spend a meaningful day with a special girl in your life. *Power of Girls* offers a unique opportunity for participants to learn first hand about the needs of girls and women in central Indiana. Girls and their sponsors will participate in an interactive program of philanthropic education. They will:

- learn to make the greatest impact with their time, talent and treasure
- collaborate in a decision-making process with a significant outcome
- understand better the needs of girls and women in their community
- recognize healthy relationships



The cost of this program is \$250 per adult/girl couple. All of the money contributed will help fund programs of The Julian Center and Women's Fund of Central Indiana. Participating girls will determine how to allocate The Julian Center contribution based on the day's experience and a grantmaking process led by an experienced facilitator. The content will be age appropriate for girls 13–16 years old. Sorry, we cannot make exceptions to the younger age limit. At the end of the day, a keepsake will be presented. The lasting gift – the inspiration of daughters, granddaughters, nieces and young friends – will be taken home in the hearts of the girls.



Participants at 2009 *Power of Girls*

Power of Girls is a program of GO: Give Back.

WHEN: Saturday, November 20

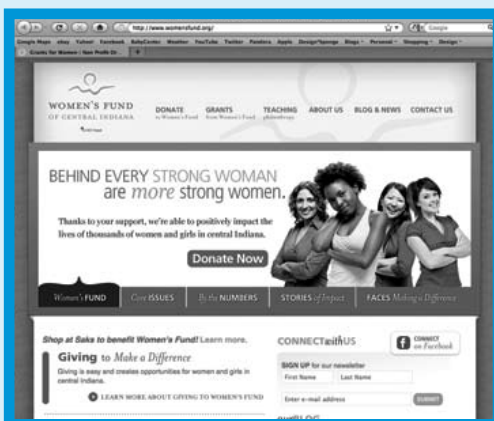
TIME: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

WHERE: The Julian Center, 2011 N. Meridian St.

COST: \$250 per adult/girl couple

Visit www.womensfund.org/power-of-girls for more information or call 317.634.2423, ext. 131.

WOMEN'S FUND LAUNCHES NEW INTERACTIVE WEBSITE



Women's Fund has a great new website – it's informative, engaging and provides easy access to expert resources regarding issues impacting women and girls in Indiana. Features include:

- A user-friendly and informative layout, helping individuals and businesses access philanthropy education opportunities and giving options.
- Non-profit organizations seeking grants can easily find information regarding issues supported and the grant application process.
- Updates on the latest statistics and trends affecting women and girls.
- An insider's look into the organization through the Women's Fund blog and industry news and videos and profiles of Women's Fund programs and people.

The site was designed by Indianapolis Web Design and SEO Company, Small Box.

CHECK OUT THE NEW WEBSITE AT WWW.WOMENSFUND.ORG.

WOMEN'S FUND ONLINE

Women's Fund has embraced the world of social media; join the conversation.



Join us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/womensfund



Join the conversation on our blog:

www.womensfund.org/blog

Donate securely online:

www.womensfund.org

FAMILY PHILANTHROPY DAY 2010

One day, the lives of a family were changed when 14-year-old Hannah sat in the passenger seat of her family's silver Scion, waiting at a red light with her father. On one side of her was a sleek, black Mercedes and on the other side, a homeless man. Hannah turned to her father and said, "If that man" – she pointed to the Mercedes – "had a less nice car, that man there" – she pointed to the homeless man – "could have a meal."

This statement transformed their family and has inspired philanthropy worldwide.

In May, 16 GO: Give Back families were inspired, empowered and in awe of the Salwen family, as Joan Salwen shared first-hand her family's story of coming to the decision to sell their family home, moving into a home half the size, and donating half the proceeds to a cause they mutually agreed upon as a family.

GO families gathered at the Indianapolis Art Center for a day of meaningful and enriching philanthropy education. They were challenged and encouraged to think creatively about philanthropy and what they could do as a family to make a difference in the community.

After hearing the Salwen's story, families were divided into age-specific groups to explore concepts shared in the Salwen's book, *The Power of Half*, such as: "What's your half?" (What can you give?), "Follow your heart," and "Use your voice." Parents



An elementary group takes a break



The Barrett Family

engaged in a group discussion with Joan to explore the topic, while intermediate ages worked on a PSA video project to share their message, and elementary ages engaged in interactive art projects. Preschool-age children were also included in the day's events, with their own special activities.

The day concluded with a special family art project and picnic lunch. To directly connect the concept of giving half of something to others, half of the expense for the day's food and all of the expense of an event token was saved, to be used for philanthropic purposes. School-age children participating in the fall GO: Give Back educational session will undergo a group grantmaking exercise, to determine where they will donate the funds.

