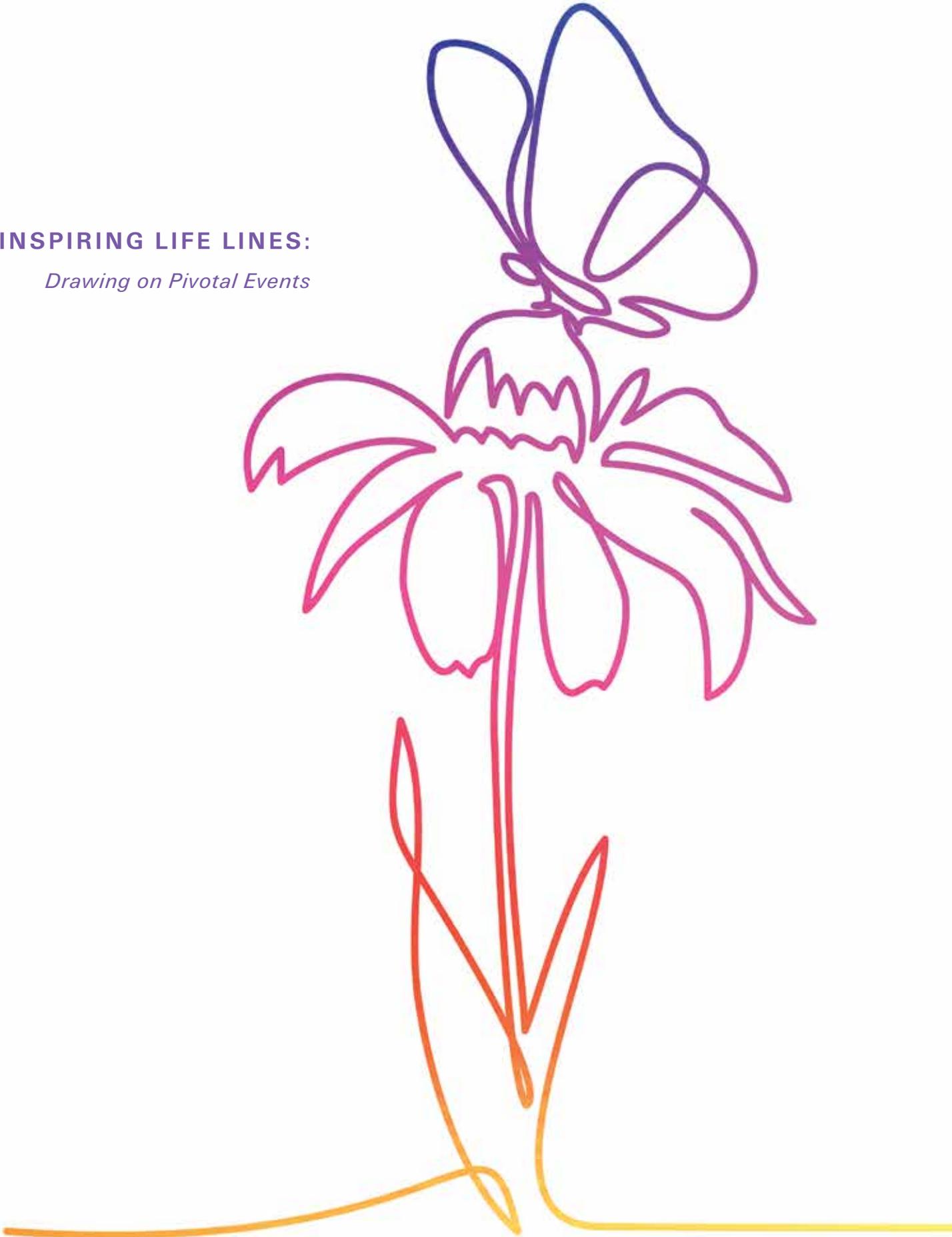


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Drawing on Pivotal Events



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Founded in 1987, Alternatives For Girls (AFG) helps homeless and high-risk girls and young women avoid violence, teen pregnancy and exploitation; and helps them explore and access the support, resources and opportunities necessary to be safe, to grow strong and to make positive choices in their lives.

Alternatives For Girls would like to recognize the following individuals for donating goods or services:

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MONICA L. MARTINEZ

Monica is the Senior Vice President, External Affairs for Comerica Bank, managing corporate contributions and community reinvestment for the Michigan market, as well as all aspects of the bank's national Hispanic Business Development. Fluent in Spanish and English, Martinez holds a bachelor's degree in International Business from Eastern Michigan University, with a focus in Marketing. She also studied Interdisciplinary Technology and Business Management at Eastern Michigan University. Martinez has earned certificates in Non-Profit Management from Duke University, Corporate Community Relations Management from Boston College and in Diversity Management from Cornell University. She is a graduate of the prestigious SMU Management program.



RONIA KRUSE

Ronia is the founder and CEO of OpTech, LLC and OpTech Solutions, a talent development and solutions firm providing services to Fortune 1000 and government clients. On the Belle Michigan investment committee, Kruse helps evaluate emerging technology portfolio companies. Formerly a senior tax consultant for a big 4 CPA firm, her dynamic leadership has earned OpTech numerous awards including being named one of the 50 Fastest-Growing Women-Owned/Led Companies Worldwide by the Women's President Organization for three years, as well as Forbes Best Professional Recruiting Firms. Kruse, a Certified Public Accountant, holds a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and a Master of Science in Taxation from Wayne State University in Detroit.

