

BucksWomen

The Bucks County Women's Fund, Inc.

Volume 13, Number 1

Work with the county's best and brightest to make a difference for women and girls.

From the Executive Director

Many parents fondly reminisce about their child's first year of life while commenting how quickly those 365 days went by.

In many ways, I have similar feelings about my first year as Executive Director for the Bucks County Women's Fund. I'm very proud of the work that I have been part of during the past 12 months, and at the same time, it seems as if it was just yesterday that I was meeting leaders of women's funds from all across the globe at the Women's Funding Network's annual conference in Toronto.

During the past year, one of our goals has been to try and make connections in a more personalized way. Whether it's through a handwritten invitation to an event or a one-on-one conversation about opportunities to make a difference in your support of the fund, we're working hard to succeed in this effort.

We're also reaching out to the larger community. As I talk about the great work we're doing, I'm amazed at how often I hear, "Wow, I can't believe I haven't heard about your organization before." As a result, we're trying to change that by making ourselves available to talk to local civic and community groups about the work we've done for 15 years, what we're doing now, and ways to partner with us. See Page 3 for how you can arrange for a BCWF speaker to make a presentation to your group or organization.

I'm looking forward to seeing even more possibilities and opportunities for the Bucks County Women's Fund in the upcoming year.

Melissa Mojman

Violence Prevention Grants Awarded

It was an inspiring evening on March 10 as 50 friends of the fund gathered at the Cock 'n Bull to share their passion and commitment to bettering the status of all women in Bucks County.

Grants were made to two organizations that demonstrated the ability to make a difference in the lives of women faced with domestic abuse.

The first grant was awarded to Indian Valley Housing, a non-profit located in Upper Bucks. Indian Valley Housing works closely with A Women's Place and other agencies to help women find permanent housing in preparation for, or after, leaving an abuser.

A second grant, awarded to NOVA, will allow collaboration with Bucks County colleges to conduct sexual assault risk reduction outreach including education programs and training for women attending Bucks County Community College, Delaware Valley College and the Philadelphia College of Bible.

In special recognition of our founder, the Woman of Action Award was renamed in honor of Nancy Porter Morrill, who, 15 years ago, had a vision

of political, economic and social equity for all women and girls in Bucks County. Every year, women who have made a notable impact are honored. This year, we are proud to present the Nancy Porter Morrill Woman of Action Award to four former board members: Meredith Betz, Sally Fabian, Tina Paugh-Greenwood and Mary Tomlinson. We thank these stellar women for their contributions to the fund and to the community.

In addition, the Personal Achievement Award was earned by Danielle F., who benefited from prenatal care services supported by a 2004 grant from the BCWF awarded to Healthy Beginnings Plus of Doylestown. With the help of a patient care coordinator, Danielle complied with a healthy lifestyle that resulted in a positive outcome. Both Danielle and Healthy Beginnings Plus received a \$250 award for their achievement.

The Honorable Cynthia M. Rufe, guest speaker, was an inspiration to all. She spoke passionately of her commitment to the welfare of women, regardless of their position in society.



MARIJO M. MURPHY (LEFT) AND TINA PAUGH-GREENWOOD (RIGHT) OF THE ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE ENJOY THE EVENT WITH GUEST SPEAKER JUDGE CYNTHIA M. RUFÉ.

Grants in Action

In March of 2004, six grants were made to several area agencies to conduct programs with a focus on self-determination. Here's a brief update on the progress of several of those grantees:

VITA undertook a project to increase women's literacy and, at the same time, increase their knowledge of American culture and history by highlighting women in history who have demonstrated success through self-determination. So far, students have read about women including Pocahontas, Eleanor Roosevelt, Rosa Parks and Abigail Adams, and have discussed themes of bravery, overcoming handicaps, and the changing role of women in history. They are creating journals about the women they are reading about and will conclude their women's studies with a trip to two local museums.

The NOVA grant provided group counseling to 40 women in residence at Libertae to help them develop positive coping skills and to support their efforts in recovery from addiction. The first group of 13 women has completed sessions dealing with post traumatic stress disorder and addiction, coping with flashbacks, grief issues, shame and guilt, self-esteem, relationships, family concerns, intimacy, empowerment, spirituality (as related to 12 step program), future goals and information on legal/court processes. Counselors are screening additional women to determine specific needs and concerns.

