Who We Are

*Women for Women* is a giving circle that improves the lives of women and girls through the power of collective giving.

What We Do

Together, we empower women to take action, inspire hope and possibility, and help strengthen Western North Carolina.

How Membership Works

- When you join *Women for Women*, you make a three-year commitment to gift $1,100 each year (all tax-deductible). Of the total membership dues, $100 goes to our administrative fund and $1,000 goes to the grant fund.
- Those member funds, combined with spendable income from The Community Foundation’s Women’s Fund, are granted out to help women and girls in 18 counties in Western North Carolina. The more members, the more funds we can distribute.
- Each member has a voice and a vote in how the funds are distributed.

Where We Focus

- Facilitating safe living and work environments is our current area of funding. This serious and complex issue includes intimate partner violence, sexual violence, and human trafficking, as well as elder abuse, bullying, and sexting.
- We fund projects focused on prevention, rescue, and recovery, which often include education, transportation, life skills, jobs, and housing.

How We Came to Be

- The brainchild of Eleanor Owen, *Women for Women* launched in February 2005, bolstered by a Community Foundation of Western North Carolina grant from the Kellogg Foundation.
- By the end of 2005, we had 213 founding members, including “founding mothers” Eleanor Owen, Pat Smith, Marla Adams, Sue McClinton, and Janice Brumit.
- In 2006, we awarded our first grants, totaling $213,000, providing basic needs to women in our region.
- Since 2006, we’ve granted over $4.1 million for basic needs, economic self-sufficiency, safety, and security.

How You Can Join Us

You can join any time of the year. Just go to our website: [https://cfwnc.org/initiatives/women-for-women](https://cfwnc.org/initiatives/women-for-women)

How You Benefit

- Your participation beyond your generous contribution is totally flexible and determined by your interest level and availability.
- As a member, you have opportunities to learn about regional issues affecting women and girls, and to help make high-impact grants that help them.
- Our meetings and social events are fun and informative, making it easy to make meaningful friendships and build professional connections.
- You can also join a Committee that fits your interest: Advocacy and Education, Grants, or Membership and Communications.
### 2020 Grants at a Glance

**Delta House Life Development of Asheville:** $40,000 to provide after-school activities and field trips designed to build self-esteem, leadership, and a sense of community among girls of color in Asheville.

**Helpmate:** $50,000 to expand and support its volunteer program. Volunteers provide direct services to survivors of domestic violence, offer prevention education, and conduct community outreach.

**Light a Path:** $20,000 to provide yoga, meditation and strength-building classes to incarcerated women and teen girls in the Juvenile Misdemeanor Diversion Program.

**Options:** $42,988 to expand its successful anti-domestic and sexual violence programs and treatment capacity to children and adults in Burke County’s Latinx community, a currently underserved population.

**Pisgah Legal Services:** $100,000 to sustain and expand free civil legal aid to low-income victims of crime, primarily victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, & elder abuse in 11 counties in WNC.

**Safelight:** $50,000 to create the Safe Works program, which offers survivors of domestic violence three additional years of job and life skills training and case management.

**WNC Workers’ Center:** $7,000 for general operating support. WNCWC is one of the only local, immigrant-led organizations that engages immigrant women in safe and inclusive spaces to address sexual violence. 

*All grants, excluding WNCWC, will be used over 2 years.*

### Celebrating 15 Years of Grantmaking

Since 2006, Women for Women has invested over $4.1 million in programs benefitting women and girls.

**67 Grants**

**46 Organizations**

**18 WNC Counties**

For a list of all WFW grants, visit [cfwnc.org/grants/women-for-women](http://cfwnc.org/grants/women-for-women)

### Join WFW and Multiply Your Giving

“I have always believed women have the power to change the world and our work begins in our own communities. Through Women for Women, I can combine my resources with those of other women philanthropists to make high-impact grants that truly make a difference in the lives of WNC women and girls.” - Kathy Rauch

### Connect with WFW

Follow Women for Women on Facebook for updates from our grantees, information about upcoming events, and relevant news about our focus area:

@womenforwomenwnc

For more information about Women for Women, call 828-367-9919 or email wfw@cfwnc.org