

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE ACTION FUND REPORT

REPORT BY WOMEN'S WAY



2017-2021

**SPECIAL THANKS TO:
ALL OUR GRANTEES
FOR MAKING THIS
REPORT POSSIBLE**

IRAF EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



OVER 20,000 WOMEN AND GIRLS SERVED

The Immediate Response Action Fund (IRAF) addresses urgent and unanticipated needs of organizations or programs that primarily serve women and girls. From receiving a completed application to communicating a decision – the IRAF grant review process is completed in 10 business days. No other foundation in the region is responding this rapidly.



of applications received: 96



Amount Requested: \$890,472



of grants awarded: 33



Amount Awarded: \$278,940

GRANTS UP TO \$10,000 FOR A PERIOD OF UP TO 12 MONTHS

Pillars Addressed by Grants Awarded*

- 82% Economic Self-Sufficiency and Justice
- 33% Safety Against Gender-Based Violence
- 33% Reproductive Justice and Sexual Health
- 21% Leadership Development of Girls and Young Women

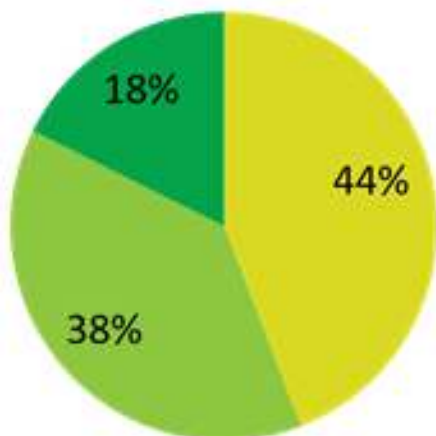
**Some grants address more than one pillar*

Counties served by Grants Awarded*

- Philadelphia - 63%
- Chester - 27%
- Bucks - 18%
- Montgomery - 9%
- Delaware - 3%

**Some grantees serve more than one county*

Unanticipated Need



- Operational expense
- Increase in demand
- Loss of funding

The most frequently funded unanticipated need was operational expenses that helped organizations to continue programming. Many funders will not support operational expenses, which could account for the overwhelming need for these funds.

BACKGROUND

After the 2016 presidential election, an unforeseen series of actions and policies by our government took place that undermined the health and safety of women, girls, and the gender-diverse community in our region, state, and country. WOMEN'S WAY rapidly responded by launching the Immediate Response Action Fund (IRAF) on June 22, 2017. This nimble and agile grantmaking program is designed to quickly address unanticipated and urgent needs of women and girls in the greater Philadelphia region.

The IRAF grant application and evaluation processes allow WOMEN'S WAY to assess urgent situations more thoroughly and quickly, and determine how to respond most effectively. From receiving a completed application to communicating a decision – the IRAF grant review process is completed in 10 business days. No other foundation in the region is responding this quickly.

The inspiration for the creation of IRAF came from a funding request from Take Action Philly, a consortium of 7 legal nonprofits in Philadelphia that wanted to hold an information session for lawyers about what they could do in response to the "travel ban." Approved in just 72 hours, funding was allocated and resulted in 500 lawyers attending the information session and 250 lawyers being trained to provide pro bono legal services to immigrants and refugees in the Greater Philadelphia region.

WOMEN'S WAY designed the application process to be non-cumbersome, with just 6 questions on the application form. The applications are then reviewed by a committee with a minimum of 5 reviewers. The committee submits their evaluations to staff who make a decision based on their input and then asks the committee for final approval.

