



## WFA Grant History

The Women's Foundation of Arkansas began in 1998 as a project of the “Top 100 Women of Arkansas” and was a designated fund with the Arkansas Community Foundation. In its first year, WFA’s founders contributed \$100,000 to establish the Women’s Foundation as an enduring resource for all Arkansas women and girls. Grants from the fund are used to promote ideas and support programs that assist Arkansas women and girls in achieving their full potential in any endeavor.

Between the first grant-making cycle in 1999 and 2006, WFA gifted \$152,449 to 79 programs directly benefitting 7,600 women & girls and indirectly benefitting thousands more. The Women’s Foundation is currently working to grow the WFA Grant-making Endowment Fund so that we might provide increased support to deserving organizations currently addressing the states’ greatest needs for women and girls. Funding is made available to human service, educational, and charitable groups in every corner of the state.

## Grants Committee Report - 2010

WFA received \$280,000 worth of requests in 31 Letters of Interest during this grant cycle. Regional grant-making committees reviewed the letters and requested full proposals from 7 organizations. Six organizations submitted full proposals; 1 organization chose not to submit a proposal during this cycle. Regional grant-making committees received full proposals, made site visits, and then made recommendations to the State Grant-Making Committee, who then made recommendations to the WFA Board of Directors.

The board chose to fund 3 grants for a total of \$25,000:

**The Summer Culinary Institute for Young Women** at Arkansas Tech University received a grant of \$10,000 for its week-long program enabling fifty (50) 9th – 12th grade young women to be exposed to aspects of the hospitality industry – a predominately male profession. Classes will include entrepreneurship, nutrition, job readiness and other areas while also assisting the young women with their decision-making of college majors.

**The Supporting Survivors Program** of Catholic Immigration Services/Catholic Charities of Arkansas received a grant of \$10,000. This grant allows CIS to hire a Case Manager Coordinator to manage the ongoing needs of domestic violence survivors and their families. Activities include assessing immigrant survivors to identify areas of need and provide referrals to resources to meet those needs including enrollment in adult education programs such as ESL classes, life skills training, job skills training, etc.

**“Girls Pursuing Science”** program at Ozark Natural Science Center received a grant of \$5,000. Girls Pursuing Science program – or GPS – includes a highly educational and exciting nature-based week-long summer camp and a winter retreat. Girls are chosen by their teachers to attend and will take part in activities and camp experiences led by female scientists from an established network of partners in the university setting and conservation organizations, as well as ONSC’s female teacher-naturalists.