

JUNE 2022



WOMEN'S PARTNERSHIP FUNDS

HELP US TO HELP OTHERS

LETTER FROM THE BOARD

Happy Spring!

I hope this newsletter finds you and yours healthy and enjoying the fresh blooms or greenery in your very own landscape. It was a great introduction to the new season at the recent Extraordinary Women of Clark County Luncheon. We are glad to be back in person!

As we get back on our feet, we need your help. One of our successful endeavors has been Girls On the Run (GOTR). This afterschool program inspires girls to be joyful, healthy, and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum that creatively integrates running. Unfortunately, GOTR has recently had some setbacks, along with several other prevention and empowerment programs due to Covid restrictions. GOTR is currently in two local schools but is looking to recruit. Please advocate on behalf of your girls, your friend's girls, your neighbor's girls. The pandemic-based isolation and disconnection has taken a toll on our young women so now, more than ever, we need this programming in more schools. Read on to find out more about how this program has elevated girls and improved their social/emotional well-being over the years.

The Women's Partnership Funds have a vision that all Clark County area women and girls are self-sufficient and achieve their full potential. Connection is key and knowledge is empowering. Intentional decision-making and emotional expression allow our girls to grow into securely stable, healthy women. Healthy women, in turn, grow healthy communities.

Join us in our efforts!

Leslie Anne Crew

WPF Grants Committee Co-Chair, Board Secretary

2022 EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN OF CLARK COUNTY LUNCHEON

After a two-year hiatus, the Extraordinary Women of Clark County Luncheon returned on May 3, 2022 to recognize the honorees from 2020 and 2022.



2020

Marilyn Demma (posthumous)

Rita Lane

Shannon Kroeger-Meadows

Dr. Shirley K. Schneider (posthumous)

2022

Jo Alice Blondin, Ph.D

Christina Conover

Mary Moore



Thank you to our Mistress of Ceremonies, Krissy Brown, Arts Education Director at the Springfield Arts Council. Special thanks to our guest speakers, Stephen and Melissa Massey from CitiLookout, for sharing the important work they do for women! CitiLookout was the Women's Partnership Funds grant award recipient in 2021.

“ I volunteer because I want a stronger, more confident generation in the future.”

-Ashley Nussen, GOTR coach at Northwestern Elementary.



GIRLS ON THE RUN CHANGES LIVES.

Girls On the Run of Dayton (GOTR), a non-profit organization that inspires girls in the third through eighth grades to be joyful, healthy and confident, uses a fun experience-based curriculum that creatively integrates running. The girls do much more than train for a 5K. In addition to physical strength, they develop social and emotional skills needed for a healthy lifestyle, such as effective decision-making.

The Women’s Partnership Funds was actively involved in bringing GOTR to Clark County, awarding our first of several GOTR-related grants to the Lagonda Elementary program in 2014, which included eight girls. By 2020, the Clark County program had grown to 157 girls, from all of the Springfield City and some county schools. Programs were halted with the onset of Covid and resulting restrictions in after school activities. This spring, two programs are active in Clark County, Catholic Central and Northwestern totaling 40 girls. Planning is underway for the 2022-2023 season for Springfield City and county schools.



**Parents! College students!
School administrators!
Community members! Teachers!**

GOTR is in need of coaches committed to training and celebrating our girls. Per Ashley Nussen, “I believe in female empowerment, especially in young girls. I get as much out of it as the girls.”

VOLUNTEER HERE:

Link to Fall 2022 Site Application:
pinwheel.us/siteapplication/index/fall2022siteapp

Or email Allie Bowling, Program Coordinator at
allie.bowling@girlsontherun.org

“ I want to change the world by doing big things.”

- Jane, Clark County 5th grader.