89%

of applicants surveyed

felt the questions on the application were clear

felt the application process was fast and efficient

felt the application instructions were easy to understand

CRITERIA

Urgent and Unanticipated: the specific event, opportunity, or challenge that the organization is responding to must be unanticipated and must require urgent action. Some examples of unanticipated events include, but are not limited to: a sudden increase in demand for services, an unexpected loss of funding, or unforeseen physical damage to a structure preventing services from being provided

Focus on WOMEN'S WAY Four Core Pillars: the proposal must be in response to an unexpected moment or opportunity to address the needs of women and girls in one of the following four areas:

- Advancing reproductive justice and sexual health
- Increasing safety against gender-based violence
- Promoting economic self-sufficiency & justice
- Developing the leadership of girls and young women

Demographics: the program/service that the organization is requesting IRAF funds to support must primarily serve women and/or girls

Geographic: the organization must provide services in one or more of the following counties – Philadelphia, Bucks, Montgomery, Chester, Delaware, Camden, Burlington, Gloucester

Opportunity for Intervention: the grant funds must be able to have an immediate impact on the defined issue

Organizations: must be a nonprofit that is determined to be a tax-exempt organization under sections 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or have a fiscal sponsor. WOMEN'S WAY cannot grant to individuals. Organizations must affirm that they do not have any policies, programs, services or advocacy that conflicts with WOMEN'S WAY's positions on issues, specifically our belief that women should have access to the full range of reproductive health care, including abortion

Priority is given to requests from organizations that are addressing issues disproportionately impacting low-income and vulnerable women and girls, and communities of color. Priority is also given to organizations with an annual budget of less than \$2 million.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Rapid response funding is critical to prevent disruption of essential, life-saving services for women and children
- Agile and rapid funding is essential to address unanticipated and sudden increases in demand of services for subpopulations of women and girls
- Economic self-sufficiency is the most frequent area of need and most funded pillar
- The most common unanticipated need is for operational expenses: capital improvements, moving expenses, temporary relocation
- Funding unexpected operational expenses helped build the sustainability of grantees by strengthening their capacity to provide ongoing services, improve quality of services, expand services, engage more volunteers, and leverage additional funding
- Of low income populations served, the highest demand for funding came from incarcerated / re-entering women
- A simple and brief application process enables more grassroots and smaller nonprofits to submit proposals and secure grants

Grantee quote

"We are deeply grateful for the support of the WOMEN'S WAY Immediate Response Action Fund, which will enable us to continue to offer peer support services to women who are currently residing at Riverside Correctional Facility (RCF). Bridges to Home will also be able to provide necessities like clothing and furniture to women who are exiting RCF and working to rebuild their lives. The speed with which we were able to go through the IRAF process is stunning, and your understanding of how important it was for us to close the gap created by an unexpected funding shortfall enabled us to continue to be a stabilizing presence for women who are justice involved." - Catherine Sui, (former) Director of Development of Mental Health Partnerships

GRANTEES & IMPACT*

HIAS PA, \$10,000: Expanded capacity to provide desperately needed immigration legal services to immigrant victims of domestic violence in Chester County

- Provided free immigration legal services to 30 Chester County immigrant victims of domestic violence
- Received a two-year fellowship to fund a full-time, bi-lingual immigration attorney to serve Chester County immigrant victims of domestic violence
- Developed relationships within the Chester County law enforcement that made things smoother and less stressful for immigrant victims to report crimes
- Leveraged additional funds to support two full-time Chester County immigration legal service providers

“This grant enables us to immediately respond to our lengthy and growing wait-list of Chester County immigrant survivors of domestic violence. We are so grateful to be able to provide these critically needed services at a moment when doing so will have the greatest impact.” - Cathryn Miller-Wilson, Executive Director

Orion Communities, \$10,000: Addressed increased needs for case management and emergency financial assistance for woman experiencing economic insecurity

- Served 43% more clients, helping with shelter, transportation, clothing, food, and access to medical care – 900 households / 2300 individuals
- Following stabilization of families, provided financial coaching, parenting and life skill building for single mothers, digital literacy training and a book/computer giveaway program

“Emergency assistance is what Orion Communities provides to our under-resourced neighbors. But what happens when the non-profit experiences a sudden increased demand for services to help those in crisis? Orion has a variety of partners and emergency assistance funds to help struggling families. But a recent shift in focus of a partner organization increased the demand for Orion's services and critical aid. Fortunately, the WOMEN'S WAY Immediate Response Action Fund exists to fill the gap so that our women and children will be sheltered and safe.” - Kris Keller, Executive Director



