



“When women are fully involved, families are healthier... their income, savings and reinvestment go up. And what is true of families is true of communities and, eventually, of whole countries.”

—Kofi Annan  
Secretary General, United Nations

## About the Women's Foundation of California

### Our Vision

California's potential will only be realized when women and girls lead and thrive as full participants at all levels of society.

### Our Mission

The Women's Foundation of California invests in women and girls to build a more just and equitable society for all. We work to eliminate barriers that perpetuate injustice and inequity in order to catalyze positive social change. We partner with others to fund solutions for the women and girls of California.

### Principal Strategies

- We invest resources in effective and innovative community-based organizations, particularly those led by and serving low-income women and girls, immigrants and communities of color.
- We leverage strategic grantmaking with substantial advocacy in local and state level policy work.
- We invest resources in donor education.
- We convene community leaders, organizations, donors, funders, policymakers and elected officials. We create partnerships that strengthen families and build healthier communities.
- We apply gender, racial justice and human rights lenses to our grantmaking and other strategic initiatives.

415.837.1113  
[www.womensfoundca.org](http://www.womensfoundca.org)

*the* WOMEN'S  
FOUNDATION  
of CALIFORNIA



## Women of Silicon Valley Donor Circle

Developing the economic potential of women and girls in our community

## Donor Circles: A cutting-edge approach to philanthropy

A donor circle is a group of individuals who pool their resources to make a greater impact on the issues they care about. Donor circles are designed to include members at varying levels of income, wealth and philanthropic experience.

The Women's Foundation of California operates three successful donor circles and is a national leader in this donor engagement model.

### The Women of Silicon Valley Donor Circle offers members

- A powerful, results-focused opportunity to make a difference in our community.
- In-depth education on effective economic development strategies.
- Hands-on training in strategic philanthropy.
- Leveraged grantmaking and collective decision-making.
- Innovative engagement with the only statewide foundation building a better world for women and girls in California.

## Focus: Increase economic security for women and girls in Silicon Valley

### Poverty has a woman's face.

- In 2000, 39% of families headed by single women in Santa Clara County did not earn enough to meet basic needs. In the last five years, the percentage of women living in poverty has increased.

### The middle class is vanishing.

- The cost of living in Silicon Valley remains one of the highest in the nation, but as incomes have dropped, the costs of housing, health care, child care and transportation have not.

### Local resources are strained.

- Most programs for health insurance, housing assistance, child care and nutrition are only available to families living at or below the federal poverty level. More than 40,000 low-income Silicon Valley families do not qualify.

**The Women of Silicon Valley Donor Circle will fund solutions that address these and other barriers to local women's economic security.**



## Join us for an exciting year-long collaboration!

We invite you to join with other concerned Silicon Valley women to put your time and money to use in a powerful, immediate way.

### We are looking for individuals who want to

- Partner with other women to make a significant difference with a focused time commitment.
- Learn about the most innovative and effective strategies to address women's economic self-sufficiency.
- Invest in a healthier Silicon Valley by developing the economic potential of women and girls.

### Personal Commitment

- Participate in five action-oriented meetings between January and June 2006, plus two to three site visits to applicant organizations.
- Financial commitment of \$5,000 per year for one to three years.
- Active involvement in two community events in the fall of 2006.

## How can I get involved?

For more information, please contact Cathy Schreiber at [cathys@womensfoundca.org](mailto:cathys@womensfoundca.org) or 415.837.1113.

