



WOMEN'S FUND  
OF CENTRAL INDIANA

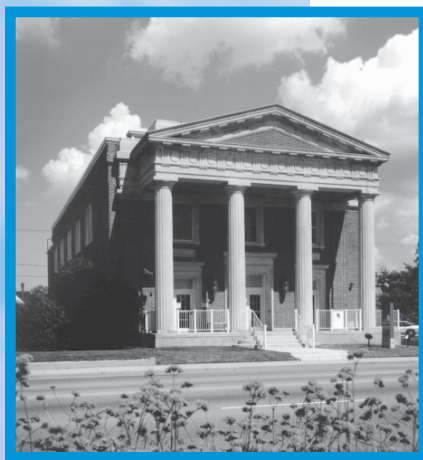
A CICF FUND

# WOMEN'S FUND FOCUS

## WOMEN'S FUND OF CENTRAL INDIANA

Providing options and  
opportunities for women  
and girls in central Indiana

A publication of Women's Fund of  
Central Indiana, a fund of CICF



## WOMEN'S FUND STEPS UP TO HELP A COMMUNITY PROGRAM IN NEED

When The Julian Center learned the Department of Justice was cutting \$360,000 that funded "The Grants to Encourage Arrests" – a program credited with saving lives and keeping women safe – one of the first calls made for support was to Women's Fund.

"The Grants to Encourage Arrests" is a partnership between Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) and The Julian Center, which provides six family violence advocates and police officers who respond daily to domestic violence calls and help ensure women and children are safe from an abuser. Losing the funding for the program would cost people their jobs. Without this funding, a partnership between Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department and The Julian Center will no longer exist, and the safety of women and children in our community would be threatened.

Women's Fund's Advisory Board responded quickly and approved an emergency grant of \$30,000 for the first month of support in order to prevent layoffs and help keep the program afloat. Knowing and understanding that a full-year of funding for the program would allow The Julian Center staff to be strategic and thoughtful in their planning and approach for finding replacement funds, Women's Fund reached out to other funders to support the program.

"Because of the quick action of Women's Fund, services vital to the protection of victims of domestic violence and their children will continue to be available in the greater Indianapolis area," said Betsy Whaley, Director, The Julian Center's Shelter. "Without this support, our capacity to provide assistance to those victims would be virtually eliminated. We are grateful to Women's Fund for stepping in and pointing the way to a solution!"

This outreach program allows The Julian Center to expand its capacity to provide resources and services to victims of domestic violence who need help, but not necessarily shelter. Victims are connected to an Outreach Advocate who provides information on services and community resources. Ultimately, The Julian Center helps women trapped in an abusive relationship take action to protect themselves and their children.

This year alone, Outreach Advocates and IMPD have:

- Served 1,309 domestic violence victims (plus their children);
- Accompanied 745 victims to court;
- Responded to 39 emergency room calls;
- Filed 179 protective orders;
- Provided training to 1,400 IMPD officers on domestic violence and services available to victims.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Nearly 21,000 women in Marion County are physically abused in domestic relationships each year.

Source: The Julian Center

"Women's Fund has been a fundamental part of virtually every milestone The Julian Center has achieved," said Sandy Noe, Development Director, The Julian Center. "Without the on-going support of Women's Fund, The Julian Center would not be able to continue to offer the wide range of services now available to our clients."

Thank you to our 2009  
Newsletter Sponsor:



# DEAR FRIENDS OF WOMEN'S FUND,

At this time of Thanksgiving, we want to share our appreciation for the support you have provided to Women's Fund of Central Indiana. Your support of Women's Fund has helped us address issues of caregiving, domestic violence and insufficient income – helping us fund 89 women- and girl-serving organizations through 236 grants totaling over \$3.2 million since 1999.

