

APRIL 2023

WOMEN'S CLUB OF GREAT FALLS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

SCHOLARSHIPS TRANSFORM LIVES



COMMUNITY REPORT 2022/2023

SALLY ANNE ANDREW-PYNE

WOMEN'S CLUB OF GREAT FALLS SCHOLARSHIP FUND, PRESIDENT
2022/2023

I am pleased to share the Women's Club of Great Falls Scholarship Fund Inc (501c3) NEW Community Report, which reflects our explosive growth. Our board year ends in August, so this is an overview of our accomplishments to date which will be updated at the end of our year.

On May 6, our Annual Spring Fundraiser, Miami Vice will be produced and I look forward to also sharing our success in the weeks to come.

Collaboration is the key component to our path and by building awareness with our community, donors and sponsors and the support of The Women's Club of Great Falls, together we continue to help deserving Northern Virginia students prepare for and complete their educational goals in a timely and financially prudent manner.

The Board and I, are so very grateful for the HUGE efforts of our committee and everyone who has worked so hard to support our mission to strengthen The Fund.



MISSION

Through fundraising and the provision of scholarship support, the Women's Club of Great Falls Scholarship Fund continues to pave educational pathways for students in Northern Virginia

OUR VISION

To ensure students achieve their greatest potential by pursuing higher education

TAG LINE

SOWING THE SEEDS FOR SUCCESS!

ABOUT US

AND OUR RICH HISTORY

In 1980 a group of women led by Doris Irwin Fisher joined together and organized The Great Falls Woman's Club, Chartered in October 1980 as a nonprofit, non-federated and non-political social club.

In 1982 The Woman's Club established The Scholarship Fund to extend financial support as its major service project. The Scholarship Fund was incorporated separately as an exclusively educational and philanthropic organization. The Fund has no members and its Executive Board are all members of the Women's Club who have been appointed annually to serve the Club through the Fund. The Fund Board controls and supervises the Fund, performing all the administrative duties, fundraising, receiving contributions,

investing monies, and selecting appropriate recipients to receive the annual scholarship awards. (See our website and Tea program for additional history).

For our 40th Anniversary Fall Annual Tea in 2022, The Fund provided a retrospective of The Past, Present & Future of The Funds 40 years. Our NEW tradition going forward for recognition at our Annual Tea is to present Lifetime Achievement Awards to deserving women who have demonstrated leadership and served The Fund and The Women's Club. Jointly the Fund & Women's Club paid for the Awards and both President's presented the Awards to the recipients. (Please see our YouTube account for the presentation clip).

SHAPING THE FUTURE FOR SUCCESS

In the Fall of 2021, The Board made an important decision that the Fund would offer ALL students, regardless of gender, an opportunity to receive a scholarship! The impetus of this decision came from the direction and guidance from our partner schools, Northern Virginia Community College, and George Mason University, both of whom are following current academic trends toward a stricter adherence to Title IX's non-discrimination policies. We saw this as an important step forward, both practically in our approach and philosophically, and informed our community in our Fall Newsletter.

To shape the future of the Fund, in the Spring of 2022, we launched our NEW Vision, Mission & Tag line enabling us to forge forward with our plan for growth.



THE STUDENTS WE SERVE

Today's students are faced with a myriad of barriers they must overcome to achieve higher education access and ultimately success, particularly for students from underrepresented populations and low-income backgrounds. The rising cost of a college degree coupled with an increase in living expenses in our area; the ability to juggle part-time or full-time work on top of a degree; transportation challenges; and balancing children and familial obligations are examples of barriers that impact students' ability to access higher education and persist through graduation.

