

The Women's Fund

of the Community Foundation for South Central New York

April 2011

Giving Benefits Everyone



Gifts to the Women's Fund help women and girls, of course. But those gifts also offer a wide range of other advantages.

For Jeffrey and Anne Loew, donations to the Women's Fund provide a perfect way to express their love for some of the special women in their lives. "We were looking for a way to tell them on Mother's Day that we were thinking about them," says Jeffrey, reflecting on the gifts that he and Anne made to honor their mothers and Jeffrey's stepmother. All three recipients loved the gesture, he says.

Debbie Gouldin has been making gifts to the Women's Fund to honor female relatives and friends for many years. For Mother's Day, she donates in honor of her daughter and daughter-in-law and in memory of her mother and her husband's mother.

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Reserve Your Seat Now!

2011 Women's Fund Annual Breakfast

It's time to make your reservation for the Women's Fund Annual Breakfast on Thursday, June 2nd. Don't delay—this popular event sold out early last year!

Our keynote speaker this year is Dr. Leigh Ann Wheeler, an associate professor of History at Binghamton University and co-editor of the *Journal of Women's History*. She is the author of *Against Obscenity: Reform and the Politics of Womanhood in America, 1873–1935* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2004) and a new book, *How Sex Became a Civil Liberty: A History*, to be published next year by Oxford University Press.



You'll also hear from selected recipients of the 2010 Women's Fund grant awards. Tickets to the program, including a full breakfast, are \$30 per person. Hear how The Women's Fund is making a difference in our region!

Thursday June 2nd

The Binghamton Club, 83 Front St., Binghamton

Sign-in begins at 7:30 a.m.

Breakfast buffet starting at 7:45 a.m.

Call 607-772-6773 by May 23 to reserve your seat;

VISA/MC accepted by phone

Women's Fund Leadership

Lisanne Bobby, *Chair*
Linda Biemer, *Vice Chair*
Sally Akel
Diane Campbell
Heather M. Cornell, Esq.
Lauren A. Kiley, Esq.

Betsy Koffman
Catherine Maliwacki
Suzanne McLeod
Suh Neubauer
Jennifer Schorr
Towhee Shupka

Faith Sigler
Sue Stephens
Natalie Thompson
Jackie Visser
Maureen Wilson
Jane L. Zuckerman



GOAL UPDATE

Five in 5 Drive

Total Women's Fund assets
as of March 31, 2011:
\$355,784

Goal:
**\$500,000 total for
the Women's Fund
by Dec. 2012**

Dollars received
toward the goal
(donations and pledge
payments):
\$143,380

Outstanding Pledges:
\$23,630

Total pledges and
monies received:
\$167,010

charitable gifts, Neulon says. Luckily, every donation to the Women's Fund makes a significant impact. "My contribution can't be that big, but it's melded with all the others," she says. "The small ones and the large ones, all combined, are doing wonderful things for women."

Besides supporting grants to fund programs directly, those contributions also help nonprofit organizations to publicize their work for women and girls and cultivate new donors and volunteers. That's what happened when Paula Huntsman, council director of Girls on the Run of Central New York, spoke at a luncheon in Cooperstown that the Women's Fund hosted in November 2009.

A character development program in which girls train for a five kilometer run, Girls on the Run received a \$2,000 grant from the Women's Fund in 2008 and another in 2010.

"That luncheon made people more aware of what Girls on the Run actually is," Paula says. It also attracted new supporters, including a co-worker of Paula's who knew little about Girls on the Run before Paula gave her talk. "Now, every year, she just writes me a check," Paula says. An athletic coach from a local school who attended the luncheon later recruited other coaches to volunteer with the program.

One more benefit the Women's Fund provides is the chance to get involved in exactly the way that suits each donor best. You might want to serve on the grants committee; you might want to host an event to spread the word about the Fund; you might simply want to write a check. Whatever level of participation fits your goals, your gift to the Women's Fund makes you a full-fledged member in our effort to benefit women and girls in our community.

Gouldin also gives to celebrate special women on milestone birthdays and to remember the lives of women who have recently passed away. It's a powerful gesture, she says. "It honors these people by doing something useful and good for the community in which they live."

For Debbie Neulon, the Women's Fund provides a way to join with others to create a better community. "It makes me feel good that I can give to something I believe in," she says.

In today's economy, many people find it difficult to make

2010 Grants Support Good Work at Four Organizations

Donors to the Women's Fund made it possible to award \$7,500 in grants in 2010. Grants went to four organizations that benefit women and girls.

- **Cornell Cooperative Extension** received \$3,000 for a "Women's Workforce Development Program," which will provide work-readiness training, mentoring and job search support to 12 women.
- **YWCA of Cortland** was granted \$1,000 toward its "Chicken in Every Pot" education program, designed to help 25 mothers living below the poverty level to become self-reliant and fiscally responsible and gain the means to prepare nutritious meals for their families.
- A \$2,000 grant to **Girls on the Run of Central New York** in Cooperstown will purchase an updated curriculum and supplies for program sites in Sidney and Delhi, where girls learn essential life skills while training for a 5k run.
- **ACHIEVE (NYSARC Broome-Tioga Chapter)** received \$1,500 to support a ten-week program that will help women with intellectual and developmental disabilities improve their confidence and self esteem.