

2022 VIRTUAL SUMMIT



**Women's
Foundation**
FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA



WHO WE ARE

The concept for WFSA began in 1991 when two Tucson women, tired of philanthropy's failure to address the economic challenges facing women, decided to take matters into their own hands. With \$20,000, Melody Robidoux and Harriet Silverman launched their idea for a women's scholarship fund in Tucson, recognizing that women faced a myriad of economic challenges, high rates of poverty, and systemic barriers to self-sufficiency and opportunity – and, that philanthropy was failing to address any of these issues. It quickly became apparent that the need was greater than anyone could have imagined, so in 1992, Melody and Harriet officially established the Southern Arizona Women's Fund at the Tucson Community Foundation.

For over 20 years, WFSA was sustained by passionate and dedicated volunteers, board members, and typically only one or two staff members at a time. As the foundation grew, the organization evolved, with four key pillars guiding the vision of WFSA: research, grantmaking, advocacy, and leadership development.

As the team grew, so did the impact. Award-winning programs like Unidas grew over the years, and new leadership development programs were created. WFSA grantmaking steadily increased, with more than \$20M awarded to over 600 organizations to date. WFSA research helped inform people across the state, and the growing focus on advocacy led to WFSA advising the Executive Office and passing legislation that can help hundreds of thousands of Arizonans

In 2021, as WFSA celebrated 30 years of impact, we could not ignore what was becoming increasingly apparent: after watching the pandemic destroy decades of momentum for women, it is essential that we scale our work to impact women and girls across Arizona. With a team that had grown to 18 under the leadership of CEO Dr. Amalia Luxardo, WFSA announced in October 2021 that we were expanding our scope to include the whole state, and changing our name to The Women's Foundation for the State of Arizona. WFSA's first statewide grant, the Women & Girls of Color Fund, was launched that same year and was Arizona's first grant specifically designed to support organizations led by and serving women of color.

We are proud of our Southern Arizona roots and will continue to invest in the region as we build relationships with other Arizona communities. While our geography has expanded and our brand has evolved, our commitment to gender equity remains.

Today, WFSA is as determined as ever to ensure women and girls of all identities in Arizona have the opportunity to thrive.

Susan M. Gray
President and CEO



POWERING OPPORTUNITY

A diverse, gender-balanced workforce promotes the healthy exchange of ideas and drives greater productivity and creativity. That's why Tucson Electric Power works so hard to develop, attract and retain talented women employees through STEM education efforts, targeted mentorships and workplace initiatives like our Women in Energy program. By creating more career opportunities for women, we're energizing our workforce and building a better, stronger community.



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Tucson Electric Power



OUR VISION

An Arizona where women and girls of all identities thrive.

OUR MISSION

WFSA innovates to create social, political, and economic change that achieves equity for women and girls.

OUR VALUES

- **Unapologetically mission-focused**
- **Rooted in truth**
- **Centered in humanity**
- **Led by lived experience**
- **Transformational in aim and approach**



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



WE RESEARCH



WE INNOVATE



The Women's Foundation for the State of Arizona innovates to create social, political, and economic change that achieves equity for women and girls of all identities.



WE ADVOCATE



WE INVEST

EVENT AGENDA

SPEAKERS

RESEARCH

11 A.M.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY
STANDARD AND
BENEFITS CLIFF

Gauri Gladish, Director of Research and Advocacy
Lisa Manzer, Director | Center for Women's Welfare
Annie Kucklick, Researcher | Center for Women's Welfare

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

11:30 A.M.

PATHWAYS
PROGRAM FOR
SINGLE MOMS

Lorie Sandaine, Chief Operations Officer
Aretha Varner, Pathways for Single Moms Participant

UNIDAS

Daniela Maya, Unidas Program Manager
Leslie Fragozo, Unidas Participant

IMPACT PRESENTATION & KEYNOTE

11:45 A.M.

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS
CENTURY FUND
GIVING COLLECTIVE

Dr. Amalia Luxardo, Chief Executive Officer

KEYNOTE
PRESENTATION

Nicole Lynn Lewis, Founder | Generation Hope

ADVOCACY

12:30 P.M.

WE NETWORK
ADVOCACY COALITION
LEGISLATIVE KICKOFF

Michael Abramson III, Advocacy Coordinator

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

1:15 P.M.

ANNUAL FUND GRANTEE PARTNERS
WOMEN & GIRLS OF COLOR FUND

Chloe Silva, VP of Community Impact

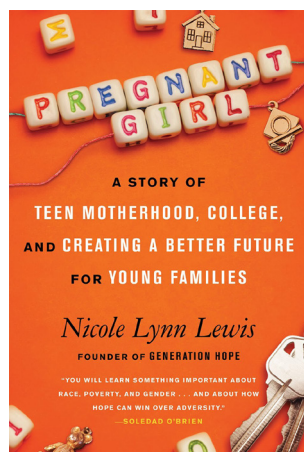
GUEST OF HONOR

Nicole Lynn Lewis *Keynote Speaker*

A former teen mother who put herself through the College of William & Mary with her three-month-old daughter in tow, Nicole now works every day to change the statistic that less than 2% of teen mothers will earn their degrees before age 30. Nicole has been featured on major news outlets including "Good Morning America," CNN, "NBC Nightly News," and The Washington Post. Nicole also serves as an Ascend National Advisor with the Aspen Institute and is a nationally known author and speaker. Her critically acclaimed book, *Pregnant Girl*, was released in May 2021 by Beacon Press.



Pregnant Girl presents the possibility of a different future for young mothers—one of success and stability—in the midst of the dismal statistics that dominate the national conversation. Along with her own story as a young Black mother, Nicole Lynn Lewis weaves in those of the men and women she's worked with to share a new perspective on how poverty, classism, and systemic racism impact teen pregnancy and on how effective programs and equitable policies can help teen parents earn college degrees, have increased opportunity, and create a legacy of educational and career achievements in their families.



Purchase your copy at <http://nicolelynnlewis.com/pregnant-girl>

ANNUAL GRANTS

Emerge Center Against
Domestic Abuse

Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.

Innovation for Justice
Program at the University
of Arizona James E. Rogers
College of Law

Planned Parenthood
Arizona, Inc.

Community Investment
Corporation

WOMEN AND GIRLS OF COLOR FUND

YWCA Southern Arizona

PLAN (Phoenix Legal Action
Network)

Beyond the Hurt

Cihuapactli Collective

Black Lives Matter Phx
Metro

2022 WFSA PARTNERS

UNIDAS TEEN PROGRAM GRANTEES

Equality AZ

Mariposas Sin Fronteras

Southern Arizona Gender
Alliance

100 Angels Foundation

BENEFITS CLIFF PARTNERS

Dress for Success (Phoenix)

JobPath (Tucson)

Sahuarita Food Bank &
Community Resource Center



SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to those who
made this
event possible.

PRESENTING SPONSOR



FIRST TIME SPONSOR

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