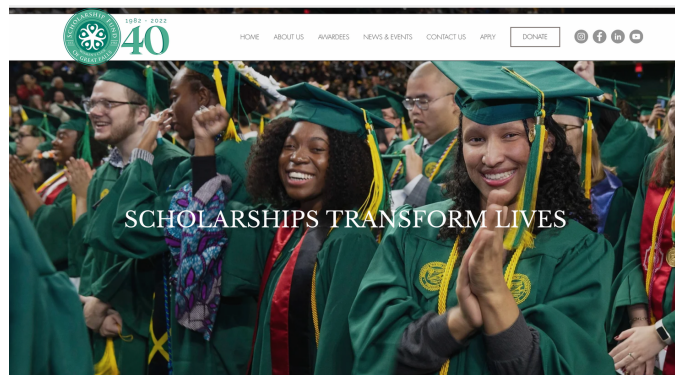
OUR SOLUTION

The Women's Club of Great Falls Scholarship Fund raises money to fund yearly scholarships that help deserving Northern Virginia students prepare for and complete their educational goals in a timely and financially prudent manner.

COMMUNICATIONS PR & MARKETING

An important part of our plan is to heighten the awareness of the Fund, to The Women's Club members, our community, supporters, and donors of our cause. Our monthly contributions to The Women's Club newsletter, include updates and pictures. In the Fall of 2021, we decided to launch our FIRST quarterly newsletter, which offers more in-depth insights of our progress, and is offered to ALL Women's Club members via a sign up to receive communications from the Fund. The distribution list of supporters, donors and sponsors has now grown exponentially, and on a quarterly basis, via email, a quarterly newsletter is sent to our subscribers. (Please see past newsletters on our website).

Our NEW website was launched in April 2023, offering the Fund the opportunity to further provide updates on a monthly basis to our audience, via our blog, and social media platforms. Our content is NEW and we have added videos, housed on the YouTube platform, which include our marketing video, interviews of students, GMU & EIP faculty, board members, sponsor and both President's of each of the organizations.



[Click Here to watch more Scholarship Fund videos](#)

OUR COMMUNITY

NEW opportunities have provided the Fund to be involved in The Great Falls community. This past year we have shared opportunities with The Women's Club to participate in several ways: Become involved with Celebrate Great Falls Foundation by providing collateral for the Welcome Wagon packages, the 4th of July Home Town Parade (that we now will participate each year with our SF banner, car, and committee), a booth at the event, and participation at the Celebration of Lights. Each organization has shared costs for printing and promotions for these events. Additionally, the Fund co-sponsored and shared costs with The Women's Club to support The Grange / Forestville Schoolhouse, (an historical

campus / event space in Great Falls). A Fund Board member & the Women's Club President, serve on The Grange Board to assist with the steering of The Grange's future.

NEW for us is greater press coverage in The CONNECTIONS local newspaper and other local press. We have been featured three times on the cover of The Connections paper as an example, with stories on our Endowment created for;

1. The Holly Kuga Planned Giving initiative which raised \$34,000.
2. Katie Kuga's selected student recipient and the Board.
3. Our 40-year Celebration Annual Fall Tea.



FUNDRAISING

NEW to the Fund in 2022 was the establishment of an Annual Spring Fundraiser which would be open to the Great Falls community. A new experiential design was created for guests to enjoy "Havana Night". Sponsorship levels were established for corporate underwriting, and live and silent auction items were procured from local businesses and donors to maximize the fundraising potential. The event was open to The Women's Club and all members of the community and was attended by over 150 participants. The event is the most successful event that the Fund has produced to date, with fundraising of \$53,000.

The Fall Annual Tea in 2022, held at River Bend Club celebrated the 40-year history of The Scholarship Fund and celebrated our past, present & future. Past President's, student recipients and over 125 guests attended. Sponsorships were offered, along with raffle opportunities. The Fund supported The Women's Club Philanthropy group by purchasing The White House ornaments for table gifts as well as the sale of ornaments at the event. GMU & EIP faculty attended the event, and two checks were presented to their organizations to fund the 13 scholarships and the NEW GMU Early Identification program scholarship. This scholarship is now named The Women's Club of Great Falls Scholarship Fund EIP Scholarship. Total amount given to GMU & EIP was \$45,000.

NEW levels of sponsorships were offered for The Annual Tea, and for the first time at The Tea, our TOP Sponsor, Roald Nashi spoke of the importance of education. The event raised \$15,000 and is the most successful Annual Tea THE FUND had produced thus far.



