

# BOLDLY INTO THE FUTURE, TOGETHER

## LEGACY GIVING AT THE WOMEN'S FUND OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

The Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts fuels progress toward gender equity by funding the most promising solutions, collaborating with results-oriented partners, and by elevating the collective power of local women to take charge and to lead with purpose. We are creating a community where people have the power to prosper economically, live safe and healthy lives, and thrive.

We mobilize resources that compel women and girls to see greater possibilities for themselves and their community that meet their changing needs and that create a community of folks who show up, cheer on, and see women and girls as unstoppable leaders of change. We educate women to make them dream then act to solve the problems of our region. We give women and girls the tools and confidence to become effective civic leaders and elected officials. We measure change and invest in community-based organizations and solutions to ensure that change does not happen to women but with them.

Our efforts are decreasing the pay gap for marginalized groups, reducing poverty, promoting safety and freedom from gender-based sexual violence, toxic relationships and power dynamics while nurturing a diverse, inclusive, and caring community in which women and girls flourish.

We acknowledge that every woman has needs and every woman has resources. Each person deserves dignity, respect, and for their humanity to be seen.



Our Joan's Circle of Friends legacy donors are individuals, just like you, who are committed to ensuring that the needs and potential of women and girls will always be a priority in Western MA. Only together can we ensure a fierce future for women, girls, and our community.

Please join us!

# JOAN'S CIRCLE OF FRIENDS LEGACY SOCIETY



**Planned gifts and bequests grow the Women's Fund's support for women and girls in Western Massachusetts far beyond our lifetime.**

**You can help us go boldly into the future by contributing through:**

## **Bequests**

By including the Women's Fund in your will, you can ensure that your generosity will continue in perpetuity. We encourage you to work with an attorney to create a bequest and the following suggested wording of your bequest clause reflects our highest priorities.

"I give THE WOMEN'S FUND OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS in Springfield, Massachusetts, (\_\_\_% of my residuary estate) or (all of my residuary estate) or (the sum of \$\_\_\_\_) to be used for the benefit of the Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts as the Board of Directors thereof may direct."

## **Retirement Plan or IRA**

Gifts of retirement assets can maximize the value of your gift while minimizing your taxable income.

## **Life Insurance Policies**

Life insurance is an underused asset in charitable giving, yet its flexibility makes it possible for virtually everyone to make a meaningful gift by designating the Women's Fund as a beneficiary.

There are many other ways to support the Women's Fund by making a lasting impact. Talk with your attorney or financial advisor to explore the options that work best for you.

If you would like more information about Joan's Circle please reach out to Women's Fund CEO Donna Haghighat at [donna@mywomensfund.org](mailto:donna@mywomensfund.org). Once you decide to become a member of Joan's Circle of Friends, we hope you will let us know by completing our Letter of Intent form.

Joan Hastings wrote the first check to "get things going" for the Women's Fund and the legacy society is named in her memory. Joan said "My joy in the scale and scope of our vision is immense. This is not a pilot project, a special needs program, this is the real thing. I feel we are in a position to address larger scale social values as well as provide new opportunities in Western Massachusetts."

**Be remembered forever and ensure a world where women, girls, and everyone thrives.**