We know 2009 has been a difficult year for many of our donors and friends, and we appreciate your continued support. This year has also presented challenges for Women's Fund, the organizations we support and especially for women and girls in our community. Through this economic uncertainty, Women's Fund has shown our resilience by adapting our grantmaking process to focus on core areas—keeping women and girls safe and helping women gain and retain employment. We engaged 13 organizations in roundtable discussions over these issues and embarked on site visits to learn more about their work and the impact changes in the economy were having on their clients. We were impressed at their creativity and resourcefulness and awarded \$337,500 to these organizations this September; please refer to a full listing on page 6. Three specific examples of organizations we impacted with these grants are:

- **Day Nursery Association of Indianapolis** received \$30,000 to fund the Tuition Assistance Program, helping supplement the expense of childcare and early education for low-income single mothers. In 2009, the demand for tuition assistance has significantly increased. "It's incredibly important to keep people in a position to where they can continue to work to support their families. If you don't have child care, you can't work," said Carolyn Dederer, Executive Director.
- **Girls Incorporated of Franklin/Johnson County** received \$25,000 to provide operating support to their efforts to inspire girls to be strong, smart and bold. In addition to staff and program support, this grant will help provide scholarship assistance, primarily to girls from single parent households or below the average household income. "In 2009, we already have given over \$6,000 of assistance, up from \$3,500 in 2008 and \$405 in 2007. The demand has increased because of the impact of the economy and the 2008 floods in our county. We appreciate the Women's Fund grant for operating support so much; it will help us continue services to 1,000 area girls," shared Sonya Ware-Meguiar, CEO.
- **Prevail, Inc.** received \$15,000 for operating support of its victim awareness and support program serving Hamilton and surrounding counties. "We extend our sincere thanks to Women's Fund for supporting the sustainability of Prevail. Because of this grant, our programs can continue to operate, and we can continue to provide needed services to victims of crime and abuse. Although seemingly invisible, if we didn't keep current on regular expenses such as rent and telephone bills, the organization could not operate," expressed Loretta Moore, Executive Director.

Our impact on the women and girls served by these—and the ten other organizations we funded this year—is undeniable. Women's Fund's endowment enables us to have this impact. Your support of our endowment campaign is critical to our success.

As we approach the end of 2009, we are excited to share a few of the accomplishments we have been able to achieve and we look forward to the opportunities we will have in 2010. In the spirit of the holiday season, we want to express gratitude and encourage you to consider your support of the Women's Fund endowment to ensure opportunities are afforded to all women and girls in our community. If you would like to make a gift in honor or memory of a loved one this holiday season, please complete the giving form on the last page of this newsletter, go to [www.womensfund.org](http://www.womensfund.org) and click "Donate Now," or call 317.634.2423.

Thank you for your interest in Women's Fund of Central Indiana. Please let us know if you have thoughts to share or if you would like to discuss your charitable plans with us. You may reach us via the email addresses listed below or by calling 317.634.2423. Thank you!

Sincerely,



**JULIE A. DAVIS**  
Advisory Board Chair  
Women's Fund of Central Indiana  
Central Indiana Community Foundation  
[wfboardchair@cicf.org](mailto:wfboardchair@cicf.org)



**JENNIFER POPE BAKER**  
Director  
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FUND  
ONLINE**



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Donate securely online

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# OPTIONS CLASS 9 REFLECTS ON A MEMORABLE YEAR

Each year 20 exceptional women are selected to be part of a strong and vibrant OPTIONS class. This year was no different. From community leaders to an engineer, a dentist to a realtor, these women represent a class of leaders actively engaged in the community and interested in improving the lives of women and girls.



OPTIONS Class 9 members at a Girls Inc. of Greater Indianapolis site visit.

For 10 months, these women engaged in meaningful exploration of personal and group philanthropy. They participated in educational classroom sessions and visited women- and girl-serving organizations in central Indiana. They met, networked and exchanged ideas with Women's Fund Advisory Board members and OPTIONS Alumnae members. They made connections and developed friendships. Their experiences are ones only shared by other women who have participated in OPTIONS.

They entered the program eager to learn more about philanthropy and its impact on the community. They now leave the program empowered by what they've learned and ready to make an even greater difference for women and girls in our community.

