



Founded in 1998, The Women's Foundation makes empowerment and economic security a reality for women and girls in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area. Our mission is to foster a powerful wave of philanthropy to improve the lives of all women and girls through donor education and engagement; grantmaking and leadership development; and serving as a regional voice for women and girls. We believe in the *Power of Giving Together*.

WHAT IS THE RAINMAKERS GIVING CIRCLE?

The Rainmakers Giving Circle (RMC) is a charitable fund at The Women's Foundation; the donors serve in an advisory capacity to make recommendations regarding distribution of funds. The Rainmakers includes 20-25 women who each contribute \$5,000 over a two-year period and work together as part of a shared grantmaking and learning experience.

The mission of the giving circle is to improve the lives of young women and girls in the Greater Washington, D.C. metropolitan area by applying combined resources to support their empowerment, foster their self-esteem and achieve their full potential. The Rainmakers Circle awards grants to:

- Support programs for young women and girls (10-21) that encourage the healthy development of and prevention of risk factors among young women and girls. Although young women and girls are the target population, the Circle funds programs that include young men and boys of the same age group when their inclusion is integral to the success of the program.
- Focus on programs that empower and increase competence among young women and girls in the areas of employment, life skills, education, and health.
- Contribute to programs where the grants make a significant impact in the continuation, expansion or enhancement of the program.

PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES

- We are promoting a new philanthropy model among women.
- The Rainmakers Giving Circle is a two-year partnership between members and The Women's Foundation.
- All grantees of the Rainmakers Giving Circle become part of the Women's Foundation's Grantee Partner community and constituency.
- Grantmaking will begin when \$40,000 in funds is secured and will be distributed as follows:
 - 80% in grants to organizations that improve the lives of women and girls in the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area;
 - 20% invested in Washington Area Women's Foundation and its activities, to ensure the continued availability of a community resource for women and girls in the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area. The investment is used to support The Women's Foundation's core activities of customized technical assistance to Grantee Partners, donor education and engagement, grantmaking, and public awareness programs.