



*Uplifting Women and
Girls, Now and Forever*

**Women's Endowment
Fund Advisory Board**

Erin Leppo Palmer
President
V. Rena Suber, M.Ed
Vice President
Joni Fitch
Secretary
Renee Scherick
Treasurer

Rita Aggarwal
Holly Harris Bane
Dr. Angela Brake
Marie Brilmyer
Emily Browning
Donna Cerdas-Delgado
Betsy Engels
Lashawrida Fellows
CJ Haines
Kimberly Huff
Rachel Hurst
Jolene Lane
Holli Mallak
Hope McGonigle
Jen Meade
Alisa Benedict O'Brien
Torey Tolson
Monica Vinay
Sonya Williams
Becky Guzy Woodford

**Annual Celebration
Committee**

Alisa Benedict O'Brien
Chair
Dr. Angela Brake
Co-Chair
Erin Leppo Palmer
WEF President
Betsy Engels
Nicole Hagy
Holli Mallak
Marquita Mitchell
Katie Carver Reed
Renee Scherick
Torey Tolson
Monica Vinay

Oct. 1, 2026

Thank you for your past support of the Women's Endowment Fund's signature event, "For Women, Forever." This year's dinner will be held on Thursday, April 8, 2027, at the John S. Knight Center and hosted by emcee Sara Shookman, career journalist and founder of Storyglow Studio. This event is expected to sell out, so we encourage you to secure your reservation now by becoming a sponsor.

During the event, the fund will honor 2027 Judith A. Read Tribute Award for Service & Advocacy for Women recipient **Pamela R. Valentine**, a respected philanthropist, mentor and community leader whose impact has strengthened Greater Akron for more than four decades. A graduate of the University of Akron, Pamela built a distinguished career in accounting and finance before retiring from Lockheed Martin and later serving as manager of major gifts for Girl Scouts of North East Ohio. Through leadership roles with the Women's Endowment Fund, Project GRAD Akron, ATHENA Akron, YWCA of Summit County, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Child Guidance & Family Solutions, and many other organizations, she has championed educational opportunity, women's leadership, and youth development while mentoring generations of women to pursue their potential and lead with purpose. Her quiet generosity, steadfast service, and commitment to empowering others have left a lasting mark on the Akron community. Pamela has received numerous recognitions for her work, including The Soul of Philanthropy Akron's Hidden Philanthropist Award and the University of Akron's Dr. Frank L. Simonetti Distinguished Business Alumni Award.

The mission of the Women's Endowment Fund is to uplift women and girls by funding programs that significantly impact their well-being, now and forever. As a permanent endowment fund committed to improving the lives of local women and girls, it is the only fund of its kind in Summit County. Each year, the Women's Endowment Fund awards grants to nonprofits that support the health, safety, and economic empowerment of women and girls. To date, the fund has awarded nearly \$2.7 million in grants to nonprofits throughout the community. You can learn more at womensendowmentfund.org.

We invite you to make a difference in the lives of local women and girls by renewing or increasing your contribution as an event sponsor. Your commitment to this important cause will be recognized at the dinner, which is annually attended by more than 400 community leaders. Enclosed is a list of sponsorship opportunities for your consideration. Each level of sponsorship offers recognition across several of the fund's events and activities. For more information, please contact Affiliate Fund Engagement Manager Deb Hoffman at dhoffman@akroncf.org. Thank you for your support of women and girls in our community.

Sincerely,

Alisa Benedict O'Brien
Chair, "For Women, Forever"
WEF Advisory Board Member

Dr. Angela Brake
Co-Chair, "For Women, Forever"
WEF Advisory Board Member



Sponsorship Reservation Form

**Thursday, April 8, 2027 at 5 p.m.
John S. Knight Center**

*Sponsorships must be received by Jan. 21, 2027,
to be included in all promotional materials.*

Please select your preferred sponsorship level:

___ **Community Partner \$25,000** (exclusive to one)
\$23,320 is deductible

___ **Empower \$10,000**
\$8,320 is deductible

___ **Uplift \$7,500**
\$6,660 is deductible

___ **Inspire \$5,000**
\$4,160 is deductible

___ **Support \$2,500**
\$1,660 is deductible

___ I/We cannot attend but would like to make a tax-deductible gift of \$_____ in honor of
Pamela R. Valentine, the 2027 recipient of the Judith A. Read Tribute Award.

