

ARIZONA FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN

Safety. Health. Economic Empowerment

HISTORY AND OVERVIEW

1995



Marilyn Seymann and a small group of community leaders incorporated the Foundation in 1995. The Foundation was established in response to the low rate of philanthropic giving to women's issues (around 4%).



The Foundation, once incorporated, joined other women's funds and foundations from across the nation and world (now 128) to create a "women's funding movement." Arizona Foundation for Women became a part of that movement.



The initial priorities of the Foundation were domestic violence, child abuse and teen pregnancy. Over the first 10 years, the Foundation focused predominantly on prevention of domestic violence.

1997



On April 5, 1997, the Foundation hosted its first Awards Luncheon honoring the first female Supreme Court Justice with the first Arizona Foundation for Women Award. For future years, the former Justice allowed the Foundation to honor future worthy recipients with the Award in her namesake—**Sandra O'Connor Lifetime Achievement Award**.



The Foundation made its **first grant to the American Red Cross** for the creation of a program to provide emergency transportation of domestic violence victims to shelters.

2000



In 2000, the **Men's Anti-violence Network (M.A.N.)** was created to provide a forum for men to speak to men about domestic violence. A national model at the time, the MAN organization became instrumental in launching the Governor's first conference regarding domestic violence, the first statewide anti-bullying program in elementary schools, award-winning public awareness campaigns and demonstrated competence in advocating to strength rules and laws regarding abuser accountability at the Legislature.

2002



Generation W (Gen W) began as a volunteer initiative in 2000. Generation W is an Arizona Foundation for Women Committee made up of women in their 20's and 30's who are concerned about Arizona's women and children. Generation W is committed to supporting the mission of the Foundation by positively impacting the lives of girls via mentoring and service programs.

ARIZONA FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN

Safety. Health. Economic Empowerment

HISTORY AND OVERVIEW

2003



Arizona Foundation for Women funded the first of its kind in the state, **Children's Mobile Advocacy Center** of Northern Arizona led by Childhelp USA® in partnership with the Safe Child Center at Flagstaff Medical Center. With the support of the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) law enforcement, and tribal leaders, the collaborative project between the two organizations provided a variety of services to abused children in rural Northeastern Arizona, many of whom reside on tribal reservations.

2005



In 2005, the Foundation assumed responsibility for the **Employers Against Domestic Violence Program (EADV)**. This organization, founded in 2000, was created and administered by the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) with the adoption of a regional plan to address domestic violence. EADV also initiated in 2002 the Walk to End Domestic Violence.

2006



In 2006, the Foundation assumed responsibility for the annual **Walk to End Domestic Violence**. Funds raised from this Walk, totaling over \$200,000, are distributed to Maricopa County emergency domestic violence shelters.



In 2006, the Foundation adopted a new vision statement that expanded the scope of work assumed by the Foundation. Members of the Board of Directors voted to create a "**community foundation**" model of operation that emphasized four strategic areas: philanthropy, education, research and advocacy.

2007



In 2007, the Foundation published its first research document, the **Report on the Status of Women in Arizona**, followed by the first Summit on the Status of Women in February 2007. From these two activities, the future strategic focus and work of the Foundation was articulated and the Foundation has been working to re-position and brand itself in the community as one of the key resources for women in the State of Arizona.



The Foundation won the local **Phoenix Silver Addy Award** for the top TV PSA ad for the M.A.N. "Boy to Man" commercial.

ARIZONA FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN

Safety. Health. Economic Empowerment

HISTORY AND OVERVIEW

2009



The **Angels on Patrol Donor Advised Fund** was established to support youth, who have been identified by City of Phoenix police officers and who have either been severely abused or whose caregivers are facing extreme hardship.

2011



The **Live & Learn** program was created. The Live and Learn program worked with female survivors of domestic violence, substance abuse, extreme poverty and/or homelessness to address the unique challenges they often face upon entering or re-entering the job market. Live & Learn became an independent nonprofit in 2015.

2012



Arizona Employers Against Domestic Violence (AEADV) was modeled after the Massachusetts program, and was as direct education, outreach and resources to Arizona businesses, to raise awareness about the prevalence, and impact of domestic violence in the workplace.



TRUST was established. This mission of Trust (Training & Resources United to Stop Trafficking) project was to coordinate anti-trafficking efforts in Arizona and increase public awareness about the crisis as it relates to Arizona's children. TRUST focused on:

- Media, Education and Public Awareness
- Intervention, Recovery and Empowerment
- Legislative, Judiciary and Law Enforcement
- Technology and its role in the Underground Economy

2013



In 2013, the **Kids are Not for Sale (KANFS)** program was initiated to address domestic minor sex trafficking through training, stakeholder collaboration, public awareness, and community and professional networking. KANFS also began to prevent the trafficking of children into the sex trade and increase access to services for those exploited by this crime.