## Several members reflected on their experiences:

"I was amazed by the positive feeling I experienced during our site visits. You sometimes think it's going to be a depressing place because of the difficult issues facing some of the women and girls in our community, but it was the exact opposite. The feeling of hope was everywhere." —Jill Lacy

"I gained an increased awareness of the impact that issues related to insufficient income, childcare, domestic violence, and health have on central Indiana women and girls. To know that I have helped improve the quality of life for the women and girls of our community by participating in OPTIONS, and that I have helped pave the way to a brighter more fulfilling future is beyond rewarding." —Laura Larson Coote

"OPTIONS was rewarding, inspiring and educational for me. I have been enriched by our visits to local charitable organizations. We were given the VIP treatment, including tours, informational talks and sometimes interaction with the participants of the organization. Overall, OPTIONS increased my knowledge of the obstacles woman and children of this community are facing and what is being done to help them." —Heather McLaughlin

## Women's Fund thanks these women for making a difference in the lives of women and girls through their participation in OPTIONS.

### ERIN ALBERT

Founder, Yuspie, LLC  
CEO, Pharm, LLC  
Asst. Prof., Pharmacy/Health Sciences, Butler University

### LYNNE BIR

Community Volunteer

### JULIE BOWEN

Community Volunteer

### LAURA LARSON COOTE

Engineer  
Indianapolis Power & Light

### ANDREA DERRER

Community Volunteer

### LORA HOOVER

Director of Development  
Indiana Repertory Theatre

### MARYBETH JACKSON

Director  
The Viewfinder Project/  
Moyo Media

### JILL LACY

Community Volunteer

### MICHELLE MARIETTA

V.P. Relationship Manager  
Chase Bank, Business Bank

### DHEEPA MATURI

President  
East West Blends, LLC

### KATHLEEN McDONALD

President & CEO  
Career Investments, LLC

### HEATHER McLAUGHLIN

Community Volunteer

### MEREDITH MILES

Coordinator for Women's Basketball  
NCAA

### JAMIE RATNER

Financial Advisor  
Morgan Stanley

### JENNIFER ROSENBERG

President  
Acorn Distributors

### IVONNE SALMAN

Community Volunteer

### MINDY HOFFERT SCHLEGEL

Community Volunteer

### LALAINE SMITH

Dentist  
Drs. Gary Ball & Lalaine Smith

### ALLISON STECK

Realtor  
F.C. Tucker Company

### JENNIFER RYAN TRUSLER

Community Volunteer

# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: CHRIS FRANSON

## First Impression Leaves Lasting Impression



Chris Franson remembers seeing "On Shaky Ground," an eye-opening report showing the real issues facing central Indiana. When she learned how Women's Fund was changing lives for women and girls, Chris couldn't help but get involved.

Now, six years later, as a member of the Advisory Board and Women's Fund Grants Committee co-chair, Chris has been instrumental in helping to distribute nearly \$2.3 million in grants, which has helped more than 80 community organizations supporting women and girls.

First drawn to Women's Fund because of its unique intergenerational philanthropy education programs, such as GO and OPTIONS, Chris also saw the significant impact grants had on women and girls in the community.

"My first impression was one that left me knowing I wanted to be involved with Women's Fund," Chris said. "I was impressed by the number of men and women involved in caring for our community – and how the work they did through Women's Fund reached far beyond the organization."

Chris credits the Grants Committee's creativity, innovation and dedication in making sure the highest priority is placed on stewardship of Women's Fund donor dollars. Those who know and work with Chris, credit her leadership and dedication for the committee's success.

"Chris is a conscientious leader of the Grants Committee," said Julie Rowlas, committee co-chair. "She is always creatively thinking of ways to ensure the committee members are informed about the needs of the community, the agencies, and the best ways Women's Fund can make a difference."

"Chris is instrumental in our process and very flexible and thoughtful to ensure Women's Fund is being proactive in our process in meeting the needs of our grantees," said Julie Davis, Women's Fund Chair. "We are very fortunate that Chris is a volunteer and friend of Women's Fund."

"Chris has been a very able leader of the Women's Fund Grants Committee," said Sue Smith, Advisory Board member. "She is extremely passionate about Women's Fund and articulates our mission with a tremendous amount of enthusiasm."

What Chris recalls from her first committee meeting six years ago remains true today – everyone is thoroughly prepared, thoughtful and respectful as they review and discuss applications; carefully prioritizing and ensuring funds are used for the greatest impact.