2023 ANNUAL SPRING FUNDRAISER

MIAMI VICE

Our Annual Spring Fundraiser, Miami Vice is just around the corner on May 6, we look forward to updating our community report, website, and newsletter with its success.



FUNDRAISING EVENTS

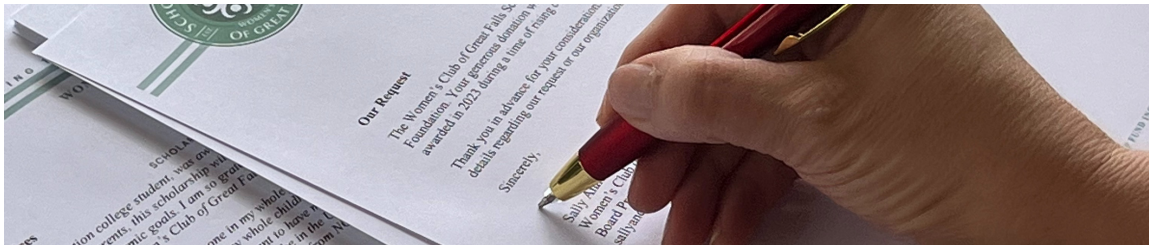
2023/2024

Our fundraising events are vital for the Fund's success. The Board has done advance work in planning ahead and The Women's Club Board has also provided calendar approval to promote these dates for our future events which are as below:

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
ANNUAL FALL TEA 2023	OCTOBER 22, 2023	RIVER BEND CLUB
ANNUAL SPRING FUNDRAISER (KENTUCKY DERBY THEME)	MAY 4, 2024	RIVER BEND CLUB
ANNUAL FALL TEA 2024	OCTOBER 20, 2024	RIVER BEND CLUB

GRANT INITIATIVE

Our **NEW** initiative for our fundraising goals was to focus on building a grant committee and create a plan for outreach to Foundations that support Education. Our Board elected to hire a consultant to work with our newly formed Grant Committee to steer this effort for a three-month contract, thus enabling us to create a grant infrastructure as well as create an outreach to new donors. Over 30 letters were sent to potential donors in the first phase of this undertaking and our efforts continue with additional work on our donor packages and outreach to foundations in the Fall. Our goals for the grant committee are twofold: A. Scholarship Grants. B. Program Grants. This is a significant undertaking and achievement in ensuring the Funds potential growth with the goal to not only assist more students, but eventually hire a Part Time Executive Director to work with the Board.



PLANNED GIVING

NEW to The FUNDS initiatives is the opportunity for estate planning. If one would like to leave a legacy in one's name, or in memory of a family member. (This is **ONLY** if you are or have been a member of The Women's Club). The Fund Board and GMU will work with you to create a Scholarship.

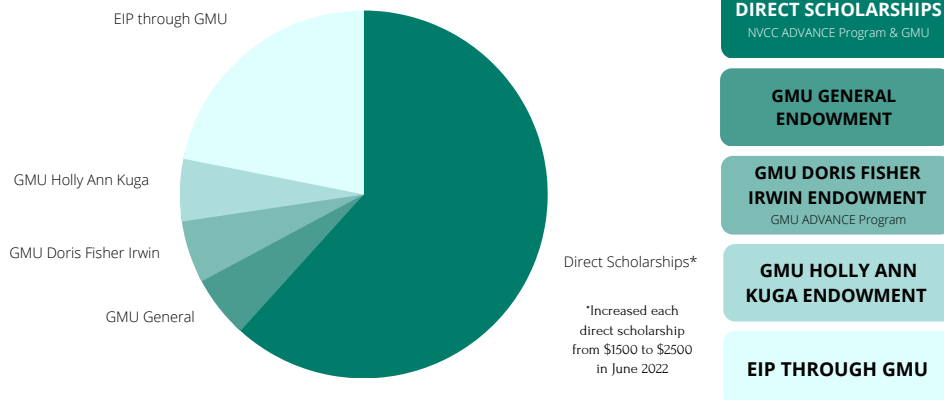
PLANNED GIVING

The establishment of the Holly Ann Kuga Scholarship was established in 2021, in memory of Holly, a long-time member of The Women's Club of Great Falls and the Scholarship Fund. To ensure her legacy over \$34,000 was raised from contributions from the Fund, members of The Women's Club, friends and family. In 2022 Katie Kuga Wenner introduced her student of choice to be awarded her Mother's Scholarship for 2022/2023.