The Child, Home and Community grant provided guidance

sessions for 19 high school seniors who are moms in its Transition project. Over three sessions, girls identified career plans, developed resumes and were given tips on job search techniques and interviewing skills. As a result, these young high school moms gained skills necessary to transition from school to the workforce.

Healthy Beginnings Plus of Doylestown Hospital purchased 100 copies of the comprehensive prenatal guide *Baby Basics* in English and Spanish (*Hola Bebe*). Books are being distributed to pregnant women who demonstrate a lower literacy level or who have minimal education but are attending prenatal clinics in order to give their babies the best care possible.

Futures For Women, a mentoring program designed for women students at Bucks County Community College majoring in science, math and technology, is well underway. This program has a dual focus of personal mentoring with faculty and staff and an electronic e-mentoring system. The goal of this program is to increase the interest, retention and career opportunities of women in these fields. Last fall, an outreach program attracted students; 15 faculty and staff were trained on their responsibilities as mentors in the program, which will last through this academic year.

Thanks to all of our supporters who have made possible these, and other efforts to increase the self-determination of women in Bucks County. Our struggle is far from over, but with your help, we will continue to make a difference for Bucks County women and girls.

Happenings

Bucks Women have experienced a whirlwind of activity during the fall, winter and early spring months:

- More than 40 women gathered at the home of Board President Jeanne Mantell on October 14 to support fund>>forward, an event held to broaden the awareness of BCWF and to encourage volunteering. In celebration of the BCWF's 15th anniversary, Jeanne announced a special campaign to attract 15 women to give at least \$1,000 each to help move the Bucks County Women's Fund forward into the next 15 years. Collectively, the BCWF board made the first \$1,000 gift towards this effort. We also thank Tina and Congressman Jim Greenwood for

their personal support of this initiative. To learn how you can make a gift to fund>>forward or to have your own fund>>forward gathering, contact Jeanne Mantell at 215.345.5440 or email her at info@bcwf.org.

- In addition to serving on the BCWF board and on its development and finance committees, Connie Stepan is working closely with the nominating committee in coordinating all of the BCWF's volunteer activities. To kick off this initiative, Connie and board Treasurer Dianne Magee hosted a luncheon for potential volunteers on December 2. Plans are in the works for future volunteer lunches; in the meantime, if you would like to talk with Connie about ways you can lend your time and talents to the BCWF,

email her at info@bcwf.org or call the BCWF office at 215.345.5440.

- Board President Jeanne Mantell was guest speaker at the League of Women Voters of Bucks County's annual holiday luncheon. More than 35 women were in attendance, many of whom had not heard about the BCWF prior to that morning. Special thanks to Jane Grim for the invitation and to Patti Thomas for her hospitality.
- The Sabine Rose Gallery in Doylestown was the scene for "Looking Good, Feeling Good," the BCWF's third annual cocktail party held on Saturday, February 5. While admiring the work of local contemporary artists, more than 40 guests helped us raise nearly \$2,000.

Challenge Gift Launches Fund to 'The Next Step'

During the Bucks County Women's Fund's earliest years, the board launched an ambitious campaign called First Step Funders to provide the financial means and resources needed for the BCWF to grow.

Now we're ready to take **The Next Step**.

With the help of a generous challenge gift offered by BCWF founder (and current board member) Nancy Morrill and her husband Bill, we are proud to launch **The Next Step Challenge**. Between now and October 2005, every \$2.00 designated to this campaign will be matched by \$1.00 from the Morrills, up to a total of \$1,500. Next Step dollars will be used primarily to upgrade the efficiency and enhance the functionality of the BCWF's office, especially in terms of equipment, resources, and technology.

"We need to build our capacity and infrastructure so that we can improve our ability to meet the needs of

women and girls in Bucks County," explained Nancy Morrill. "Bill and I hope that this challenge grant will encourage others to consider giving a gift today in order to provide the means for a stronger tomorrow."

Individual, corporate, and foundation gifts designated towards The Next Step Challenge are all eligible to be matched by the Morrills' gift.

Contributions may be mailed to The Bucks County Women's Fund, P.O. Box 1617, Doylestown, PA 18901. Indicate on your check or enclose a note stating that your contribution should be designated for this effort. (Without this designation, gifts automatically will be allocated towards the Annual Fund.)

If you have questions about The Next Step Challenge or would like additional information, please call 215.345.5440 or send an email to info@bcwf.org.