**Includes only the grantees for which we have a final report*

GRANTEES & IMPACT

Community Legal Services, \$10,000: Re-launched The Working Group to Enhance Services for Incarcerated Women, allowing for coordinated advocacy for incarcerated women in Philadelphia and PA and those who have been affected by the criminal justice system

- Completed a survey of current Working Group members
- Conducted one-on-one meetings with key stakeholders, including current participants and prospective participants
- Added formerly incarcerated women to the Working Group
- Collaboratively identified priorities and goals for the revitalized Working Group
 - Parental and custody rights
 - Diversionary programs
 - Re-entry services
 - Mental health and substance abuse issues



Kick-off meeting attended by ~ 30 attendees including service providers, advocates, government officials from across Philly and formerly incarcerated activists from the People's Paper Co-op and the Re-entry Think Tank.

Photo courtesy of the People's Paper Co-op

“This funding from IRAF allows us to build a structure for the Working Group so that we can elevate the voices of women who have been in contact with the criminal justice system. By revitalizing the Working Group, we have an opportunity to collaborate with our incredible partners and community members to address the issues that affect incarcerated women and women who are struggling because of their criminal records. We are grateful to have funding for this important project.” - Debby Freedman, Executive Director

GRANTEES & IMPACT

Lutheran Settlement House, \$9,250: Continued to provide shelter and services to women and their children who are experiencing homelessness

- Successfully moved its Emergency Homeless Shelter into a new facility after unexpected lease termination
- Renovated bathrooms in the new location to be more family friendly
- The new location can accommodate 100 residents, 15 overflow guests, staffing offices, dining and commercial kitchen, and other program amenities for the residents

"Support from the WOMEN'S WAY Immediate Response Action Fund means we are able to relocate our shelter with minimal disruption to the critical services we provide to families experiencing homelessness. It's reassuring to know there are funds out there to help quickly address the unexpected bumps in the road." - Erica Zaveloff MA, MSW Director of Development



Women's Medical Fund, \$7,160: Addressed unexpected moving costs enabling them to keep \$7,160 in the abortion fund

- Provided financial assistance to 56 people seeking an abortion

"Support from the WOMEN'S WAY Immediate Response Action Fund is allowing us to recover unexpected moving related funds that would otherwise go towards providing emergency financial support to a girl or woman accessing an abortion. Given that our average pledge last fiscal year was just \$128, the \$7,160 requested could help 56 people obtain an abortion. We feel relieved and grateful that WOMEN'S WAY recognizes the importance of being able to provide immediate support to overcome hurdles that arise."

- Elicia Gonzales, Executive Director

GRANTEES & IMPACT

Why Not Prosper, \$10,000: Replaced faulty heater allowing them to continue to prepare women for employment, a drug-free lifestyle and family reunification for women leaving incarceration

- Provided re-entry support and housing for 6 women
- Provided employment search services to 25 women through the Workforce and Education Academy

“We are so grateful for a foundation that thinks outside the box and has funds available for hardships like this. Thank you. Our ladies would still be displaced if not for WOMEN’S WAY.” - Rev. Michelle Simmons, CEO/Founder



Mental Health Partnerships, \$10,000: Continued the Bridges to Home Program for women incarcerated in RCF and newly released after unexpected funding cuts

- Provided stipends for 17 women serving as Certified Peer Specialists while incarcerated
- Assisted 8 women newly released from incarceration with securing clothing and toiletries until they successfully obtained consistent income
- Assisted 6 participants who found permanent housing following release from incarceration obtain furniture and household items for themselves and their children

“We are deeply grateful for the support of the WOMEN’S WAY Immediate Response Action Fund, which will enable us to continue to offer peer support services to women who are currently residing at Riverside Correctional Facility (RCF). Bridges to Home will also be able to provide necessities like clothing and furniture to women who are exiting RCF and working to rebuild their lives. The speed with which we were able to go through the IRAF process is stunning, and your understanding of how important it was for us to close the gap created by an unexpected funding shortfall enabled us to continue to be a stabilizing presence for women who are justice involved.” - Catherine Sui, (former) Development Director