Program

INVOCATION

Darzell Boudreaux – AFG New Choices

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Amy L. Good

AFG Chief Executive Officer

Monica L. Martinez, Comerica Bank and Ronia Kruse, OpTech
2020 Role Model Dinner Co-Chairs

LIVE AUCTION

With Chris Aslanian

AWARDS PRESENTATION

Laura Chavez

Presented by: Karen Espitia, AFG Prevention

Denise Ilitch

Presented by: Jasmine Shaw, AFG Aftercare Program

Palencia Mobley, P. E.

Presented by: Casey Willis, AFG Peer Education

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Celebrating Denise Ilitch & her fellow Role Model Honorees



Message from the CEO

DEAR FRIENDS,

Welcome. Thank you for supporting Alternatives For Girls' 31st Annual Role Model Dinner! Tonight's theme, "Inspiring Life Lines", calls upon us to reflect on the life choices and trajectories of the brave girls and young women in AFG's programs, as well as the Role Models we are proud to honor.

We gather this evening to celebrate not only three extraordinary Role Models, but also the thousands of girls and young women that AFG has served who have revealed rare strength during times of crisis. Many of them have journeyed from terrible situations, such as homelessness, violence in their communities, or exploitation, and have been resilient and strong enough to reach their goals; being the first in their families to attend college, owning their own homes, becoming leaders in their communities.

Your support has meant that these young girls and woman were able to discover their potential. Last year, 186 homeless girls, young women and their children were served in our shelter and aftercare programs, on their way from vulnerability and isolation to building a strong future. AFG's prevention program served 309 girls and their family members, helping them stay safe, focused on their education, and supported on their path to becoming leaders in their schools and neighborhoods. Our outreach teams reached nearly 6,000 girls and women on the street and in the community, including providing 177 girls and women with ongoing services, supporting those who are at risk in many ways, including facing exploitation by sex traffickers or engaging in perilous behavior such as alcohol use or gang involvement, helping them to access the resources to make positive choices.

Without you, none of this would be possible. It's your incredible support throughout the year that enables girls and young women to be safe, grow strong, and make positive choices.



AMANDA L. GOOD
CEO, Alternatives For Girls

Over the past 31 years, we've had the pleasure of honoring over 70 exceptional women at our annual Role Model Dinner, and tonight we add to that history with three truly extraordinary role models:

LAURA CHAVEZ Detroit Branch Manager, Flagstar Bank

DENISE ILITCH President, Ilitch Enterprises, LLC

PALENCIA MOBLEY P.E. Deputy Director and Chief Engineer, Detroit Water & Sewerage Dept.

These three women are dedicated, courageous, and have demonstrated that setbacks can often make us stronger. They have followed their dreams and created inspiring life lines, overcoming obstacles. They are champions in their communities and support those who needed a helping hand. Each of them has already served as a source of inspiration for the girls and young women at AFG and tonight they continue to serve as concrete examples of the power of leadership, hard work, and giving back.

On behalf of AFG's board of directors and staff, thank you for joining us to celebrate the achievements of our 2020 Role Models, and those of all whom AFG proudly serves. Your support matters.

With my deepest gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amy L. Good".

Amy L. Good, CEO

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Amy Good, AFG CEO
Dale Henderson
Jim Maier
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Special thanks to all those who are volunteering this evening. One of the best gifts you can give is your time.
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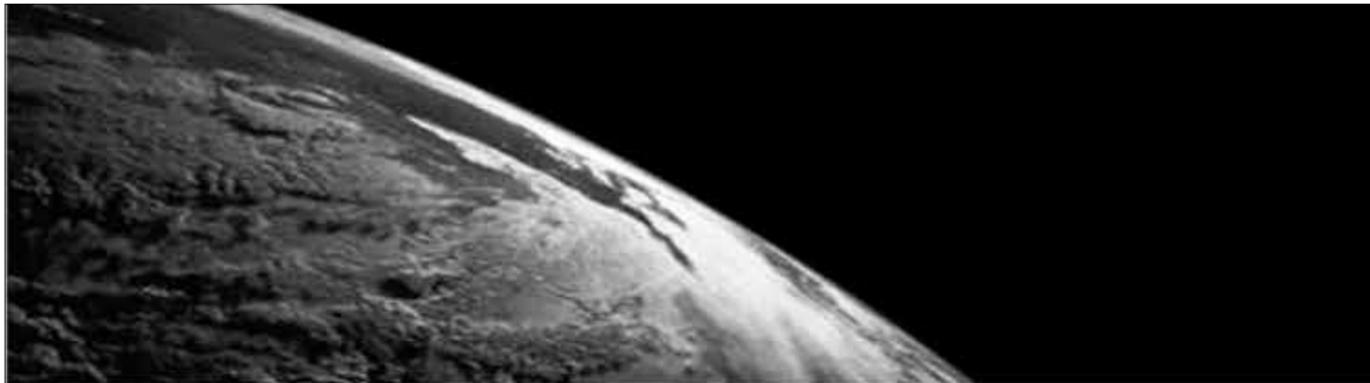
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Regent Denise Alitch

for being named an
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AFG WELCOMES OUR 2020 ROLE MODEL DINNER EMCEE:



CONSUELA BARBER – LOPEZ Executive Director of AMANDLA

A native Detroiter of proud Puerto Rican heritage, Consuela Barber-Lopez is a cultural warrior devoted to preserving Puerto Rican heritage and educating all in Latinx cultural and civic leadership, as well as highlighting the historic triumphs of civic activism in Metro Detroit's immigrant communities.

