

THE WOMEN'S
FOUNDATION
OF COLORADO

Give the money
to spread the knowledge
to power the change
to alter the future
for women and girls
in Colorado.

The Women's Foundation of Colorado Frequently Asked Questions

What is The Women's Foundation of Colorado (WFCO)?

The WFCO is a statewide community foundation committed to improving the lives of women and girls through policy work, philanthropy, and partnerships with other like-minded organizations.

When was The WFCO founded?

The WFCO was founded in 1987 by a group of community-minded women.

What is the mission of the foundation?

The WFCO's mission is to build resources and lead change so that the women and girls of Colorado are full and equal participants in society. The goal is that every woman in Colorado is economically self-sufficient, and every girl in Colorado is on the path to economic self-sufficiency in adulthood.

How does The WFCO help women and girls?

Through grant making, research, community outreach, education, and leadership in monitoring and analyzing the evolving needs of women and girls in the state. The WFCO works to provide opportunities for women and girls to be economically self-sufficient.

What is the value of giving to The WFCO, rather than giving directly to a charity?

The WFCO not only provides funding to meet the needs of women and girls today, but the team is knowledgeable on the latest research. The research conducted by The WFCO provides them with strategic guidance on where to invest short-term and long-term for systemic change. The WFCO performs due diligence on each of its granting partners to ensure creditable organizations are being supported. It also ensures evaluative measures are in place to track the progress of each project.

The WFCO and its partners are stronger together than alone. The WFCO seeks out partnerships and strategic alliances with grantees, coalitions, businesses, nonprofits and policy-makers around shared goals, common values and coordinated strategies.

What are The WFCO accomplishments?

To date, The WFCO has invested more than \$8.5 million and worked with more than 180 agencies in 75 Colorado communities to remove barriers and increase opportunities for women and girls.

Who does The WFCO help?

The WFCO works with direct service providers to help improve the lives of Colorado women and girls. The Foundation works with grassroots, research, and strategic organizations to impact

public policy to address the systemic issues that influence women's and girl's ability and opportunity to be economically self-sufficient.

What are the granting process requirements?

1. Cover letter (not to exceed 1 page)
2. Narrative (see reverse)
3. Project budget
4. Organization budget for current year
5. List of board of directors with officers identified
6. List of key staff and qualifications
7. Anti-discrimination statement
8. Audited financial statements or, if unavailable, unaudited financial statements
9. List of major sources of funding for program
10. List of major sources of funding for organization

Who are some of the organizations The WFCO has provided grants to?

In the past year, The WFCO has provided grants to: Project Self-Sufficiency of Loveland – Fort Collins; The Girl Scouts of Chipeta Council; Colorado Springs Women's Resource Agency; Aspen's RESPONSE: Help for Battered Women; Aspen Youth Center's 9th Annual Girls to Women, Women to Girls 2006 Conference.

How do organizations set up a time for staff of The WFCO to be a guest speaker?

Please contact our public relations representative, Maria Miller at 303-779-3390 to set up a time for a WFCO staff member to talk to your group or organization.

Who are WFCO's partners?

The WFCO values and relies on partnerships and alliances to carry out its mission. The WFCO is always looking to create new partnerships with companies. Currently, WFCO's corporate partner list includes: Comcast; Wells Fargo; The Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado; Holme, Roberts and Owen LLP Attorneys at Law.

What is the Status Project?

The WFCO launched *The Status Project: Women & Girls in Colorado*, to track the progress of Colorado women and girls in key areas affecting economic self-sufficiency. The WFCO's goal is that, with leadership from WFCO, the findings will lead to social change at the state, local and community levels. To read the reports, visit The WFCO's Web site, www.wfco.org.

What is the Gender Matters annual luncheon?

This is The WFCO's largest fund-raiser that brings more than a thousand donors, friends, community leaders and corporate sponsors together. In 2005, Kathy Najimy, actress and activist, was the key-note speaker. She is actively involved in multiple organizations working to impact various girl's and women's issues.

In past years, Jane Fonda, Madeleine Albright, Mavis Leno, Lauren Bacall, Hillary Clinton and Christine Todd Whitman have been key-note speakers at the annual luncheon.

When is this year's Gender Matters annual luncheon?

The 17th Annual luncheon will be November 2 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Denver, featuring Madame Jehan Sadat as the key note speaker. Check The WFCO's web site for more information, www.wfco.org.

What is a Gender Lens?

Responsiveness to gender issues includes more than serving a majority of women or girls. Using a gender lens means examining a particular issue with a focus on the real life conditions and experiences as defined by gender. If the gender is female, a gender lens puts women and girls in the center of the experience and looks for connections between gender and circumstances such as poverty, homelessness and job training.

Where can I send a donation?

WFCO accepts donations online at www.wfco.org, or you can mail a check to The WFCO offices, located in The Chambers Center: 1901 East Asbury Avenue, Denver, CO 80208, or contact The WFCO offices directly at 303.285.2960 or by fax at 303.285.2978.