Families and Schools Together (FAST), offered through WellSpring by Ramona Henry

Like Girls on The Run, Families and Schools Together (FAST) is a school-based, family-centered program that has been present in our community for over two decade. Designed to foster self-esteem in children, the program works collaboratively with other community organizations to strengthen protective factors against school failure, violence, delinquency and substance abuse. The key to any successful program is its people. For FAST, Ramona Henry is that key.

Ramona became involved with the FAST program at its inception in 1999 as a liaison for Springfield City Schools. She later joined WellSpring and the FAST program as its primary director. Ramona describes herself as “all about the FAST families” and is committed to better outcomes for the children.



Richele Shepard, Executive Director of WellSpring, states Ramona is “the

whole package, living a life of giving to others. When a FAST child or family has an emergency need, Ramona is there, regardless of hour of the day or day of the week. She makes their lives better by giving them the skills to make better decisions and sets an example of how to do it.”

Despite her busy professional life, Ramona still finds time for her church, mentoring for the School of Innovation and enjoying the company of family and friends.

Thank you, Ramona and WellSpring, for providing this essential effective program to our youth!

ON THE ROAD WITH MERCY HEALTH'S MOBILE MAMMOGRAPHY VAN

What does a woman with a degree in TV and radio broadcasting and a career as a Court Services Administrator in Champaign County Family Court do to reinvent herself professionally? She becomes the next Mobile Marketing Specialist for the Mercy Health Mobile Mammography Van!

Meet Ashley Evans, who is pursuing her passion for bringing essential screening health services to the underserved and underinsured women in need throughout Clark and Champaign Counties. Says Ashley, “Making sure that women are advocates for their own health is extremely important to me. That starts with making

sure they are getting their yearly checkups and mammograms. I'm excited to be an advocate for the women in Clark, Champaign and surrounding counties and making mammograms accessible to everyone.”

Mercy Health offers mobile mammography screening through the mobile mammography coach, which provides convenient 15-minute screening exams when pre-registered. No doctor's order is needed to make an appointment, and most insurances cover a yearly mammogram for women 40 or above. No-cost screens are available to those who qualify, and financial assistance options are available. For a full listing of mammography events, visit mercy.com/springfieldmobilemammo.



Would your business or organization like to host the Mercy Mammography Van at your location?

Contact Ashley at 937-523-9330, or email aevans3@mercy.com.



OUR 2020 AND 2022 EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN AND THEIR PERSONAL PROJECT JERICHO PHOTOGRAPHERS.
**THANK YOU, PROJECT JERICHO, FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF
 THE EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN OF CLARK COUNTY.**



DID YOU KNOW?

Title IX, which prohibits sex-based discrimination in schools and other education programs receiving federal funding, celebrates its 50th anniversary on June 23, 2022.

“Title IX changed my life and the life of my older sister when we joined the first-ever girls track team at our high school. Here we are with her daughter, running the Cowtown Half Marathon - 45 years later!”

Tess Spencer, WPF founding member and current board member.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I DONATE TO WPF?

Your donation goes directly to the Women’s Partnership Funds Endowment at the Springfield Foundation. What does that mean? It means that your money, combined with the amounts others have donated, is invested and managed by the Springfield Foundation. The earnings from those investments are used to fund local initiatives and programs that benefit the women and girls of Clark County.



Why donate?

Per Jagdish Singh, WPF founding member and WPF board member:

“WPF is building sustainable financing and partnerships for girls and women of Clark County. It enriches the most vulnerable, promoting truly sustainable development. Investing in girls and women creates a ripple effect that

yields multiple benefits, not only for the individual women, but also for families, communities, societies and countries. I wholeheartedly support WPF and urge everyone to support it.

Honor your mother, wife or daughter on her birthday by giving to the WPF.”

HELP US TO HELP OTHERS!

To support the Women’s Partnership Funds, visit springfieldfoundation.org and click on **DONATE NOW**.

Please identify WPF as your purpose for donating.

You can also mail checks payable to:

Springfield Foundation/WPF
 333 N. Limestone, Suite 201 • Springfield, OH, 45503



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