



Chicago Foundation for
women

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Helping women and girls succeed

Chicago Foundation for Women raises money to fund and support organizations that help women and girls—it's all about making smarter connections between need, money and solutions. We believe that when women and girls are secure, whole communities are made better.

We are a community of people who share the excitement of giving to help women and girls thrive. We improve the lives of women and girls through **grants, advocacy, leadership development, and public and grantee education**. Since 1985, we have given more than 2,900 grants totaling nearly \$20 million and helped thousands of women and girls become philanthropists.

Our grantmaking focuses on three strategies to improve women's and girls' lives:

- **Expanding economic security**
- **Ensuring freedom from violence**
- **Enhancing access to health services and information**

We value — in ourselves and every organization we support — the core principles of **equality, empowerment, diversity, collaboration** and **integrity**.

We envision a world in which all women and girls have the opportunity to achieve their potential and live in safe, just and healthy communities.

www.cfw.org





**Chicago Foundation for
women**

Through its Leadership Councils, the Chicago Foundation for Women aims to:

- Educate the public and take action on unique issues facing diverse communities in the Foundation's areas of interest (economic self-sufficiency, freedom from violence, and access to health services and information);
- Increase awareness about the Foundation's work within diverse communities;
- Provide leadership opportunities;
- Increase the presence of underrepresented women at tables of power;
- Exercise the power of giving individually and collectively and create an understanding of philanthropy within different cultures and;
- Establish unique funds to provide additional support to the communities represented by the Councils (proceeds generated through fundraising efforts by the Councils go toward these special funds).

African American Leadership Council:

The first of the five Councils, the African American Leadership Council has produced acclaimed community-wide educational programs, and supports the Foundation's fundraising and grantmaking efforts through the Sojourner Fund. Women of African American descent promote issues affecting women and girls in their community, including advocating on behalf of civil rights.

Asian American Leadership Council:

Asian American women are in the forefront of global efforts to protect the rights of women and girls, and are responsible for the continued emergence of organizations serving the needs of their community. The most ethnically diverse of the five Councils it provides a rich understanding of various Asian cultures, and is a leading partner for collaborations with businesses and organizations serving Asian Americans. Women of Asian American descent promote interests related to women and girls within their community through this Council and have established the Silk Fund in support of this goal.

Latina Leadership Council:

The Latina Leadership Council has played a major role in providing opportunities for women and girls in their community while promoting the recognition of Latinas for their contributions to social progress in this country. This Council supports the Foundation's grantmaking and fundraising goals through the Unidas Fund, and has been proactive in educating others about their community while creating a platform to discuss issues important to them.

LBTQ Leadership Council:

The Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning (LBTQ) Council of Chicago Foundation for Women is a fundraising and grantmaking group committed to providing grants to organizations and programs that serve the lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning (LBTQ) communities. Through its Lavender Fund, the LBTQ Leadership Council is the only grantmaking entity in the city of Chicago that provides grants exclusively to the LBTQ communities, with a special focus on women and girls' access to healthcare and information, freedom from violence, and economic security. The LBTQ Leadership Council, which is inclusive of individuals who identify as LBTQ and allies, provides leadership development, educational programming and networking opportunities.

Young Women's Leadership Council:

The Young Women's Leadership Council is the largest of the five councils and consists of women of all ethnic backgrounds (ages 18 to 30). The Council's large membership speaks to the tremendous energy and eagerness of young women to organize and take action around issues affecting their lives and to gain leadership experience. The council provides networking, peer-led skill building and other leadership opportunities for its members. In addition, the Council works to promote intergenerational dialogue and partnership. Through the Young Women's Leadership Fund the council supports organizations serving girls and young women.