As Executive Director of AMANDLA, whose mission focuses on victim/community advocacy and law enforcement engagement, Consuela leads the solution-based Metro Detroit Anti-Human Trafficking Counsel where diverse cultural grassroots organizations work together to improve our collective response to crimes against children and adults by partnering with Survivors now Warriors, law enforcement agencies, hospitals and healthcare providers, elected and appointed officials, and direct service NGOs. It engages community members in trauma-informed and victim-centered care, intervention training, prevention education, and the apprehension of perpetrators. The group also connects victims, survivors and families with services and resources that provide housing and economic stability, as well as physical and emotional healing.

The signature of Consuela's community identity revolves around advocating via the arts, be it photography, film, dance, music, or organizing cultural festivals in Detroit. Knowing how black and brown communities are often left out in the conversations of progress, it is Consuela's intrinsic desire to create safe spaces where their voices are empowered through education and leadership development, so that they are able to advocate for themselves.

A true legacy leader, Consuela works tirelessly with Detroit's youth and young adults in cultivating their leadership skills to ensure their rightful place as the new, now, and next homegrown leaders of Metro Detroit and Michigan.

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HONORING THE 2020 ROLE MODELS



LAURA CHAVEZ-WAZEERUD-DIN
Branch Manager, Flagstar Bank

On the importance of empowering girls and young women: "We're so strong and we don't know it. We think muscles make you strong, or height. But there's that inner strength that is so much more valuable. We don't know we have it all the time and it may take someone else pointing it out and being a motivator and catalyst for your strength. As a manager, I try to highlight positive things with my team. As an educator, I always wanted to communicate to my students that they have value."

Laura Chavez is a Branch Manager for Flagstar Bank in Downtown Detroit. She has dedicated over 15 years of her life to strengthening the communities in the City of Detroit by providing resources about health, financial literacy, and education. Chavez has worked with various groups including Southwest Solutions, the Mexicantown Community Development Corporation and Henry Ford Health System by providing free workshops and volunteering her time, with topics such as Homebuyer Education Workshops, neighborhood pride and beautification, and lifelong fundamentals to communities in need.

Since joining Flagstar, Chavez has been given the freedom to engage in community development as part of her role as Branch Manager. There, she has the opportunity to bring awareness to issues in the Hispanic community and create platforms for change.

Most recently, Chavez assisted in passing out backpack kits to over 500 Detroit families in the Old Redford neighborhood, and has worked diligently to establish the Hispanic Employee Relations Group (HERG). She is active on the Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce participating in monthly events on behalf of the company. She is also on the board of the Detroit Chapter of Prospanica, a national Hispanic professional organization and serves as a member of WAY Academy, where she was honored to be the keynote speaker for their 2019 graduating class.

Advice to young women of AFG: "One thing I would say is, you have value. It's really important to know that you have value. You have so much opportunity and it's really important to know that you can do whatever it is that you want to do, as long as you want to do it. Having a game plan and action plan is important to get it done. Tell your story, talk to mentors. The more you tell your story the more they will see your strengths and can give you support and encouragement. Don't be afraid to ask for help."



The Metro West Chapter of Credit Unions is honored to support Alternatives For Girls as well as recognize the 2020 Role Models for their outstanding achievements!

Denise Ilitch
Palencia Mobley
Laura Chavez Wazeerud-Din







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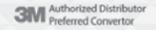


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HONORING THE 2020 ROLE MODELS



DENISE ILITCH
President, Ilitch Enterprises LLC

On the importance of empowering girls and young women: "It is important for many reasons. As I learned in law school women were at one point 'chattel' or property and as we know we were unable to vote until August 18, 1920. (We will be celebrating the 100th anniversary this year). Girls and young women need advocates so they can reach their greatest potential."

Denise Ilitch is an owner of Ilitch Family Companies. She is the president of Ilitch Enterprises, LLC, and she previously served as president of Ilitch Holdings, Inc. from 2000 to 2004, a privately held business that manages Little Caesar Enterprises, the Detroit Red Wings, the Detroit Tigers, Olympia Entertainment and Olympia Development. She was part of the team that joined prominent business leaders and government entities to create a vibrant entertainment and sports district, including a \$600 million side-by-side stadium project, Comerica Park and Ford Field, for the Detroit Tigers and Detroit Lions near the Fox Theatre.

Ilitch is a seasoned asset manager, her leadership experience in other industries includes restaurant franchise, food manufacturing, non-profit fundraising, and transportation companies. She has earned the titles "Marketing Innovator of the Year" and "Best & Brightest Marketer" and has been celebrated by Corp! Magazine and Crain's Detroit Business Magazine in their "Top Business Women" and "Most Influential Women" features. She was also a former publisher of Ambassador Magazine authoring many articles, most recently, "Building Your Confidence as a Woman" and "Investing In You", which was published in SEEN Magazine.