Please print your name or organization as you wish it to appear in event materials:

Name / Organization

Contact Name (if different)

Street Address

City/State/ZIP

Phone

Email Address

Preferred Payment Method

___ Reserve online at **akroncf.org/give/WEF**. Write "WEF Celebration" in the comments section.

___ Check made payable to Akron Community Foundation, with "WEF Celebration" in the memo line

___ VISA ___ MasterCard ___ Discover ☐ This is a corporate card.

Name as it appears on card

Signature

Card Number

Exp. Date

Please list the names, emails and dietary needs of your attendees:

Name	Email	Dietary Needs
1. _____		
2. _____		
3. _____		
4. _____		
5. _____		
6. _____		
7. _____		
8. _____		

Please email dhoffman@akroncf.org with any additional attendees. Names must be received by March 26 to be printed on name tags. Or, list the names on a separate sheet and return with this form to:

Akron Community Foundation
Women's Endowment Fund
345 W. Cedar St.
Akron, OH 44307

Logo inclusion for corporate sponsors: Please submit a black-and-white/grayscale AND a full-color PNG or EPS file of your company's logo to aadey@akroncf.org by Jan. 21, 2027.

Program Acknowledgments: Please send a print-ready black-and-white/grayscale PDF file according to your sponsor level to aadey@akroncf.org by March 8, 2027.

Full Page: 5"W X 8"H; **Half Page:** 5"W X 4"H.

Please note: We gladly accept gifts from donor-advised funds and IRAs. However, per IRS regulations, sponsorships from donor-advised funds and IRAs cannot receive any benefits, including but not limited to event tickets, gifts, food, beverages and other items of value. If you plan to support the event with a gift from your donor-advised fund or IRA, please contact Deb Hoffman at 330-436-5614 or dhoffman@akroncf.org.

Questions? Contact Deb Hoffman at 330-436-5614 or dhoffman@akroncf.org. All phone calls and emails will be returned during normal business hours.

The Women's Endowment Fund is a fund of Akron Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) public charity. Your tax acknowledgment card will confirm your reservation. Sponsorships and tickets are nonrefundable, but tickets may be transferred. Please notify Akron Community Foundation of any changes to contact person(s) or company names by calling 330-376-8522.

2027 Sponsorship Opportunities

 WOMEN'S ENDOWMENT FUND An Akron Community Foundation Fund	Community Partner \$25,000	Empower \$10,000	Uplift \$7,500	Inspire \$5,000	Support \$2,500
	<i>\$23,320 deductible</i>	<i>\$8,320 deductible</i>	<i>\$6,660 deductible</i>	<i>\$4,160 deductible</i>	<i>\$1,660 deductible</i>
Exclusive Community Partnership					
Representative invited to nonprofit site visit(s)	✓				
“For Women, Forever” Annual Celebration					
Two tables of eight guests each, including access to a VIP reception before dinner	✓	✓			
One table of eight guests, including access to a VIP reception before dinner			✓	✓	✓
Listed as a major sponsor in press releases	✓	✓	✓		
Name/logo included on promotional materials, including invitation and evite	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Social media post acknowledging your sponsorship	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Name/logo included in event slideshow	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Acknowledgment in the printed program	Full page	Full page	Half page	Half page	Listed

All sponsors will receive VIP tickets to the “For Women, Forever” Annual Celebration. This includes an invitation to the VIP reception at 5 p.m., including an open bar and appetizers. Pamela R. Valentine, the recipient of the 2027 Judith A. Read Tribute Award for Service & Advocacy for Women, will be in attendance at the VIP reception.

All guests will receive a drink ticket that can be redeemed for one drink during the main program.

If you have questions about the sponsorship benefits, please contact Affiliate Fund Engagement Manager Deb Hoffman at 330-436-5614 or dhoffman@akroncf.org. All phone calls and emails will be returned during normal business hours.