ARIZONA FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN

Safety. Health. Economic Empowerment

HISTORY AND OVERVIEW

2013



The **Greater Arizona Anti-Strangulation Project (GAASP)** served as a first response-focused training program dedicated to the recognition and appropriate treatment of strangulation in intimate partner domestic violence situations. In collaboration with Scottsdale Healthcare and existing medical management services currently addressing strangulation through, GAASP targeted those who are the first-responders on domestic violence calls including law enforcement, fire personnel, prosecutors, elected officials, social workers, emergency room personnel, urgent care employees, victim advocates, and probation services to identify when strangulation has occurred, appropriately document the evidence, effectively treat the injuries, fully investigate the crime, and treat the victims with compassion and respect.

2015



On September 25, 2015, the first **SHE Talks!™** was held starting an ongoing of salon series. SHE Talks!™ is a great way to bring people together in a comfortable environment, educating the community around critical Safety, Health and Economic Empowerment issues women face.



As part of the Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee Foundation and in partnership with Arizona Coalition to End Sexual & Domestic Violence (ACESDV), **Coaching Up**, an innovative pilot program was designed to create Upstanding Men one boy at a time. Coaching UP focuses primarily on addressing the roles that high school athletics coaches play in the lives of their student-athletes and will give them the skills to teach student-athletes the values of respect, integrity and teamwork. The Coaching UP program content included subjects such as healthy relationships, confronting peer pressures, detrimental impacts of underage drinking/substance abuse and the trauma of head injuries sustained on the field.

2016



On April 1, 2016, Arizona Foundation for Women (AFW) became a **Supporting Organization of Arizona Community Foundation** to help AFW increase operational efficiencies, optimize resources, and shift from an event-based model to building its endowment through donor, cultivation, stewardship and planned giving.

ARIZONA FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN

Safety. Health. Economic Empowerment

HISTORY AND OVERVIEW

2017



The **2016 Status of Women in Arizona** research report was released.

2018



The first **Professional Advisory Committee (PAC)** was formed. The Professional Advisors Committee (PAC) provides strategic planning, guidance and support to AFW staff in its efforts to create awareness about AFW; and build relationships (outreach) with other professional advisors in order to increase current and deferred gifts for clients who are passionate about women's issues.



The **2016 Status of Women in Arizona** research report wins Print Excellence in the Books, Non-Hardbound category for the year 2017. This competition is held by the Western States Printing Alliance (WSPA) and celebrates the extraordinary craft of creating unique and amazingly beautiful printed material.

2019



The Foundation launched a non-traditional **mission-focused Membership Program** to elevate the power and potential of Arizona women today because when a woman's power and potential are respected, children and families are healthier, economies are stronger, and communities prosper. The Membership also helps bring sustaining and monthly revenue to the Foundation.



The Foundation creates its **Financial Independence Seminars** as part of the Professional Advisory Committee with a goal of introducing new people to the Foundation, providing credited seminars for professionals and helping part of our mission focus on economic empowerment.



In partnership with a local insurance agent, the Foundation introduces the **Ladies Leaving Legacies** series helping women have a thoughtful plan for their legacy. The seminars dive deep from learning how to think like an underwriter when applying for insurance, to how to read and complete forms.



Since its first grant in 2007, the Foundation has **contributed over \$2.5 million** to the community since its inception.



The Foundation relaunches its **Endowment program** with a \$5 million goal by 2020.

ARIZONA FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN

Safety. Health. Economic Empowerment

HISTORY AND OVERVIEW

2020



AFW celebrates our 25th Anniversary as a nonprofit. As a part of this milestone, a special Awards Luncheon was planned to honor the dedicated donors, supporters and volunteers who made the foundation's work possible over the year's. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the in-person Awards Luncheon was unable to occur as planned and the Foundation pivoted to holding a virtual Awards Event in June, 2020.



The **2020 Status of Women in Arizona research report** is released, providing updated data on how women in our state fare in the areas of safety, health and economic independence. Using the 2016 Report as a benchmark, we are able to see areas where change has been affected and areas where more resources and support are needed.



The City of Phoenix issues a proclamation stating that June 11, 2020 is **Dr. Marilyn R. Seymann Day**.



A **Planned Giving Director** is hired, furthering the Foundation's efforts to grow the Endowment fund.



The Foundation adopts the She LEADS women's leadership program from local business owner Catherine Alonzo and rebrands the program into **SHE Leads!™**. In this inaugural year, 30 local women graduate from the class and collectively raise over \$68,000 for women-focused nonprofits in the community.



The **AFW Young Professionals** committee forms with the mission of connecting young men and women in Arizona who are passionate about the AFW mission and are looking to develop their careers.

2021



Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, AFW was not able to safely hold an in-person Awards Luncheon this year. In a creative effort to ensure AFW's survival through a tumultuous year, the organization held the first ever **AFW Derby**. The AFW Derby was a roller derby themed virtual fundraising campaign, where past Awards honorees and local leaders competed to raise funds in support of Arizona women.



SHE Leads!™ returns for a second annual year and graduates 37 women to higher levels of leadership.



SHE Talks!™ shifts its focus to provide tangible "how to" solutions for attendees.