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2021-2022

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Dear Friends,

Just recently, when one of The Women's Fund's non-profit partners learned they had received funding from us, she wrote: "I feel the best way to fully express our deep emotion and gratitude for this incredible grant is through the direct words of a client we were able to help, who shared, *'Oh my God, this is wonderful. I'm about to cry - what a blessing. Thank you!'*"

We feel this same sense of overwhelming appreciation and gratitude towards YOU, *our friends, volunteers and donors*, for inspiring and enabling all of us at The Women's Fund to continue our work in making strategic investments in real change for women and girls throughout our community. Your commitment and understanding that we all thrive when women and girls thrive is the cornerstone of our work.

Thanks to YOU this year alone, we:

- Raised and awarded the most funds in recent history to support women and girls.
- After receiving an unprecedented increase in grant applications, provided critical funding to 37 organizations from over 20 cities and towns across the region that serve women and girls.
- Dispersed \$25,000 in emergency food insecurity grants to empower five community organizations delivering highly valuable services that safeguard Essex County's women and girls during the COVID-19 crisis and beyond.
- Made a significant investment in The Women's Fund of Essex County Support for Single Mothers Fund at Northshore Community College for the fourth consecutive year.
- Presented The Women's Fund Above and Beyond Award for Excellence of \$25,000 on behalf of our founders to Family Services of Merrimack Valley for their longstanding efforts to help children and families.
- Received the Constance M. Grasso Award from the YWCA of Greater Newburyport and the 2020 North Shore Community College Champions Award.
- Increased our communications efforts and were featured by NECN and other regional media outlets for our ongoing work and commitment to the advancement, self-sufficiency, and economic and social equity of local women and girls.

With your support, The Women's Fund has risen to meet the challenges facing women and girls and the organizations that strive to meet their economic, educational, physical, and emotional needs through the pandemic. As we hopefully move on to a more stable recovery period, we know that women's recovery will take even longer, and we will continue to be there to help them not only regroup but thrive.

As another grantee so eloquently shared with us recently, *"...all women in our program need even more than usual a sense of connection, belonging, and a squad to support them through thick and thin."*

Thank you for being part of their squad! Thank you for being a part of ours. We couldn't do any of this without you!

Trish *Wendy*

Trish Moore and Wendy Roworth
Co-Presidents
Advisory Board

Investing. Impacting.
Improving the lives of women and girls.