BucksGirls

The New Grant Focus

For good reason, because the older they get, the more challenges they face. And that's reason enough for Bucks Women to become more involved with helping Bucks Girls gain a voice within the community. Our response is to focus on Bucks Girls throughout the year until grants are awarded in March 2006.

There is no question that our girls need to feel safe and secure; they also need the emotional and social support which gives them the strength and confidence to resist peer and media pressures that encourage an undisciplined lifestyle; one that often leads to drugs, alcohol and tobacco as well as eating disorders, and behavior and truancy problems.

Never underestimate Bucks Girls; they've got the right stuff. Consider their pursuit of greater knowledge in science, technology, engineering and math, and the ability to manage personal finances and understand the importance of community involvement. With support and encouragement, they have what it takes to meet future challenges no matter how difficult.

Bucks Women take pride in announcing this new focus on grant giving for the next 12 months; a focus entirely on Bucks Girls and their physical, emotional and social well-being. By announcing this year-long focus, our intent is to give you a greater opportunity to join us in working toward our goal.

We need your generous support to face this challenge; your involvement is critical as Bucks Women address the needs of Bucks Girls through their membership on our board, through educational programs, and through the good works provided by our grantees.

And we look to area social service agencies to propose strong, innovative programs that support girls in areas such as education, health, career planning and with regard to social issues including body image and self-esteem.

Bucks Girls need to be heard; please help us give them a louder voice where it counts, right here, in our own county.

BCWF Offers Speakers

Do you need a keynote speaker for your group, organization, meeting or event?

The Bucks County Women's Fund can provide presenters with a wealth of professional knowledge to speak about the fund itself, or make presentations on a variety of other topics, including finance and estate planning as they relate to women.

For details, send an email to info@bcwf.org, or call the office phone at 215.345.5440.

Making Your Mark: A New Trend in Philanthropy

A new trend in philanthropy is emerging: wealthy women are deciding quickly and immediately to give a significant portion of their wealth to important causes...and to be recognized for it. In the past, it was not uncommon for women to take time to analyze which causes they wanted to support, and even then, many contributed in the form of a bequest and did so anonymously.

According to the cover story in the *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*, times are changing and the approach women's funds are taking to raise money is changing as well.

"Rather than saying 'women are victims, they should be

supported', we're now talking about how to bring women to the table. Women have the answers. It's not about handouts, it's about building assets and investing in your community," says Christine Grumm, CEO of the Women's Funding Network (WFN), a San Francisco-based umbrella organization with more than 100 member funds worldwide, including the Bucks County Women's Fund.

What follows is an excerpt from *Power of the Purse: Self-Made Women are Making Their Mark on Philanthropy* by Holly Hall, cover story in *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*, March 10, 2005:

THE CHRONICLE OF PHILANTHROPY

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE NONPROFIT WORLD

Few charities are doing all they can to cultivate donors..., experts say, but as more women are earning big sums and reaching the stage in their careers when they have achieved significant success, they have the potential to make a far-reaching impact on philanthropy. Already, several female executives have made their mark... They are among the first wave of women who are earning fortunes in professions and businesses that have long been dominated by men...

The changing demographics of wealth in the United States mean that fund raisers should think more about how to reach out to successful women, experts say. Anne Mosle, president of the Washington Area Women's Foundation, says nonprofit causes of all kinds need to "get more savvy about approaching this generation of women..."

Christine Grumm, chief executive officer of the Women's Funding Network, says that in the past decade she has seen more willingness among women to make record-breaking gifts publicly. "I have seen fewer and fewer anonymous gifts," she says. "These women have found their own voice."

Beth Sawi, who retired in 2001 from

Charles Schwab, where she served as chief administrative officer, says she has become less reluctant to attach her name to gifts. "Putting your name on something is a way of influencing things," she says. "You can stand for something and attract others..."

Charities are focusing on several characteristics successful women have in common. Among them:

A desire to help others advance. Successful businesswomen understand the importance of economic self-sufficiency and share an interest in helping others achieve financial independence, says Rosemary Mitchell, executive director of the Women's Foundation of Genesee Valley...

An appreciation of philanthropy's business benefits. In addition to helping others, successful businesswomen increasingly offer the same reason men do when they explain why they give: Philanthropy is good for the bottom line.

"It has made my business much more successful - this was a byproduct I never expected," says Nancy Richards of her philanthropy. Ms. Richards, founder of First Preston Management, a real-estate management company in Dallas, says she gives hundreds of thousands of dollars each year through

her company, which has 400 employees. "I've had charities and community stakeholders write fabulous letters on our behalf that were unsolicited," Ms. Richards says. "They tell people what a great company we have..."