Ilitch currently serves as Regent on the University of Michigan Board of Regents and is Vice Chair of the Board. She also serves as trustee for the Skillman Foundation and as Chair of the Skillman External Relations & Partnerships Committee, and on the FUEL Leadership Board. A strong supporter of continuing education, she established the Denise D. Ilitch Endowed Scholarship through the U of M Alumni Association LEAD Scholars Program and also the Denise Ilitch Scholarship at Walsh College in an effort to help young women earn their advanced degrees. The University of Detroit Mercy Law School named her 2007 Alumnus of the Year. Ilitch earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and her Law Degree from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

Advice to young women of AFG: "Be confident and protect your confidence. Be with people who build you up not tear you down. Don't let anyone steal your confidence. Be determined in the life you want. There is a saying; when one door closes, another opens. I say, if that door is also closed, kick in a window. Self-improvement is a lifetime job. Don't be so hard on yourself. We sometimes are our own harshest critics. We don't need anyone else piling on. Seek help when you need it. No one on this planet escapes adversity. It is not a moral weakness to ask for help. You deserve to be cherished. And lastly, there is a saying that 'Behind every great man is a great woman.' I say, 'BEHIND EVERY GREAT WOMAN IS HERSELF.'"

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HONORING THE 2020 ROLE MODELS



PALENCIA MOBLEY
 P.E., Deputy Director/Chief Engineer
 Detroit Water and Sewerage Department

On the importance of empowering girls and young women: "I'm a possibility. I had always been confident. It's so important for women and girls to assert who they are. You are fearless, you are strong."

Palencia Mobley, P.E. was appointed as the Deputy Director and Chief Engineer of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department by Mayor Mike Duggan and approved by the Board of Water Commissioners in January 2016. In her role, she oversees all department operations including engineering, capital construction, field services maintenance and repair, meter operations, fleet and facilities. In addition, Ms. Mobley is also responsible for implementation of the department's green infrastructure program and the City of Detroit's first post construction stormwater ordinance. Prior to her appointment as Deputy Director, Mobley led the operations negotiations on behalf of the City for establishment of the new Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA). Under her leadership, the department has increased its renewal of water and sewer infrastructure from 10 miles per year to 50 miles in 2018.

Mobley is focused on improving customer service, developing a long-term capital improvement plan, and enhancing the development and training of DWSD staff. Mobley, an authority on water infrastructure and environmental engineering, has nearly twenty years of experience in planning, design and construction administration and management services for water and wastewater utilities across the country. She co-authored a proposal to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that resulted in an \$8.9 million discretionary allocation for planning and resiliency for the City of Detroit. Mobley is passionate about green infrastructure for stormwater management and use of Detroit's greatest asset, publicly owned land, to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Mobley is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering and Wayne State University with a Master of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering. In 2006, she became one of the youngest minority women to ever attain licensure as a Professional Engineer in the State of Michigan. In July of 2018, Mobley was appointed by Governor Rick Snyder to the Michigan Infrastructure Council, a state led board responsible for implementing an asset management strategy for infrastructure for the next 30 years. Mobley has been recognized by Crain's Detroit Business as a notable woman in STEM (May 2019) and is a Crain's Detroit Business 40 Under 40 Award recipient (September 2019). She also serves as the Vice Chair of the Sinai Grace Guild Community Development Corporation.

Advice to young women of AFG... "You don't have to be a product of your circumstance. Despite what may be going on around you, it doesn't have to consume you. If you stay focused, you can triumph. Through tragedy you can triumph. I adopted a motto years ago that without struggle and sacrifice there is no success."

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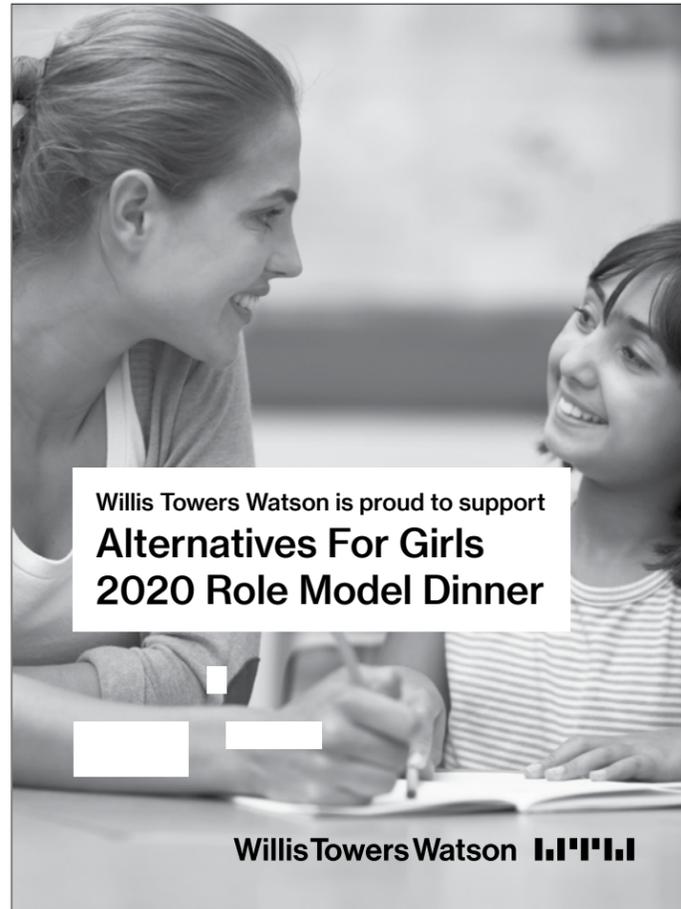
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DENISE ILITCH

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Meet our 2020 AFG Presenters



DARZELL BOUDREAUX

Darzell is a survivor of human sex trafficking and since has gone through the Joseph Project to have her record expunged and restore her driver's license. She is a former member of AFG's New Choices program and one of its first graduates. Darzell is currently a member of Sew Great Detroit and loves teaching her grandchildren the art of sewing. She is also working towards entrepreneurship.