GRANTEES & IMPACT

Women's Opportunities Resource Center, \$10,000: Continued to provide Individual Savings Account (IDAs) related services to newly arrived refugees following an unexpected loss of funds

- 39 people received technical assistance
- Participants received 1:1 counseling, coaching and individualized assistance
- 35 people completed the program and attained their savings goals and received matched funding for either \$2,000 for individuals or \$4,000 for families. \$104,322 was saved; \$103,442 was dispersed in matching funds.
- 35 clients purchased an asset: 4 – Home, 9 – Business, 10 – Education, 12 – Car. The value of all the assets purchased was \$852,326.
- 5 clients increased their credit score by an average of 60 points and 2 clients established credit

"We are so appreciative of the WOMEN'S WAY IRAF grant. It will allow us to continue to work with the refugees / asylees that are part of our IDA savings program to help them reach their goal of buying a home, furthering their education, a car for work or business start-up. The grant process is so streamlined and so responsive to unanticipated needs. What a wonderful resource! We look forward to continuing to work with WOMEN'S WAY on the Women's Economic Security Initiative which is so very important." - Lynne Cutler, Executive Director

Women's Opportunities Resource Center, \$3,880: Replaced broken HVAC system during extreme heat wave allowing them to continue providing financial assistance and services to disadvantaged women and their families

- Promoted social and economic self-sufficiency for 118 women through training, lending and savings programs (77, through lending; 32 through savings; and 9 through training)

"Our AC unexpectedly failed at the beginning of the recent heat wave. We are very thankful that WOMEN'S WAY could step up and cover part of the cost of a new air-conditioner--certainly needed with the extreme heat!" - Lynne Cutler, WORC Executive Director

Interim House, \$10,000: Coordinated the safe and temporary emergency relocation of 24 residential and halfway house women to a hotel which ensured the continuity of substance abuse treatment

"Interim House is grateful to the Immediate Response Action Fund Grant provided in response to a broken heater that could not be repaired. These funds helped offset the costs of relocating 24 residents to a hotel for three days during a snow storm while a new boiler was being replaced."
- Kathy Wellbank MSS, LSW, Director

GRANTEES & IMPACT

Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity (PLSE), \$10,000: Provided counseling and representation to low-income Philadelphians who have criminal records and have them expunged

- Criminal records are a major factor in keeping families in poverty
- Filed 150 expungement petitions on behalf of 40 clients, all of whom were of color
- Expanded outreach to Spanish and Latinx communities in North Philadelphia
- Recruited 2 Temple law students who are drafting petitions for expungement, doing research, and each has been trained as a Pardon Coach

“Exceptional opportunities don’t follow schedules. All the pieces were coming together for PLSE to begin providing critically important criminal record-clearing services (expungements and pardons) to a very hard-hit neighborhood (Kensington) through The Equity Project - a wonderful new non-profit program serving low-income women and children - but the promised funding for the perfect attorney we recruited has been delayed. Thanks to the “bridge funding” provided by WOMEN’S WAY Immediate Response Action Fund, we were able to hire her and create the new partnership.” - Phoenicia D.W. Wallace, (former) Executive Director



Women’s Law Project, \$10,000: Assisted pregnant individuals in obtaining lawful accommodations at work and helped breastfeeding parents understand their rights

- Provided legal advice and/or representation to 32 individuals resulting in:
 - Secured backpay
 - Return to full time work
 - Monetary settlements
 - Access to wrongly denied health insurance
 - Compensation for unsafe work conditions and wrongfully denied overtime pay

Quote: “We are thankful for the support of WOMEN’S WAY Immediate Response Action Fund, which enables us to continue the critical work of managing our program, “Protecting and Advancing the Rights of Pregnant and Nursing Workers, Students, and Inmates” without interruption. When abortion rights and access are under intense attack, the plights of pregnant people and new mothers struggling to maintain health and economic security are typically ignored. Pregnancy discrimination is ignored. The needs of nursing mothers in the workplace are ignored. This emergency grant will help us bridge a gap between funding and ensure continuity of legal services for our clients.” – Carol E. Tracy, Executive Director

