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## WOMEN'S WAY TO HOST INAUGURAL GENDER WEALTH SUMMIT WITH A FOCUS ON REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, AND FINANCIAL EDUCATION

With unprecedented attacks on reproductive rights and ongoing economic repercussions from the COVID-19 pandemic, women face mounting obstacles to closing the gender wealth gap. By convening stakeholders from across the region in this first ever Gender Wealth Summit, WOMEN'S WAY aims to build momentum and advance a future where all women thrive.

## For Immediate Release

**PHILADELPHIA** — For Immediate Release — On September 16th 2022, <u>WOMEN'S WAY</u>, the leading nonprofit dedicated to the advancement of women and girls in the Philadelphia area, will host its **Inaugural Gender Wealth Summit** at Quorum at the University City Science Center from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

While many are familiar with the gender pay gap, not as many know about the gender wealth gap and its far-reaching impact on women in the region. Without wealth, financial shocks such as illness, unemployment, and other emergencies can destroy a woman's security and wellbeing. Pre-pandemic data show that median household wealth for women is just 32 cents to every dollar of a white man's median household wealth. For single women and women of color, this number is even more stark. Closing the gender wealth gap is *critical* for advancing gender and racial equity and building a thriving economy in our region

Addressing this challenge requires solidarity from across industries and an intentional exploration into the root cause of these inequities: white supremacy. The WOMEN'S WAY Inaugural Gender Wealth Summit plans to do just that, while also narrowing its focus to address three specific, key factors that intersect with the gender wealth gap: Entreprenuership, Financial Education, and Reproductive Justice.

"The fact of the matter is that the gender wealth gap is real and not decreasing. And, without gender parity, our region and the U.S. will continue to lag in significant progress towards gender and racial equity and building a strong economy that works for all. Our goal is that those joining us at the Gender Wealth Summit will have opportunities to dig more deeply into the root causes of gender and racial wealth inequity and build solidarity with diverse stakeholders who are committed to creating a future where all women have the conditions to thrive." Diane Cornman-Levy, Chief Disruptor of WOMEN'S WAY

The summit will include a feminist marketplace featuring local women of color entrepreneurs. Facilitators and speakers at the event will include WOMEN'S WAY Change the Narrative Fellows; Jamie Brunson from First Person Arts; Tiffany Younger: Scientist, Activist and Professor; Tanya Morris from Mom Your Business; Jenifer Groves from St. Christopher's Hospital for Children; and Kim Rogers from Clarifi. Sliding scale tickets are available. Registration for the Inaugural Gender Wealth Summit can be found at: womensway.org/summit2022

## **ABOUT WOMEN'S WAY:**

WOMEN'S WAY 's mission is to inspire and mobilize the community to invest in organizations and leaders that will advance the rights of and opportunities for women and girls and achieve gender equality for all. They hold a unique place in the nation's history as the first "umbrella" funding federation in the United States specifically dedicated to women's issues. Their organization was formed in the mid-1970s by seven women-led agencies that focused on wage equity, rape crises, domestic violence, reproductive freedom and post-incarceration reentry. Because mainstream funding was not available for the progressive causes they championed, they joined together to raise a collective voice and generate critical funding for issues impacting women. Since our founding, WOMEN'S WAY has raised more than \$24 million to enhance the lives of women, girls and families, and to provide vital support to the agencies that serve them. To learn more, visit womensway.org and follow on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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