RACHAEL ROBBINS

Rachael Robbins is currently a freshman at Jackson College majoring in Nursing. Rachael was part of Zeta Phi Beta's youth group from ages 5-18. At the age of 15, Rachael joined Alternatives For Girl's Prevention Department as a Peer Educator and then transferred over to the Outreach and Education Services (OES) in the same role. Alternatives For Girls has made a huge impact on her life and she looks forward to the time when she can give back in the future.



KAREN ESPITIA

Karen, a 16-year-old high school junior at Western International High School, has been a participant in AFG for the past two years. She is currently a part of AFG's Prevention After-School program. She has also been a participant in AFG's Rise-N-Shine and Asset-Building programs. Karen has plans on attending the University of Michigan when she graduates and studying Nursing and Oncology.



FRANCHESKA NORTHRUP

Francheska, 21 years old and previously a resident of AFG's shelter, currently participates in AFG's Rapid Rehousing program. She has a full time job and is working toward being promoted to manager in the near future. She is a mother of two children that keep her very busy! She constantly looks for opportunities where she can help and uplift others. Francheska is always seeking ways that she can have a positive impact on the world and make someone's day a little better and brighter. Francheska would like to purchase her own home soon and is interested in pursuing a career as either a Peer Support Specialist or a police officer working in the correction system with inmates.



CASEY WILLIS

Casey, an 18-year-old high school senior at University Preparatory High School, has a 3.4 GPA. Casey joined AFG's Prevention Program in her freshmen year, learning extraordinary leadership skills. She transitioned to the Outreach and Education Services Department as a Peer Educator in the summer of June 2018 and is currently still involved. Casey diligently serves others with her goal being to "always try to uplift people." In her spare time, Casey enjoys cooking, listening to music, singing and spending time with her family. Casey has two older sisters, two younger brothers, and one younger sister and is always inspired by her older siblings and thrives to be a continuous role model for her younger ones. She has been accepted to Alabama A & M University, Central State University, and Wilberforce University. Her school choice is still undecided. Her major will be psychology.

Programs

AFG PREVENTION

AFG's Prevention Program serves girls, aged 10-19, who are at risk of pregnancy, gang involvement, abusing drugs or alcohol, and school truancy. Finding self-esteem, improving a grade-point average, rejecting drugs and alcohol, pregnancy prevention, connecting with a mentor, discovering untapped talents — these are some of the experiences girls have when they take part in AFG's Prevention Programming (which includes our Afterschool and Summer Rise-N-Shine Programs) as well as through our Asset Building Program that spans several years. All help to build character on a foundation of positive choices.

AFG SHELTER/TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENT LIVING

New ideas, new paths, and new people emerge from the AFG Shelter. It is a place where homeless girls and young women (15-21 years) who have faced tremendous obstacles and have found themselves without a home or a family to provide for them, learn to discover abilities and callings that lead them toward meaningful careers and productive lives. It all begins with finishing diplomas and advancing toward degrees, developing a strong work ethic, becoming good mothers (for those who are pregnant or parenting), acquiring financial literacy, learning cooperation and respect for others, and the growth of self-esteem. Participants redefine themselves and reshape their futures.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION SERVICES (OES)

AFG's Outreach Program helps teens and women engaged in high-risk activities, such as sex trafficking, drug use and gang involvement, understand the risks of such activities and transition to safe choices and healthy lives.

AFG Outreach serves as a lifeline to many young and adult women seeking to remove themselves from situations and activities that threaten their well-being, their futures, and their lives. Staff and volunteers encounter girls and women on the streets, in all seasons, during daylight and after dark, and provide them with harm-reduction kits, referrals, and direct services — all links to life-saving and support services. Street outreach efforts offer safe alternatives and compassion for those who are involved in sex work or are victims of human trafficking, creating hope that tomorrow will be better.

Peer Education is a youth leadership program that trains at-risk youth to reach out to other at-risk youth in the community. The teams focus on topics such as healthy relationships, HIV, homelessness, internet bullying, and making positive life choices.

Recent Program Highlights

AFG PREVENTION PROGRAM:

Last year:

- For the 19th year in a row, 100% of the high school seniors in AFG's Prevention Program graduated from high school.
- 88% of participants in the Asset-Building Project increased their GPA by .5 or maintained a 3.0 or higher GPA.
- 100% of participants in the Rise N' Shine Summer Program participated in STEAM focused workshops.

AFG SHELTER:

Last year:

- AFG's Shelter provided 8,964 nights of care to 123 homeless young women and their children.
- 76% of the young women in the Transition to Independent Living Program were either enrolled in school, working, or both.
- 100% of AFG Aftercare participants reside in safe and stable housing.
- Rapid Rehousing Program: A total of 41 youth were provided RRH services which exceeded the grant requirement to serve a total of 20.