GIVING CAMPAIGN

GROWING OUR FUTURE



HERE IS A SNAPSHOT OF OUR EXPLOSIVE GROWTH AND THE MANY ACHIEVEMENTS ACCOMPLISHED



SCHOLARSHIPS

This academic year our NEW initiative was to raise the value of the scholarships to \$2,500.00, and provide scholarships to 13 deserving students at George Mason University, to include three endowed scholarships: —A general endowment, the Doris Fisher Irwin Endowment (ADVANCE) and the Holly Ann Kuga Endowment. We also identified (GMU) Early identification Program as the first focus of a revamped scholarship fundraising in our 2022 efforts and awarded \$10,000. EIP's mission is to equip younger middle school students with the knowledge, skills, and intellect to become lifelong learners, leaders, and responsible global citizens thus becoming first generation students. This program allows us to come full circle and provide an end-to-end solution for students. In the Spring of 2023, The Women's Club of Great Falls Scholarship Fund (EIP) Scholarship recipient will be selected.



JABED HOSSEN
Computer Science



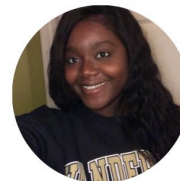
IQRA MIAN
Nursing



NADIA RIZVI
Autism Spectrum Disorder



JENNIFER DAVID
Accounting



FAITH ENNIN
Social Work



SARA MICHELS
Government & Policy



GMU EIP
Recipient



CHRIS AYALA
Business Admin



SUJIN JEUNG
OT



SAFA IDELBI
Government



**MONICA
CASTILLO RODAS**
Finance



**CHENELLE A.
THOMPSON**
Criminology, Law
& Society



**AMANDA
TORRES OGISI**
Higher Education



**HELEN EZINNE
AGBAPURUONWA**
Early Childhood Dev

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Due to the Funds growth, it was necessary to hire a CPA firm who would work with the Funds Treasurer, to prepare and file our taxes. An extension was offered to the Fund for a later filing and a transition of the Board's Treasurer position occurred midyear due to a career change and family obligations. Our new Treasurer is working closely with our CPA and we have invested in training and QuickBooks.

The Fund's fiscal year is June 1 to May 31 and after our Spring Fundraiser on May 6, preparation will begin for filing our 990 for 2022. We have been advised by our CPA that we should adjust our fiscal year to be January 1 to December 31, which will be a goal that we will work toward.

Our Annual Spring Fundraiser (Miami Vice) in 2023 is on May 6, and this report will be updated on its success.

The 2020 tax returns (June 1 2020 - May 31 2021) were filed as a postcard filing by Jayana Garvey former Treasurer of The Fund.

This was filed electronically and accepted – confirmation in PDF

The 2021 tax returns (June 1 2021 - May 31 2022) was filed as a 990-EZ by Bauer & Scott.

This was filed electronically and accepted – confirmation in PDF

The financial statements for 2022 tax year (June 1 2022 - May 31 2023) are current through 3/31/2023

Bauer & Scott, CPAs, LLP
16027 Comprint Circle
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
301-948-8940

December 13, 2022

Women's Club of Great Falls Scholarship
Fund Inc.
PO BOX 611
GREAT FALLS, VA 22066

Dear Client:

Enclosed is your 2021 Federal Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax and e-file authorization form(s). Please sign and return the e-file authorization form(s) to us as soon as possible. We will electronically file your return with the Internal Revenue Service after we receive a signed Form 8879-EO - IRS e-file Signature Authorization. No tax is payable with the filing of this return.