GRANTEES & IMPACT

Career Wardrobe: Improved capacity to expand services to more clients, increase in-kind donations and engage more volunteers

- Increased their space by an additional 1,000 square feet that resulted in:
 - Increased in-kind clothing donations from \$1.75M to over \$2M
 - Increased the number of clients served from 2,661 in 2017 to 3,016 in 2018 at their Philadelphia site
 - Engaged 203 volunteers and created 30 new corporate/community partners who support their work

"We are beyond grateful for the WOMEN'S WAY IRAF grant. These funds allow us to say 'yes' to a one-time opportunity to expand our client service site, building our capacity and improving our operations immediately and for years to come. This expansion allows us to serve hundreds of more clients per year. It will also help us keep and sort more quality clothing for our clients and income-generating resale shop, which in turns helps us engage more volunteers and partners in our work. This funding is a game-changer for us, and allows us to grow and meet the demands for our services and programs. Thank you!!" - Sheri K. Cole, Executive Director



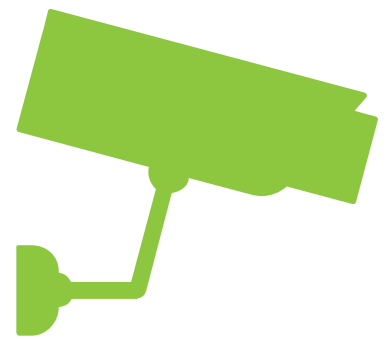
Photo Credit: Citizen Photography, Lauren Hanson

GRANTEES & IMPACT

A Woman's Place, \$4,765: Improved capacity to ensure safety of women and their children

- New security system and improved security protocols resulted in:
 - No police incidents in one year since installation of new security system
 - 100% of clients reported that they “felt safer” with the new security system in place
 - Commitment from police to better respond to security events due to an improved mechanism for accountability

"We've been in need of a security overhaul for some time, but when we had multiple police incidents at our facilities within a single month, we knew something had to be done immediately. WOMEN'S WAY responded so quickly: within 10 days, we had the funding we needed, and by the day after receiving the grant, new security features were already being installed at all 4 of our facilities. These features make our staff and clients feel safer and make our emergency shelter (and all of our offices) feel like the safe havens they are meant to be." - Mae O'Brien, (Former) Interim Executive Director, A Woman's Place.



Therapy Center of Philadelphia, \$10,000: Improved capacity to expand mental health services to low-income trans individuals following an unexpected increase in demand for services

- Hired another therapist and trained 3 therapists in trans-affirming justice-minded psychotherapy that enabled them to:
 - Offer 186 sessions of EMDR trauma therapy to 21 low-income trans individuals (This evidence-based form of treatment is not offered to low-income clients, particularly trans-identified clients)
 - The “successes” of the clients who received trans-affirming therapy improved TCP’s reputation and image in the region, resulting in more referrals from other organizations in the region

"There is a particularly hostile climate out there for trans people right now. Our callers are in heightened states of fear, anxiety, and panic around gender markers and safety for themselves and their families. The calls we have received are beyond our capacity. With this award, TCP will be able to offer mental health support and advocacy to meet this spike in demand for help." - (Former) Executive Director Alison Gerig, LCSW

GRANTEES & IMPACT

Advocates for Homeless and Those in Need, \$7,500: Improved capacity to provide life-saving services to women and children who are facing or experiencing homelessness following an unexpected loss in funding

- Provided life-saving services to 116 women and children who were facing living on the streets
- Addressed a critical gap in the public safety system (children are not permitted to enter Code Blue shelters due to safety concerns) by finding non-traditional shelters for women and their children

"The IRAF grant from WOMEN'S WAY will help Advocates for Homeless & Those in Need (AHTN) to continue to provide many life sustaining services to women and their families. They may receive help with temporary or permanent housing, gas, car maintenance or repairs, food, clothing, rides or documents necessary to move forward to improve their lives. AHTN is able to provide a variety of services that may not be offered elsewhere. With this grant, many lives will be impacted and improved." - Penny Martin, Board President