"Whether it's through our competitive and open grant cycles or through our Bold and Transformative grants, Women's Fund continues to be creative and strategic in addressing the needs around us," shared Chris. "I am so impressed and blessed to be a part of this organization."

Chris is also a long-time volunteer and supporter of The Villages and a past board member for Dress for Success. Chris and her husband, Tim, have three grown children and reside in Zionsville.

## 2009 ADVISORY BOARD

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Community Volunteer

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Community Volunteer

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**MARY BETH KOHART**  
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**JENNIFER POPE BAKER**  
Director

**ABIGAIL COLEMAN**  
Development Officer

**DEANNA GAMOIAN**  
Coordinator

# 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.

## AGAPÉ THERAPEUTIC RIDING CENTER [www.agaperiding.org](http://www.agaperiding.org)

Volunteers needed to assist students, Monday-Thursday, at Cicero facility. Contact Madie Goeller, Volunteer Coordinator, 317-773-7433, ext. 18 or [msgoeller@comcast.net](mailto:msgoeller@comcast.net).

## CHILDREN'S BUREAU, INC. [www.childrensbureau.org](http://www.childrensbureau.org)

Volunteers needed to help plan activities for children, ages 8-18, at the Colt's Courage Center, 2115 N. Central Ave. Contact Sarah Parsons, Volunteer Coordinator, 317-264-2700, ext. 291 or [sparsons@childrensbureau.org](mailto:sparsons@childrensbureau.org).

## CONCORD NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER [www.concordindy.org](http://www.concordindy.org)

Volunteers needed to assist seniors and youth classes in pottery; to serve as advocates between youth & their family and schools and to marketing experts to serve on Concord's fund-development committee. Contact Concord at 317-637-4376.

## DAY NURSERY ASSOCIATION OF INDIANAPOLIS [www.daynursery.org](http://www.daynursery.org)

Volunteers needed to join the Day Nursery Auxiliary. Contact Susan Davis, Director of Public Relations, 317-636-9197 or [susand@daynursery.org](mailto:susand@daynursery.org).

## A TRIBUTE TO A FOUNDING MOTHER: CAROL WICHMAN

Women's Fund was sad to learn of the death of one of our "founding mothers," Carol Wichman this summer. Carol was a significant catalyst in helping establish Women's Fund and ensuring our long-term viability. About fifteen years ago, Carol's dear friend Diane Brashear gathered a group of women to talk about issues and concerns facing women and girls and how this group could together make a difference. Carol's enthusiasm was instant and her efforts were substantial. Carol used her own money and spent time researching and visiting other women's funds, and attending Women's Funding Network meetings, in order to determine if this was something that might work in our community.

When it was decided to start our Women's Fund, Carol made several noteworthy contributions: one was to build a sizeable endowment before we began to give away money; she was able to use her influence to position this as essential to Women's Fund future. She also provided pivotal guidance on strategies to help Women's Fund

to be a permanent resource for long-term, sustainable change. Carol helped guide the early Advisory Board to think strategically about creating a development plan and helping everyone on the Board attach an action plan to their ideas.

When the first group of Advisory Board members came to the end of their term, Carol led the effort to create an Emeritus Board (which she then chaired the first two years). Carol's key stipulation for Emeritus Board members? Engagement on committees was optional... continuing to give to our endowment was essential. During her time on the Emeritus Board, Carol remained active in our work and helped launch our current endowment campaign and participated as a committee member and advisor.

Women's Fund has lost a dear friend. We promise to her family to keep her legacy with Women's Fund alive as we continue to grow and make a difference for women and girls in central Indiana.

## ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER PROFILE: MARTHA LAMKIN



One of Women's Fund's "founding mothers" and a long-time supporter has returned as one of two new community leaders selected to serve on Women's Fund's Advisory Board. Martha Lamkin has been involved with Women's Fund since its inception – first as a liaison to Women's Fund while serving on The Indianapolis Foundation Board, then serving on Women's Fund's first Advisory Board. Fourteen years later

she returns to an organization she wholeheartedly believes in.

"Having Martha serve on the Women's Fund Advisory Board is like having a beloved member of the family coming back to town," said Brian Payne, President, Central Indiana Community Foundation. "Martha served as Board Chair of both The Indianapolis Foundation and the Central Indiana Community Foundation with distinction. All of us in the extended CICF family are thrilled to have her back involved in this important leadership position."

