At the Women’s Foundation of Greater St. Louis, we are focused on answering this question: How can we empower women to improve their economic independence, so they can create a better world for themselves, their families and their communities?

Workplace Change

Women in the Workplace: Employment Scorecard
WFSTL’s Women in the Workplace: Employment Scorecard is the region’s only initiative incentivizing and educating employers to cultivate a gender diverse workforce where everyone can thrive. Using objective indicators and a blind data review process, WFSTL is evaluating company employment practices and their impact on gender diversity. WFSTL recognizes employers who demonstrate a strong commitment to female-positive policies and is using findings to help other businesses improve.

Public Policy Change

In Spring 2018, WFSTL’s Board of Directors adopted a policy agenda for 2018-19 that has three focus areas:

- Address economic exploitation of families in poverty
- Expand access to jobs and fair wages
- Extend support for working families

For the first time in our 11-year history, WFSTL endorsed a ballot initiative, Proposition B, to increase the minimum wage incrementally over 5 years to $12 per hour. While women make up 50% of the workforce, 6 in 10 minimum wage workers in Missouri are women. The ballot initiative passed in early November, benefitting working women and their families throughout the state.

Individual Change

Based on our 2017 Listening Tour and data-driven research, WFSTL focused our 2018 grantmaking on a set of complex and interwoven barriers that women facing economic insecurity in our community told us are among the most significant obstacles.

In 2018, 1,470 women and girls in the St. Louis region were empowered through the support of a WFSTL grant.

WFSTL Impact 2018

Growth in Employer Participation: +160% (2017-2018)

Program Outcomes:

- 82% of participants reported the initiative increased their understanding of policies and best practices to recruit and retain women in the workplace.*
- 72% of participants reported that after taking the survey, they plan to advocate for or implement one new policy or best practice to recruit and/or retain female workers. *

*as of 12.17.18

WFSTL’s Grantmaking Focus Areas

- Housing
- Mental Health
- Childcare
- Transportation
- Pathways to employment
- Financial literacy and stability

Total
11 organizations funded in 2018

WFSTL Executive Director Lisa Picker and Board President Laura Dierberg Ayers with Mayor Lyda Krewson.