Home of the Sparrow, \$7,500: Improved capacity to continually provide essential programs and resources to women ages 55-62 who were previously facing or experiencing homelessness

- Installation of new roof prevented disruption of essential services and enabled them to provide ongoing life-saving services
- New roof also improved their capacity to decrease maintenance costs of housing program and allocate more money to essential services for women who were previously facing or experiencing homelessness
- IRAF funding leveraged an additional \$18,187 that was needed to replace the roof

"Home of the Sparrow is honored to be one of the first recipients of WOMEN'S WAY's Immediate Response Action Fund. Our Pre-Senior Bridge program helps vulnerable, older women who are experiencing homelessness, and these funds will help us to continue to provide safe housing for many years to come. Without this critical funding they would be displaced yet again. Thank you so very much!" - Michelle E. Venema, CEO



GRANTEES & IMPACT

Pennsylvania Health Access Network, \$10,000: Improved capacity to inform, educate and enroll women in health insurance plans

- Created an educational video, collected 90 compelling stories, and trained a group of women to serve as advocates to protect health insurance – resulted in greater capacity to advocate to protect health coverage for all women
- During the Open Enrollment period, during which they used IRAF funds to promote the importance of health insurance, PHAN fielded three times more calls from the previous year, assisted 60% more people, and enrolled 260 women (50% more people over the previous year). The ad reached over 40,000 people.

"Access to healthcare is under attack at both the state and federal level as lawmakers continue to pursue efforts to undermine the Affordable Care Act and weaken Medicaid. These attacks on healthcare will disproportionately impact women. We are excited to be part of the WOMEN'S WAY Immediate Response Action Fund, which will enable us to tell the story of the crucial role programs like Medicaid play in the lives of women in our region. By telling this story, we will dispel negative stereotypes about programs like Medicaid & the ACA, build support for preserving them, and ensure women understand the importance of enrolling in and maintaining health coverage." - Antoinette Kraus, Director



NEXT STEPS



WOMEN'S WAY is committed to ensuring the continuity of life-saving services provided by the regional non-profit sector through continuing and expanding the Immediate Response Action Fund.

In FY21 WOMEN'S WAY will:

- Continually evaluate and improve the program through soliciting and analyzing feedback from IRAF grantees and applicants
- Monitor impact made by IRAF grants through grantee final reports
- Work to diversify the Grants Committee with respect to race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, citizenship, ability, and types of experience including women impacted by the core issues IRAF addresses
- Host virtual gatherings of donors and IRAF grantees to connect grantees to high-wealth individuals and funders
- Expand the Immediate Response Action Fund by 25%

In FY22, WOMEN'S WAY will:

- Provide a capacity-building cohort for IRAF grantees, based on a learning collaborative model where participants help to guide and create content
- Conduct presentations on the learning collaborative capacity-building model at local, regional and national conferences
- Host a large scale "Town Hall" event to connect IRAF grantees to high-wealth individuals and other funders
- Educate foundations and other grantmaking organizations on how to adopt rapid response funding and encourage them to make it a permanent component of their grantmaking programs
- Expand the Immediate Response Action Fund by an additional 25%

For a full list of Immediate Response Action Fund grantees, please see Appendix A

To learn more about the Immediate Response Action Fund, visit www.womensway.org

IRAF SUPPORTERS

The WOMEN'S WAY Immediate Response Action Fund would not be possible without the generous support of our donors*:

Aletha Akers, M.D.

AMJ Foundation

Kim Balaschak

Blackfynn Inc.

Debbie Casnoff

Denise Collins

Betty Cornman

Diane Cornman-Levy and Jeffrey Levy

Virginia Crawford

Paula Crowley

Claudia F. Curry

Brenda DeFeo

Renée and Don Forcey

Linda and David Glickstein

Green Family Foundation

Elayne and Barry Howard

I. Gail Howard

Julie Laine

Christine M. Lussier

Leo Model Foundation

Jessica Muslin

Lee Muslin

Tracy Musser

Tracey S. Pachman

M&T Bank / Wilmington Trust

Mary and Ed Posner

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Jane A. Rose, CPA

Johanna Rossell

Cori Schreiber

Joanne R. Soslow, Esq.