The ability to demand impact and control. Ms. Kelly, the Smith College fund raiser, says that she sees a difference not just in professional women versus those who inherited their money but also in younger women, who are more likely than older generations to have work experience.

"Older women trust us implicitly, but younger women want a say in how their money is used," says Ms. Kelly. "They really want to make an impact."

As a result, such women - like younger donors in general - often want to be hands-on contributors who expect to be actively involved in shaping the projects and organizations they support, fund raisers say. They tend to put most of their donations into a single cause or a limited number of charities to achieve the most significant results possible, and to do more for their causes than simply write checks...

Many Thanks to Our Generous Contributors

The BCWF sincerely thanks the following individuals, businesses and organizations which have contributed generously to the Bucks County Women's Fund between September 1, 2004 and March 10, 2005.

Although every attempt is made to ensure names are correct, errors occasionally occur. Please let us know of any inaccuracies by calling 215.345.5440 or by sending an email to info@bcwf.org. Many thanks for your continued support.

Barbara S. Abbott
 Helen Adam
 John K. and Eleonora K. Adams
 Peggy H. Adams
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In-kind donations have been received from the following:

Chef Bruce Deem & Waterlilies Côté and Co.
 Nancy P. and William A. Morrill

The following individuals have designated their contributions for the Carolyn Marks Fund for Social Justice:

Constance B. and Mark S. Karasow
 Rona H. and William Leighton
 Joan H. and Alan M. Non
 Shirley Milgram-Perkel
 Elizabeth and Winfield A. Tatham

Special thanks to

Rita Cummins Sappenfield

Business Consultant

for her generous contribution towards the publication of this newsletter.

Women's Calendar of Events

Spring 2005

APRIL

- April 7 *Showcase Your Business*, Aldie Mansion, Doylestown. Sponsored by the CBCC Women in Business Committee. For info call 215-348-3913.
- April 8 *Staying Young*, presented by Dr. Sherry Zaffrin, 12:30-1:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Women's Center. BCCC Rollins 118A. For info call 215-968-8015.
- April 15 *Women in Computing*, presented by Doreen Cornell, 12:30-1:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Women's Center. BCCC Rollins 118A. For info call 215-968-8015.
- April 17 Sing Out Loud and Proud, gala concert to benefit the Rainbow Room. Presented at New Hope-Solebury High School by Planned Parenthood Association of Bucks County. For info call 215-785-4594.
- April 21 *Uncivil Servants: Women Soldiers, Spies and Sailors in the Civil War*, presented by Mary Shafer, Noon-1 p.m. Sponsored by the Women's Center. BCCC, Rollins 118A. For info call 215-968-8015.
- April 22 *Meditation Made Easy*, presented by Lori Alexander, 12:30-1:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Women's Center. BCCC, Rollins 118A. For info call 215-968-8015.
- April 28 *Are You Your Own Worst Enemy?*, presented by Ellen Cahill, 12:30-1:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Women's Center. BCCC, Rollins 118A. For info call 215-968-8015.
- April 28 Dining Out for Life, co-sponsored by Planned Parenthood Association of Bucks County. For info, including a list of participating area restaurants, call 215-785-4594.
- April 30 10th Annual Chocolate Lover's Fantasy and Auction. Sponsored by A Woman's Place. Bucks County Community College. For info call 215-343-9241.

MAY

- May 1 **BCWF Mad Hatter's Tea Party and Auction, Occasions, New Hope.** Silent auction, raffles and Hat Fashion Show by Sayde Rose. Catered by Memorable Affairs. For info call 215-345-5440.
- May 5-7 AAUW Annual Book Sale, Andrew's Hall, Doylestown Presbyterian Church. For info call 215-230-8330.
- May 22-28 Older American's Health Week. Sponsored by the Older Women's League. For info call 800-825-3695.

PLAN AHEAD:

- July 13-16 Business and Professional Women/USA National Conference, networking, professional, career and personal development opportunities. Wyndham at Franklin Square, Philadelphia. Sponsored by BPW/USA. For info call 202-293-1100 x172.
- October A Day For All Women at BCCC. Call BCCC Women's Center 215-968-8015.