As a new board member, Martha hopes to continue to build on its legacy. She hopes to build and connect the gift of the past to serving the needs of today and that of the future.

"When we strengthen support for women and girls, we know that we are improving conditions for the entire family," shared Martha. "Women's Fund has a strong record of research, impressive results in developing new philanthropists and expertise in transformational grantmaking. I am honored to reconnect with this valuable work in our community."

Martha was the founding president, CEO and member of the board of directors of Lumina Foundation for Education from 2000-2007. A longtime leader in Indiana civic and philanthropic circles, Martha has served as a trustee and chair of The Indianapolis Foundation and is a co-founder and former chair of the Central Indiana Community Foundation. Currently, she serves on the board of directors of Citizens Energy Group, Gateway to College, Ivy Tech Central Indiana and the Indiana Education Savings Authority (IN's 529 college savings plan). Martha also serves as the moderator for this year's Stanley K. Lacy Executive Leadership Series. Martha and her husband, Ned, have two adult children and reside on Indianapolis' north side.

Martha is joined by Jane Salentine as new Advisory Board members. Women's Fund enthusiastically welcomes the support, experience and expertise of both women. Jane will be profiled in the next issue.

## 2009 GRANTS ANNOUNCED

Women's Fund continues to be responsive to the critical issues facing women and girls in our community. Women's Fund's 2009 granting focused on organizations keeping women and girls safe and helping women gain and retain employment. Thirteen organizations were selected to receive grants totaling \$337,500 in the areas of greatest need.

### BUSINESS OWNERSHIP INITIATIVE

\$30,000 For operating support to help people create and develop their own small businesses.

### CONCORD NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

\$20,000 For operating support to help women and girls living in Indianapolis' southside and to support its services for senior women.

### DAY NURSERY ASSOCIATION OF INDIANAPOLIS

\$30,000 For the Tuition Assistance Program, helping low-income families access early care and education for young children.

### DRESS FOR SUCCESS INDIANAPOLIS

\$22,500 For operating support and board and staff training to help improve the lives of women through self-sufficiency and successful careers.

### GIRLS INCORPORATED OF FRANKLIN/ JOHNSON COUNTY

\$25,000 For operating support to help inspire girls to be strong, smart and bold.

### GIRLS INCORPORATED OF GREATER INDIANAPOLIS

\$30,000 For operating support to help inspire girls to be strong, smart and bold.

### GIRLS INCORPORATED OF SHELBYVILLE/ SHELBY COUNTY

\$15,000 For operating support to help inspire girls to be strong, smart and bold.

### HAWTHORNE COMMUNITY CENTER

\$20,000 For operating support to help women and girls living in Indianapolis' near westside.

### JOHN H. BONER COMMUNITY CENTER

\$25,000 For operating support to help women and girls living in Indianapolis' near eastside.

### JULIAN CENTER, INC.

\$30,000 For operating support to help victims of domestic violence.

\$30,000 For emergency funding to support the "Grants to Encourage Arrests" program.

### PREVAIL, INC.

\$15,000 For operating support of its victim awareness and support program serving Hamilton and surrounding counties.

### TRAINING, INC.

\$15,000 For board governance training to ensure the organization continues to offer better employees, better lives and better communities through innovative job training.

### TURNING POINT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

\$30,000 To support a matching grant for operating support for Johnson and Shelby County services of victims of domestic violence.

## YOUR GIFT IS TRANSFORMATIVE

Every day, ordinary women and girls join together to achieve extraordinary things. They work together to meet challenges. They find ways to better lives. And they grow to become community leaders and transformative philanthropists.

Women's Fund of Central Indiana believes in the power of transformative philanthropy — where both the recipient and the donor are transformed by the gift. Transformative philanthropy begins with a clear understanding of the critical needs facing women and girls in central Indiana.

Women's Fund is the only organization in central Indiana building a permanent endowment to identify, communicate and address issues that limit the future of women and girls.