Kathryn Stripling

Kimberly Takacs

UBS Financial Services

Leila and Nicholas Vaughan

Lauren Winchester

YWI Members

*\$500 and above

Every effort has been made to ensure a complete and accurate list. Please contact mscout@womensway.org with questions or concerns.

APPENDIX A - IRAF GRANTEES

ORGANIZATION NAME	URGENT NEED	AMOUNT	IMPACT
A Woman's Place	Sudden increase in police incidents	\$4,765	Overhauled security system, police incidents stopped, ensuring safety of 300 survivors of domestic violence
The African Cultural Alliance of North America (ACANA)	Increase in caseload and hours resulting from the announcement of the Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness Bill which ends December 26, 2020	\$10,000	Legal staff is able to: be compensated for increased caseload, process more applications for citizenship and host monthly information sessions to answer questions about eligibility requirements / the application process for 400 Liberian women refugees
Advocates for Homeless & Those in Need	Program to be discontinued due to unanticipated major loss of funding	\$7,500	Helped continue program and provide life sustaining services to 70 women experiencing homelessness
Advocates for Homeless & Those in Need	Increase in demand for emergency shelter in local motel for women with children who have lost their dwelling	\$5,000	Provide 26 families (66 individuals) with emergency shelter. Increased length of stay from 2 nights to 3 nights to give them more time to stabilize and work on next steps of securing more permanent shelter
Baker Industries	Loss of state-funded housing vouchers for re-entering women residing in a halfway house	\$6,000	Provided down payments for 5 women to secure safe housing allowing them to continue treatment, reconnect with children and retain employment
Career Wardrobe	One-time opportunity to enlarge space and meet increasing demand for their services	\$9,500	Provided professional attire and job readiness services to 4,845 women
Coalition for Restaurant Safety and Health (CRSH)	Dramatic decrease in funding threatened to derail their long-term project surveying workers about their experiences with sexual violence in the restaurant industry	\$10,000	They will be about to complete the survey and release a report in the Spring which will inform policy around sexual harassment and violence in the restaurant industry helping 344 women and gender non-confirming / non-binary restaurant workers
Community Legal Services	Re-institute The Working Group to enhance services for incarcerated women after the lead organization running the program shifted gears	\$10,000	Supported coordinated advocacy for incarcerated women across Philly and PA

Family Service Association of Bucks County	Plumbing issue prevented distribution of hot water	\$6,200	60 women and children in the shelter were able to have access to hot water for bathing and the water in the kitchen was able to reach 140 degrees ensuring proper sanitation.
Friends Association for Care & Protection of Children	Unforeseen structural repairs needed during renovation of women's diversionary reentry home	\$10,000	Opened NIA House, a gender-responsive, trauma-informed housing program for women returning to the community after incarceration helping them to reunify with their children, participate in mental health curricula, obtain job training and jobs, and access permanent and stable housing
HIAS Pennsylvania	Sudden increase in demand for relational violence protection services for immigrant communities in Chester County	\$10,000	Expanded legal services for 30 immigrant survivors of interpersonal violence
Home of the Sparrow	Roof damaged due to storm, threatening displacement of residents	\$7,500	Maintained shelter and life supportive services for pre-senior women (ages 55 – 62) facing homelessness
Interim House	Broken heater caused need for temporary displacement of residents	\$6,585	Continued holistic substance abuse treatment for 24 clients during an emergency relocation
Lutheran Settlement House	Unexpected eviction from their emergency homeless shelter	\$9,250	Relocated to a new facility with minimal disruption to the provision of critical services to 29 families experiencing homelessness
Maternal and Child Health Consortium	Increased demand for their Healthy Start program serving Latinx and Black women	\$10,000	Will provide perinatal health services and health screenings for 300 low-income pregnant and parenting women and their children. Additionally, they will provide food box and baby bundle deliveries.
Mental Health Partnerships	Two programs were going to be discontinued due to loss of funding	\$10,000	Re-entry support provided to 30 women exiting Riverside Correctional Facility and compensation provided to 12 women residing at RCF for their work as Certified Peer Specialists
No More Secrets	300% increase in demand for feminine hygiene products from marginalized populations		Will provide 300 women and young women with menstrual supplies through the first menstrual hub in the country. Will also provide women's health education (menstrual health, uterine care, and sex education) to 1,700 women and young women.