ONGOING:

- Bucks County Branch of the National Council of Jewish Women meets on Thursday evenings in members' homes to discuss grass roots advocacy for women. For info call Eleanor Levie at 215-340-5027.
- Bucks County Women's Business Forum meets twice a month in Doylestown. For meeting dates, times and information, visit www.womensbusinessforum.org.
- Bucks Promise for Youth & Communities meets monthly. For info call Maggie Marcopul at 215-244-7606.
- Networking groups for cancer patients and their families. For info call Gilda's Club at 215-441-3290.
- Women's Economic Justice Committee meets monthly. For info call AWP at 215-343-9241.

If your women's organization would like to add an event to this calendar, which also is updated periodically on the www.bcwf.org web site, please send an email to bcwomensfund@comcast.net or Jacobsen@bbbsbc.org.

Join Us on Sunday, May 1 at Occasions for the Mad Hatter's Tea Party and Auction

Sunday, May 1, 2005

1:00–3:00 p.m.

Occasions

Union Square, New Hope, PA

\$30 Admission Includes:

- 25 tickets for special chance items
 - Silent auction bidding
 - Hat Fashion Show by Sayde Rose
 - Elegant catering by Memorable Affairs
- (Admission is \$40 at the door.)

If you've enjoyed the Mad Hatter's Tea Party and Auction in the past (and even if you've never attended) you're sure to love it this year! For the first time, the auction will be held at Occasions, located in Union Square adjacent to the James A. Michener Art Museum, in the heart of New Hope.

Take the winding staircase or elevator to the courtyard featuring potted trees, a fountain waterfall and sculpture. You're welcome to enjoy a cocktail here (from the cash bar) or indoors as you stroll through the collection of Jack Rosen photographs and vibrant artwork of Sally Chase.

Tea will include a beautiful variety of hors d'oeuvres catered by Memorable Affairs including bleu cheese stuffed apricots with walnuts, French quiches topped with sesame cream sauce and Swedish meatballs in traditional dill sour cream sauce, just to name a few of the temptations.

As usual, a large number of creative, hand-selected baskets, groupings and services will be raffled and available for silent bidding. Your \$30 admission includes 25 tickets for the raffle items, silent auction bidding, a hat fashion show by Sayde Rose, Doylestown's premier provider of fine hats and accessories, and all the accoutrements provided at Occasions. Wear your favorite hat to participate in our hat contest—prizes awarded to fancy hats and best creative theme.

Be sure to put Sunday, May 1, from 1 to 3 p.m. on your calendar and send in the reservation form by April 20 to reserve your place.

Special thanks to our premier event sponsor Jack Skudris of Memorable Affairs, Inc., and Randi Block of Sayde Rose Hats & Fine Accessories.

For information: Contact Jeanne Mantell at 215.348.3317 or jeannemantell@comcast.net



Reservations: Mad Hatter's Tea Party and Auction

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (W): _____ Phone (H): _____

Number of admissions _____ at \$30 each. (Admission is \$40 at the door.)

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ payable to: The Bucks County Women's Fund.

I prefer to pay by credit card (circle one): Mastercard Visa Credit card #: _____

Signature: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Please mail your reservation to: The Bucks County Women's Fund, P.O. Box 1617, Doylestown, PA 18901

Your name will be listed at the door.

BucksWomen

The Bucks County Women's Fund, Inc.

215.345.5440 > P.O. Box 1617, Doylestown, PA 18901 > www.bcdf.org

The Bucks County Women's Fund (BCWF) is a 501(c)3 non-profit public foundation managed by women and supporting programs that provide the missing links to quality of life for women and girls throughout the county. We seek to create, maintain and administer an endowment solely for the purpose of making grants to organizations empowering and serving the needs of Bucks County women.

You can help make a difference for women and girls by sending a contribution and/or by volunteering your expertise to the Bucks County Women's Fund. For more information, call 215.345.5440 or visit www.bcdf.org.

A copy of the BCWF official registration and financial information may be obtained from the PA Dept. of State by calling toll free (if within PA) 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

The BCWF is a member of the Women's Funding Network.

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- Contributors:** Melissa Firman, Jeanne Mantell

Give More With Escript

If you shop at Genuardi's, please take a minute to stop by the courtesy counter or visit www.escrip.com to register as a supporter of the Bucks County Women's Fund. You can select BCWF to receive a percentage of your purchase every time you shop using your courtesy card. Check www.escrip.com for more details. Your purchases can add up to hundreds of extra dollars for the women and girls of Bucks County.

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