-Endowment Campaign Case Statement

These words are as relevant today as at the start of our endowment campaign in 2004. In our 14-year history, Women's Fund has established ourselves as an expert resource, a leader in focusing attention on issues impacting women and girls in central Indiana,

a formidable force for change, and a model in philanthropy education for women and children. As our supporter you have helped make this possible.

Donations to Women's Fund are invested in our permanent endowment, which supports our effective grantmaking to women- and girl-serving nonprofit organizations in central Indiana. Our research-based grantmaking assures donors we are stewarding their dollars efficiently and smartly.

Will you consider a gift to the Women's Fund endowment this holiday season? Your gift — of any size — will help us transform the lives of women and girls in our community now, and for generations to come. To give now, please return the giving form on the last page of this newsletter, or donate online at [www.womensfund.org](http://www.womensfund.org).

## DID YOU KNOW?

To date, Women's Fund has provided 236 grants totaling over \$3.2 million to 89 central Indiana organizations.

# POWER OF GIRLS CHANGES LIVES

For the past five years, girls aged 13 to 16 have been empowered to learn, explore and collectively make a difference through Women's Fund's Power of Girls, a unique one-day program that teaches life-long lessons to girls – created for girls, and about girls.

Since March 2004, Women's Fund of Central Indiana has partnered with Indianapolis Power & Light Company (IPL) and The Julian Center to host nine Power of Girls events. Within the educational and inspirational six-hour program, girls hear from experts about the problems facing women and girls and how they can help. They learn what constitutes healthy relationships and how to get out of a destructive relationship. They tour The Julian Center and discover how it changes the lives of many

"I attended with my daughter in 2004 and take the opportunity whenever I can to encourage other women to participate with their daughter or special teenage girl. You won't regret it. In fact, it just may change your life and hers." – Ann Murtlow, President & CEO, IPL.



Ally and Elizabeth Philpot enjoy 2009 Power of Girls.

*"I appreciate Power of Girls for the lasting impression and impact it leaves with the young girls," said Jennifer Pletcher, GO Educational Consultant. "Perhaps the most empowering part of the day is when the girls use what they've learned to make a grant to The Julian Center – and seeing their power make a difference in the lives of others."*

women in our community by providing a safe place for women and their children. And, at the end of the program, girls are empowered to grant nearly \$3,000 to The Julian Center in a meaningful way that will make an impact, such as counseling services or education programs.

for generations to come. Power of Girls is organized by GO: Give Back.

Women's Fund is committed to philanthropy education programs for women and children. Power of Girls is one more way Women's Fund is helping to create lasting change to improve our community

*A quarterly column brought to you by St. Vincent Health*

## 'TIS THE SEASON... FOR HOLIDAY STRESS

Holidays are a time of joy and family togetherness, right? Sadly, many of us feel more stressed at this time of year. It may help to remember that holiday tension is mostly tied to our expectations.

"Many people want to view the holiday as a special time and put too much emphasis on everything being perfect," says Kimble Richardson, a licensed mental health counselor at St. Vincent Stress Center.

Circumstance can generate — or aggravate — holiday stress, but there are ways to deal with difficult life events. For example, if there's been a recent death in the family, Richardson suggests beginning new traditions in memory of the deceased. If the issue is divorce and you have to see your ex-spouse, work out the details in advance, even if it means working through a mediator, Richardson said.



### St. Vincent Stress Center

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

Also be aware that money worries can come to a head during the holidays. Try to purchase items while they are on sale and don't wait until the last minute to do your shopping as this can add further stress to an already busy season.

Finally, don't be a perfectionist. Tell yourself your house doesn't have to look perfect. Focus on your relationships with friends and family rather than the appearance of your home. Remember that the most important aspect of the holidays is spending it with those you love.

*Seasons greetings!*

Feeling tense? If you need help dealing with stress during the holiday season – or any time – call the St. Vincent Stress Center crisis line at (317) 338-4800.



**WOMEN'S FUND  
OF CENTRAL INDIANA**



**CENTRAL INDIANA  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

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**WOMEN'S FUND OF CENTRAL INDIANA ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN COMMITMENT FORM**

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In the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Your title: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Payment Will be Made as Follows:

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

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I prefer to remain anonymous.

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

*(please check one)*

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_