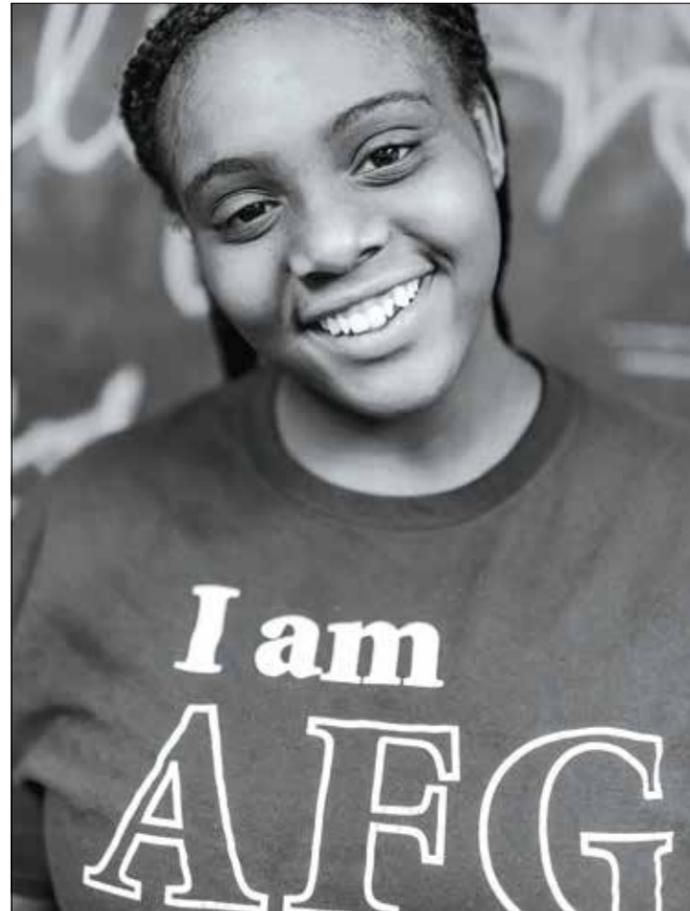
AFG OUTREACH AND EDUCATION SERVICES PROGRAM:

Last year:

- 100% of New Choices participants (of six months or more) made significant progress towards or completed goals of recovery, employment, and/or housing.
- Our Resource Center provided resources to 2,013 contacts. During this time, individuals were connected to services at AFG, or they were referred to additional homeless shelters, after-school programs, and health care services.
- 100% of participants found via street outreach, received case management, group services, training and have participated with AFG for more than six months have reduced harmful behaviors and are transitioning towards stable housing and employment.
- Employed 29 youth for the summer, where they developed resumes, gained hands on networking, financial education and interviewing experience; two youth received internship opportunities.
- 15 youth received at least ten community service hours.
- 100% of youth avoided teen pregnancy.
- All 20 PEs are trained in Sex Trafficking, Safe Sex, Bullying Prevention, Youth Leadership and Youth Outreach.

SEW GREAT DETROIT

- Number of committed volunteers has grown from three in 2014 to our current group of eleven (two knitting, nine sewing).
- Number of participants—since 2014, 35 women have participated in Sew Great Detroit, 31 in the sewing program and 15-20 in the knitting program (at least 15 participated in "open knitting").
- Of the 31 SGD seamstresses, 14 women achieved the performance expectation benchmarks to earn their own sewing machine and sewing supplies (a two-three month process). 13 women participated six months or more. Two of our current seamstresses have recently celebrated their two year anniversary in February. There are currently five knitters. Since the beginning of the knitting program, at least 15 women have joined in the "open knitting" sessions which offer free knitting instruction and materials. Those who achieve competency benchmarks can qualify to knit SGD portfolio items.



Driving a Brighter Future

As the philanthropic arm of Ford Motor Company, Ford Fund's mission is to strengthen communities and help make people's lives better. Working with dealers and nonprofit partners in more than 60 countries, Ford Fund provides access to opportunities and resources that help people reach their full potential. Since 1949, Ford Fund has invested more than \$2 billion in programs that support education, promote safe driving, enrich community life and encourage employee volunteering.

Ford salutes the Alternatives For Girls 2020 Role Models for their hard work and dedication to making their community a better place.



For more information, visit www.fordfund.org or join us at @FordFund on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Looking up to you is easy, Sis.

Congratulations Denise Ilitch for being named an Alternatives For Girls 2020 Role Model

Love,
Atanas, Carole, and Lisa



AFG ROLE MODELS 2019-1991

2019

DR. ALTHEA SIMPSON has been involved in teaching youth and adults for more than 30 years. Dr. Simpson graduated from U of M Ann Arbor in 1986 and the Syracuse University College of Law in 1989, earning a Master of Divinity and a Doctor of Ministry from Ecumenical Theological Seminary. She serves as a workshop facilitator and course instructor for religious and community service organizations throughout Metro Detroit. Dr. Simpson is employed as a Litigation Project Attorney for Clark Hill PLC in Detroit and a Legal Instructor for the Detroit Police Department.

