

# WOMEN'S FUND

## OF DOOR COUNTY

As 2022 draws to a close, we reflect on the generosity of our dedicated donors who enable us to grant money back into our special community. Without your continued support and philanthropic spirit, it would not be possible to help fund so many critical community initiatives and programs.

### Board of Advisors

**Markie Bscherer**  
Co-Chair  
Sturgeon Bay

**Annika Paulsen**  
Co-Chair  
Sturgeon Bay

**Lisa Severson**  
Vice Chair  
Sturgeon Bay

**Ann Glessner**  
Secretary  
Sturgeon Bay

**Michelle Sternard**  
Treasurer  
Sturgeon Bay

**Nikki Hedeon**  
Past-Chair  
Sturgeon Bay

**Cameryn Ehlers**  
-Kwaterski  
Sturgeon Bay

**Ann Hartly**  
Egg Harbor

**Gail Harrmann**  
Egg Harbor

**Laura Murray**  
Sturgeon Bay

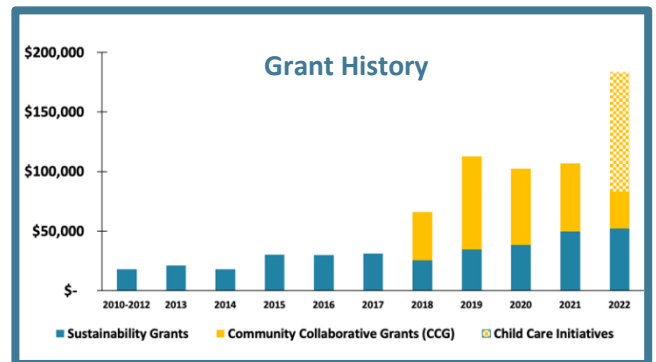
**Karen Peterson**  
Egg Harbor

**Katie Slaby**  
Sturgeon Bay

**Tammy Sternard**  
Forestville

**Suzie Wilkinson**  
Egg Harbor

Did you know that the Women's Fund of Door County is the largest charitable fund in Door County that focuses on the needs of women and girls? Thanks to all your past support, 2022 was a record granting year with \$183,000 in funding of key programs and initiatives.



### A YEAR IN REVIEW

#### Tales of Our Lives was back in person.

On April 28th and 29th, five story tellers shared their emotional, autobiographical stories at Sturgeon Bay's Kitchen Barons. A hearty appetizer buffet and beautiful music by Dorothy Scott and Jess Holland set the stage as the speakers, empowered through performance, told poignant stories from their lives to a sold-out house.

#### The annual Celebrate Women Luncheon was our most successful fundraiser on record.

Held August 3rd at Stone Harbor, over 260 people attended. The keynote speaker, retired Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janine Geske and fellow Door County resident, spoke on Restorative Justice, a form of criminal justice focusing on the rehabilitation of offenders through reconciliation with victims and the community. The pre-luncheon, complementary panel discussion was back after a two-year hiatus, with over 50 people in attendance. Local panelists discussed various ways that Door County uses Restorative Justice practices.



#### Another successful ARTrageous event was held at Rehberger's Hidden Acre Farm.

Over 40 local women artists donated artwork for the September event. Featured artist, Ginnie Cappaert, painted *Peace* for the event's raffle. Harpist Cheryl Murphy provided beautiful music and wine was provided by Firefly Outfitters.

**Our work continues to help meet the needs of women and girls in our community.**

- **Funding high-impact local programs** such as HELP of Door County’s Transitional Living Program, Altrusa of Door County’s Back to School Fair, and the youth mentoring programs of both Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Wisconsin and Girls Scouts of Northwestern Great Lakes.
- **Supporting women and girls’ health and well-being** through grants to the Door County Medical Center Foundation’s donor milk and Haakaa pump programs, Destination Sturgeon Bay’s Otumba Park renovation, and Cycling Without Age Door County.
- **Partnering with NWTC to support women returning to school** by providing wrap-around services and support to help them successfully graduate and permanently change their lives.

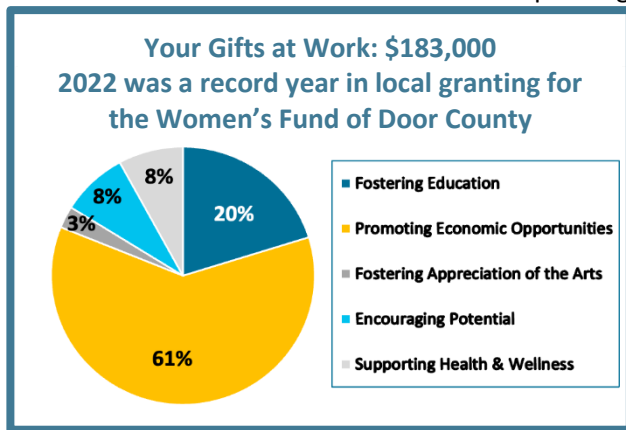
**We also expanded our 2022 impact by partnering with the United Way on childcare initiatives.**

Door County is classified as a childcare desert and the problem is compounded by the county’s unique demographics of an aging population and small workforce. Thanks to a \$100,000 grant from the Ford Foundation, the Women’s Fund of Door County was able to co-fund a community childcare coordinator, certify 60 students in Red Cross Babysitter classes, support the Northern Door Children’s Center 4K program, provide in-home childcare networking and financial support opportunities, and kick off a pilot childcare benefits program partnering with local businesses to help offset the employee cost of childcare.



**We made good progress with these childcare initiatives and earned additional support from the Ford Foundation with another \$100,000 grant for 2023. However, a large gap still exists.**

We intend to continue expanding affordable, accessible childcare options throughout the county. Our goal is to build on the 2022 traction and successes: expanding and improving in-home providers, expanding the childcare benefits pilot program, developing after-hour childcare options for our service workers, and helping support the expansion of the local childcare centers, including attracting skilled personnel.



Our ability to continue to fund these important community initiatives is a direct result of your commitment to Door County women and girls. The Women’s Fund of Door County hopes you will join us on this journey to help close the gap and support our beautiful community.

**Thank you for your continued support and generosity—none of this is possible without you!**

*Annika Paulsen*  
Annika Paulsen  
Co-Chair

*Markie Bscherer*  
Markie Bscherer  
Co-Chair

*P.S. Please consider supporting the Women’s Fund of Door County in 2023! To learn more about what we’re doing in the community follow us on Facebook and Instagram. You can also sign up for our e-newsletter at [womensfunddoorcounty.org](http://womensfunddoorcounty.org).*