Every day The Atlanta Women’s Foundation strives to make an impact in the lives of women and girls by removing barriers and inspiring them to reach their highest potential. This year has been like no other. The Covid-19 pandemic has changed daily life for our families, community, and world. Since March, our staff transitioned to working from home and our fundraising events and programming have been held virtually – but **thanks to you**, our impact on the community remained strong.

Because of you, AWF continued to fund programs providing childcare, career coaching, financial literacy training, business loans, higher education, and more. In March, AWF launched an emergency Covid-19 relief fund for our grantee partners and the women they serve. **Thanks to you**, AWF was able to deploy an additional **$120,000** in emergency funding, providing basic needs during this public health crisis.

AWF will continue to listen to and meet the critical needs of our grantee partners and the women they serve. On behalf of the Board of Directors, our grantee partners, and the women and girls served by AWF, we thank you for supporting our mission to be a catalyst for change in the lives of women and girls! Together, we will get through this and continue to **break barriers and build women**.

**IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON WOMEN**

The Covid-19 pandemic is a gender, race, and social equity issue. Women make up more the 60% of minimum wage workers, are more likely to be single parents, and are more likely to take on unpaid caretaking roles. Additionally, women comprise more of the healthcare workers and child care workforce who are on the frontlines of this public health crisis.

**Due to Covid-19, U.S. women are experiencing higher rates of unemployment. More women than men lost their jobs from February to May — 11.5 million to 9 million**

(Pew Research Center)

**DECLINE IN U.S. EMPLOYMENT FOR WOMEN DUE TO COVID-19**

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**AWF COVID-19 RESPONSE**

To meet the immediate needs of women in our community, AWF granted $120,000 in emergency relief funding to six organizations providing:

- **Mortgage and rental assistance for women led households**
- **Shelter operations and medical care for homeless women**
- **Food and grocery assistance for families**
- **Increased case management and counseling services**
- **Sanitation supplies and Personal Protective Equipment**

**KARI B. LOVE, CEO**

(Pew Research Center)
Grant programs serve women and girls living at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines. AWF supports organizations improving the lives of economically vulnerable women and girls in Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Fulton, and Gwinnett counties.

**THE POWER OF YOUR SUPPORT**

On her first day of college, Natalie* learned that she was pregnant. Her parents struggled to help her make ends meet, and halfway through her first semester, she dropped out of school. Natalie worried about her fate and the future for her child. She worked part time at a grocery store while raising her child but vowed by her child’s third birthday she “would be doing something with her life.” Two months before their third birthday, Natalie found AWF grantee partner, Year Up Atlanta. There she learned the business, writing, and interpersonal skills required to succeed in corporate America. In a few months’ time, she landed her first internship. She flourished and continued to be given additional responsibilities. Three-months into her internship, Natalie was offered a permanent position as a help desk analyst. “I was close to tears,” she recalled. “It was something I not only needed, but really wanted.” Natalie is excited about her new career and bright future for her child.

*Pseudonym used to protect grantee client
Congratulations to the Inspire Atlanta Class of 2020!

Inspire Atlanta at the Poverty Simulation on February, 1 2020. This class pivoted to all virtual programming and raised a total of $245,000 for AWF grants!

Impact Circle
Britt Chandler
Markeisha Constant
April Echols
Tavia Holloway
Victoria Langton
Charaun Little
Joanne Louis
Aja Martin
Erin McCandless
Victoria Powell
Tiffany Russell
Melissa Rutten
Monica Scott
Keisha Simmons
Jessica Wallace
Sara Weldegebriel
Velma Wright

Influence Circle $5,000+
Lea Clanton
Caitlin Crutchfield
Bri’el Gordon
Cynthia Gordon
Sophia Jones
Hannah Beth
Millman
Kristen Morris
Megha Parikh
Nikita Trivedi
Rebecca Christian
Smith
Amal Yusuf

Inspiration Circle $10,000+
Bianca Cooper
Lauren Creekmur
Jordana Crow
Kristen Delphos
Gail Flanigan

Pathway Visionary $10,000+
Elizabeth K. Blake
Delia Cochran
Edie Cofrin
Deborah Goodman
Margaret Graff
Sarah Howard
Meredith Leapley
Dr. Linah A. Neighbors & Mr.
Matthews B. Jollay
SUSAN PUETT
Bentina Chisolm
Terry
John and Sue Wieland

Empowerment Leaders $2,500+
Alice H. Ball
Marcy A. Bass
Fiona Bell
Gwendolyn Byrd
Carol Z. Cooper
Britton Edwards
Steven Fisher
Mr. David Garrison and Dr. Martha Garrison
Lori Gelchion
Mary Gill
Paula Goodman
Libby Gozansky
Jennifer Hightower

What supporting AWF means to Sarah...

“From the moment I first learned about The Atlanta Women’s Foundation, I’ve been drawn to and inspired by its mission. The research is clear, investing in women and girls is a critical part of building a strong and resilient society, culture, democracy, and economy. AWF’s relentless commitment to this mission is demonstrated through the success of its many grant and leadership programs. I had the privilege of participating in the Inspire Atlanta program, where I was able to see firsthand the lifechanging impact that AWF has every day. Supporting the work of The Atlanta Women’s Foundation in an effort to improve the lives of economically challenged women and girls is an easy fit for my own personal values. I trust their strategic approach, data driven initiatives, and commitment to fulfilling human potential through their programming.”

Catalyst Society donations include unrestricted funds from individuals not related to event sponsorships, circles, or tickets.

Applications for the 2021 class of Inspire Atlanta open this October! Apply at atlantawomen.org

View the entire catalyst society list at atlantawomen.org