LASHINDA STAIR is a 24-year veteran of the Detroit Police Department. In March 2014, under the leadership of Chief James E. Craig, Deputy Chief Stair made history, becoming the first member of the Detroit Police Department to be appointed First Assistant Chief. She is the recipient of the Board of Police Commissioners' Resolution for Outstanding Leadership and various other awards, citations and letters of commendation. Stair was named by FORBES Magazine as one of the 2017 "Forty over Forty" Women to Watch.

LINDA TALIAFERRO is the VP of Global Quality for Meritor, Inc. Ms. Taliaferro previously held the position of Global Quality, Environmental Health and Safety Director at Littelfuse, Inc. headquartered in Chicago, IL. She was named a "Woman Worth Watching in STEM" by Profiles in Diversity Journal (2015) and received the Women of Color STEM Special Recognition award (2017). Taliaferro earned a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University and an MBA from U of M Ross School of Business.

2018

ALICIA BOLER DAVIS serves as Executive VP, Global Manufacturing at General Motors. Ms. Davis began her GM career in 1994 as a manufacturing engineer at the Midsize/Luxury Car Division in Warren, Michigan. She has held many positions of increasing responsibility in manufacturing, engineering and product development. Working at Arlington Assembly in Texas, she became the first African-American woman to manage a GM vehicle manufacturing plant. Her professional honors include the 2018 Black Engineer of the Year award and the Automotive News 2017 All Star in Manufacturing title. In 2013, Fortune magazine named her one of the ten most powerful women in the automotive industry.

MONICA L. MARTINEZ is SVP, National Community Relations- External Diversity Programming and CRA Volunteer Management at Comerica Bank, where she manages corporate contributions function for the Michigan market, and oversees the bank's involvement of Hispanic Business Development nationally. Ms. Martinez oversees charitable contributions budgets and corporate philanthropic giving including program management of Comerica's charitable foundation and sponsorship programs in Michigan. As National Hispanic Business Developer, Monica serves as the liaison within the Hispanic community, directing Comerica's Hispanic business and community outreach in Texas, Arizona, California, Florida and Michigan.

DEBORAH LABELLE is one of the nation's top prisoner rights advocates. In 2010, as lead attorney with the ACLU, Ms. LaBelle successfully sued the state to overturn Michigan's juvenile lifer law granting parole hearings to 350 juvenile prisoners sentenced as children to mandatory life in prison for first-degree murder. Ms. LaBelle helped Michigan become the first state to prohibit male corrections officers from guarding female prisoners and worked for Michigan prisons to allow HIV-positive inmates to be placed in prison camps and halfway houses and, eventually, become paroled. Ms. LaBelle has received dozens of awards, argued two cases before the U.S. Supreme Court and testified before Congress, the United Nations and other national and international forums about humane treatment of prisoners and children.

2017

CINDY ESTRADA is the International Union and UAW Vice President and heads the Fiat Chrysler and Women's departments. A longtime union organizer, she is the first Latina elected to serve as an International Officer in the UAW. In 1999, she spearheaded the successful campaign to organize Spanish-speaking workers at Mexican Industries in Southwest Detroit. In 2000, she was appointed to the UAW International Staff, went on to lead the union's National Organizing Department in 2008, and was elected Vice President in 2010. Her work in contract negotiations impacted thousands of workers at Dana, Johnson Controls, Lear, Magna International Automotive Components (IAC), Faurecia, the State of Michigan and more.

CAROL GOSS served as president & CEO of The Skillman Foundation, focused on improving the lives of children in metropolitan Detroit. After 15 years at Skillman, in 2014, she became a fellow in the Advanced Leadership Initiative program at Harvard University. She currently serves as President for Warrior Women Against Poverty, a coalition of African American women fighting impoverishment. Ms. Goss counts nearly 20 years' experience in child welfare, family services and youth development in Detroit and Oakland, California. A native Detroit, Ms. Goss has a BA in sociology and an MSW from the University of Michigan. She currently serves on the boards of Detroit Children's Fund, Planned Parenthood of Michigan, Board Source, Safe Routes to Schools, the National Partnership and Samaritas. Crain's Detroit Business cited her as one of Southeast Michigan's Most Influential Women.

DR. ROSEMARY SARRI is a leading expert in the areas of child and family welfare policy and juvenile and criminal justice systems. She joined the University Of Michigan School Of Social Work in 1959 and became professor in 1966. Dr. Sarri served as head of the doctoral program, admissions, and the social welfare administration program. She was named Professor Emerita of Social Work in 1993, and the Rosemary Sarri Scholarship was established in her name. Dr. Sarri serves as faculty associate and senior research professor emerita at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research. Her international social work is extensive, and her honors include a Fulbright Senior Scholarship, NASW Presidential Award for Research, and the University of Michigan Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award, among others.

2016

DENISE BROOKS-WILLIAMS is the SVP and CEO of the North Market of Henry Ford Health System. Ms. Brooks-Williams holds a Master of Health Services Administration Degree from the University of Michigan. She started her career as a management fellow at Mercy Hospital in Detroit. She has served as president of the National Association of Health Services Executives (NAHSE), and is active in several community organizations including United Way and Lighthouse of Oakland County. She was selected as one of CRAIN's 100 most influential women.

RAQUEL CASTAÑEDA-LÓPEZ is a southwest Detroit native and the first Latina to be elected to Detroit City Council in 2013. Inspired by her mentors and peers at Alternatives For Girls, Ms. Castañeda-López earned a Master of Social Work Degree from the University of Michigan. While working as an advisor at Wayne State, she helped underrepresented students fulfill their education dreams and established supportive service programs for minority students. Her city council work has strengthened ties between local government, business and community.