Orion Communities	Increase in demand for services and bridge case management services when a partner organization shifted focus	\$10,000	Supported their ability to provide case management and emergency funds to women and children in need of basic essentials such as shelter, food, clothing, transportation and medical care
Orion Communities	4-fold increase in requests for services for housing / shelter assistance with moratorium on evictions lifting and applications no longer being accepted for PA Cares Act rental assistance	\$10,000	Provided 30 women-led households with rental and housing assistance
Pennsylvania Health Access Network	Protect access to healthcare for women and families in SE Pennsylvania following a 90% reduction in the advertising budget for ACA Open Enrollment	\$10,000	Highlighted the importance of enrolling in and maintaining healthcare coverage to 6,825 women through various media campaigns
Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity	Loss of funding was going to prevent the provision of expungements and pardons to the justice-involved	\$10,000	Lawyer was retained to create a Pardon Hub to provide record clearing services to low-income women and children in Kensington through The Equity Project
Planned Parenthood Keystone	Increase in protesters, harassment and threats against 3 Bucks County locations	\$10,000	Able to hire 200 hours of additional security to protect women accessing the full range of reproductive healthcare – including access to abortion
Sappho and LaRoyce Foundation	Floor damaged during renovation prevented the 24 hour drop-in center for LGBTQ survivors of domestic violence from opening	\$10,000	Provided emotional support, therapeutic services and physical safety to LGBTQ survivors of domestic violence.
Take Action Philly	Protection of immigrant and refugee populations in Philadelphia following the Travel Ban and threats to sanctuary cities	\$5,000	250 lawyers were trained how to provide pro bono legal advice to immigrant and refugee communities
Therapy Center of Philadelphia	Spike in demand for mental health care in the trans community	\$10,000	Expanded access to low cost psychotherapy services to 50 transgender individuals
Why Not Prosper	Broken heater caused dislocation of residents and a halt in programming	\$10,000	Maintained shelter for 10 formerly incarcerated residents and the Workforce and Education Academy programming was able to resume

Why Not Prosper	The exterior side and rear wall at one of their housing facilities was in imminent danger of collapse, jeopardizing the safety of the residents	\$10,000	Demolition and rebuild of the wall as well as providing temporary shelter for the 10 women residing at the location while the repairs were being made
Womanist Working Collective	Increase in demand for Time Banking training, support, and participation.	\$10,000	Created a service exchange system through a network of individuals, grassroots organizations, and cooperatives / community-benefiting businesses to mobilize services and resources to meet community members' needs.
Women's Law Project	Increase in demand coupled with loss of funding threatened the provision of legal services to fight pregnancy and breastfeeding discrimination	\$10,000	Provided compensation for the staff attorney managing the Protecting and Advancing the Rights of Pregnant and Nursing Workers, Students, and Inmates Program which will impact ~1,000 women
Women's Medical Fund	Unexpected costs associated with moving locations	\$7,160	Provided 56 people with financial assistance to obtain an abortion
Women's Opportunities Resource Center	Loss of funding was threatening to discontinue IDA Savings Account programs to refugees / asylees	\$10,000	Provided 51 refugees / asylees financial counseling and education, assistance with purchasing assets, and translation support
Women's Opportunities Resource Center	Air conditioning unit broke in the middle of a heat wave	\$3,880	Organization was able to continue providing financial assistance through their loan and savings programs
Women's Resource Center	Computer broke unexpectedly after recently replacing the technology in the office	\$600	Organization was able to continue providing leadership training to 162 middle school and high school girls
TOTAL		\$278,940	