Please be sure to mail your returns certified return receipt, and call us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert Scott

TRANSPARENCY & REPORTING

With NEW financial growth comes the responsibility to provide up-to-date, and accurate information to the Women's Club, our community of supporters, sponsors, and donors. GuideStar, the world's largest source of information on nonprofit organizations provides online access on every nonprofit registered with the IRS as tax exempt, as well as provides data on nonprofits. This online platform offers the Fund, the opportunity to share our rich history, our student stories, and our financial picture, which offers additional transparency throughout the year. To date, we have reached the GOLD level seal with goals to reach to the PLATINUM level as we continue to grow. This platform will be used in continuance of each leadership year of the Fund Board and will be updated by the Treasurer.



INSURANCE

ACCOUNTANT/ATTORNEY/BOD & EVENT INSURANCE

The Fund was established in 1982 as the philanthropic arm to the Woman's Club and is a separate VA nonstock, nonprofit (501c3). The Fund Board is an independent governing body vested with the fiduciary obligation to ensure the best interests of the Fund. The Funds articles of incorporation and bylaws reflect the intention to collaborate and work together with The Women's Club.

Because of The Funds success and financial growth, a NEW step for The Funds successful steering was to add two professional organizations as below. Additionally, the Fund has a shared Directors & Officers Liability and Event Insurance Policy with The Women's Club that the Fund contributes to the policies payment.

Bauer & Scott, CPAs, LLP
16027 Comprint Circle
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

SmolenPlevy
Attorneys & Counsellors at Law
Fifth Floor
845 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, VA 22182

COMMUNITY REPORT

NEW to our plans for communication and transparency is our **FIRST Community Report**, designed as a tool for building trust and creating transparency. As The Fund continues to grow this is a tool that shows the Fund is accountable and demonstrates to the Women's Club, and our community of supporters, sponsors, and donors our progress made in the past year. This Community Report will be updated in August 2023 to reflect the Funds year end and will be housed on our website and will be used in continuance of each leadership year. It will also serve as for the end of the year report to The Women's Club as outlined in the Funds bylaws.

SUCCESSION PLAN

2022/2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS SUCCESSION PLAN FOR 2023/2024 & MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

The **NEW** Succession Plan has been finalized for the 2023/2024 Fund Board, with most of the Board remaining in their positions or moving into new ones with some additions to our team that require representation. 1. Grants 2. Events.

NEW to the Fund plan has been the formulation of our own Fund Committee to assist with the many tasks and leadership needed to produce the fundraisers, grant initiatives as well as provide historical knowledge. Through cultivating relationships and training women who have an interest in supporting the Fund, we have implemented a well thought out succession plan for our future leaders of the Fund to ensure its continued success.

Two **NEW** committee recognition events are now held in The Spring & Fall to acknowledge the committee's contributions as well as celebrate our growth and achievements which are held at The Forestville Schoolhouse, in Great Falls.

In July of 2023 the Fund's Board slate will be presented to the Women's Club Board for approval and on August 8, of 2023 the **NEW** Fund Board will be announced. **NEW** to the Funds planning is the end of the year Board Meeting, where committee members will be acknowledged for their contributions to the success of The Spring Fundraiser, Miami Vice, the Fund year and the 2023/2024 Fund Board will be installed.



FUND BOARD LIAISON TO THE WOMEN'S CLUB OF GREAT FALLS

Each year a new Fund Board Liaison is selected by The FUND to attend The Women's Club Board monthly meetings to update their initiatives and provide transparency of their plans and collaborate with The Women's Club. The minutes of those meetings that overview The Fund reporting for 2022/2023 are on the password protected Women's Club website Under About Us/Minutes. <https://womensclubgf.org/>

The Fund Boards monthly meetings are scheduled through August 2023, and are held at The Forestville School House, on the second Wednesday of every month at 6:30 pm.

SOWING THE SEEDS FOR SUCCESS 40 YEARS

The Women's Club of Great Falls Scholarship Fund, Inc
P.O. Box 611,
Great Falls, VA 22066

<https://www.womensclubgfsf.org/>

scholarshipfund@womensclubgfsf.org

[Document Creation & Design [KYGO.TECH](#)]