Women's Fund thanks The Glick Fund of CICF for making Family Philanthropy Day possible, as well as the volunteers and Indianapolis Art Center staff who led dynamic programs.



An elementary-age participant works on a pillowcase



The Aquilano Family

If you are interested in learning more about GO: Give Back, and to view Family Philanthropy Day videos, visit www.womensfund.org/go-give-back.



INTRODUCING OPTIONS CLASS 10

MELISSA AVERY
Partner
Avery & Cheerva LLP

TIFFANY BARNES
System Lead Consultant,
Marketing
St. Vincent Health

MONICA BOLDT
Community Volunteer

MELANIE CLAYMON
Community Volunteer

JENNIFER CROSS
Community Volunteer

KELLI DALTON
CEO & Founder
Somersaults, LLC

LAUREN EDMUNDSON
Community Volunteer

QUIANA GRAHAM
Director, Youth &
Family Programs
Indiana Black Expo, Inc.

DANIELLE HARBOR
Employee Relations Manager
Indianapolis Power & Light

JENNIFER JANSEN
Life Coach
Complete Life Management, Inc.

REILLY KIMMERLING
Associate
Ice Miller, LLP

STEPHANIE LESHER
Community Volunteer

COURTNEY LIN
Clinical Research Scientist,
Oncology
Eli Lilly & Company

SHELLI MCDONALD
Community Volunteer

ANDREA MCGORDON
Vice President, Private Banking
National Bank of Indianapolis

KATIE MEISTER
Executive Leadership Advisor
Wellpoint, Inc.

JENNIFER MORRIS
Community Volunteer

KELLI REIFEL
Community Volunteer

SUSAN RUSSELL
CEO & Founder
Mayfair Lane

KATHERINE ZARICH
Director of Public Affairs
Indianapolis Museum of Art



OPTIONS Class 10 visits Girls Inc. of Greater Indianapolis' summer camp.



GETTING TO KNOW ABIGAIL COLEMAN



Behind every strong woman... are more strong women. That holds true for the women working in the office day-to-day helping Women's Fund succeed. They may be strong, but did you also know one of them is a runner (preparing for her fifth half-marathon), a community volunteer and an aspiring chef (she just finished a cake decorating class). Here's a little more about our Development Officer, Abigail Coleman.

- 1. FEMALE ROLE MODELS:** Besides her mom and other great women in her family, Abigail has always admired women in history such as first ladies Eleanor Roosevelt and Abigail Adams and Minnie Jean Brown Trickey of The Little Rock Nine.
- 2. VOLUNTEER ROLES:** Abigail can be found volunteering throughout the community with organizations such as Junior League of Indianapolis, Kiwanis International, St. Vincent de Paul, Girls Inc. of Greater Indianapolis, Ronald McDonald House and St. Joan of Arc. Whether as a program facilitator with Girls Inc. or serving meals for families at Ronald McDonald House with her Kiwanis Club, Abigail is making an impact in the community through her volunteer work.
- 3. FAVORITE WOMEN'S FUND MOMENT:** Anytime she sees a donor transformed through bold personal philanthropy, our philanthropy education programs in action, or the impact of our grants. One specific moment Abigail recalls is meeting Rhonda, a client of Business Ownership Initiative, who spoke about fulfilling her dream to own a childcare business. She shared not only the impact on her life and her family, but also how it helped fill a niche childcare need for Ivy Tech students in Lawrence, stabilized her neighborhood and provided new jobs, as she expanded her business.



WOMEN'S FUND
OF CENTRAL INDIANA



CENTRAL INDIANA
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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www.womensfund.org

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WOMEN'S FUND OF CENTRAL INDIANA ENDOWMENT COMMITMENT FORM

Yes, I/We would like to make a gift to Women's Fund

In the amount of \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Employer: _____

Your title: _____

Phone: (h) _____ (w) _____

E-mail address: _____

My company will match this gift. I will complete the appropriate forms.

Payment Will be Made as Follows:

Check enclosed (payable to Women's Fund of Central Indiana)

Charge my credit card (please circle)

Visa MasterCard Discover American Express

Name on card: _____

Card number: _____ Exp. date: _____

Signature: _____

Please indicate how you would like to be recognized in our printed material.

Name (please print): _____

I prefer to remain anonymous.

I would like to honor or memorialize someone with my gift.

(please complete one)

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

Please send tribute notification (gift amount not mentioned) to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____