JANET MCAULIFFE has volunteered at Alternatives For Girls since 2010, assisting with summer gardening workshops. In 2014, she collaborated with staff and volunteers to launch Sew Great Detroit, an AFG social enterprise pilot program. Ms. McAuliffe retired after 26 years at Merck & Co. Inc., was an Assistant Professor in the Department of Nursing at Mercy College of Detroit and at Monroe Community College, a pediatric nurse at William Beaumont Hospital and Children's Hospital of Michigan, and holds a Master of Science Degree in Nursing and an Associate Degree in Landscape Design.

2015

SUSAN KELLY is an internationally recognized expert on child welfare issues, and was a Senior Executive Fellow with Casey Family Programs Systems Improvement Division, a Senior Associate at the Center for the Study of Social Policy in Washington, D.C., and the Director of the Division of Community Supportive Services at the Michigan Department of Human Services. As a founding member of the International Initiative for Children, Youth and Families, Ms. Kelly served on planning committees for seminars on youth policy and child protection all over the world. Ms. Kelly worked at the University of Michigan as an adjunct professor in the Department of Psychology and Religion and in the University Counseling Services. She holds an MSW from the University of Michigan and a Master of Religious Education from the Catholic University of America.

AFG ROLE MODELS 2019–1991

2015

KRISTA MCCLURE is Inspired Director/Founder at Detroit Parent Collective. She was formerly executive assistant at Detroit Economic Growth Corporation, executive assistant to the CEO of Excellent Schools Detroit, and executive assistant to the CEO of Detroit Achievement Academy. Ms. McClure also worked as a para professional at Stewart Performance Academy. Ms. McClure has been involved in community service since her early teens including volunteer work at Gleaners Food Bank, Vista Maria, and many more. At an especially vulnerable time in her life, Ms. McClure was a resident of AFG’s shelter. Today, as a mother of two, a respected professional, community activist and gardener, she is truly a success story.

VIVIAN PICKARD recently teamed with Bernadette Blanchard to open BABS Salon & Wellness Spa in Birmingham. Previously, Ms. Pickard worked as the Director of Southeastern Michigan Community Partnerships for General Motors Company. Ms. Pickard led GM’s efforts to strengthen communities across the U.S. through partnerships and investments in education, health and human services, the environment and community development. A community advocate and philanthropist, Ms. Pickard currently serves on a number of boards. Ms. Pickard received the BIBO Award (Beauty In Beauty Out) in Chicago in 2017, the Global Community Award at the 2014 North American International Auto Show Multicultural Luncheon, the 2013 Women of Achievement Award from Michigan Women’s Foundation, and the Arab American and Chaldean Council’s 2013 Community Leadership Award.

2014

AMYRE MAKUPSON is known as one of television’s most respected and active anchors and broadcast executives. Ms. Makupson currently is News Director at Mercer University, previously served as Public Affairs Manager for UPN50 and CBS62 as well as news anchor for the UPN50 “Ten O’clock News” and CBS “News at Eleven”. She earned six Emmy awards for Best News Anchor, Best Interview/Discussion program, and four times for Best Commentary with a total of 22 nominations.

ANDRA RUSH, is the founder and chairperson of the Rush Group family of companies, which includes Rush Trucking and Dakota Integrated Systems. This consortium of manufacturing, trucking, assembly and distribution is one of the largest Native American-owned businesses in the USA. Ms. Rush serves numerous organizations on boards and commissions. She was appointed by Governor Snyder to serve as trustee for Michigan’s Children’s Trust Fund. In January 2014, Ms. Rush was invited to attend the State of the Union Address as a guest of First Lady Michelle Obama. Her work was highlighted by President Obama as an example of job creation and business ingenuity.

2013

MARY ELLEN GUREWITZ is currently Of Counsel to the firm of Sachs Waldman, and concentrates on union side labor law and political and election law. She represents a wide variety of unions in both the public and private sectors. Ms. Gurewitz has been a leader in voter protection efforts. She serves on the boards of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Metropolitan Detroit and the Jewish Council for Public Affairs. She has been a leader in establishing a new social justice organization, Detroit Jews for Justice.

PATRICIA MARYLAND, PH, has tremendous healthcare delivery experience. She currently serves on the board of directors of Compass Health. She has served in senior positions in healthcare administration for 40 years. Most recently, she served as an executive vice president, and the president and chief executive officer at Ascension Healthcare, a leading non-profit health system operating more than 2,600 sites of care including hospitals and senior living facilities. Maryland held other executive and management positions in the Ascension organization for 13 years, including president and chief executive of the St. John Providence Health System and president of the Indianapolis Hospital, St. Vincent’s Health System. Prior to joining Ascension, Maryland worked in administrative roles with Detroit Medical Center, North Oakland Medical Centers, Cleveland Clinic Foundation and Mercy Hospital.

TRINA R. SHANKS, PH.D., is currently Associate Professor at the University of Michigan. She completed her Ph.D. in Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis and is a faculty associate with its Center for Social Development. Dr. Shanks served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Ecuador and earned a Master’s degree in Comparative Social Research from the University of Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar. She served a two-year appointment to the Michigan Governor’s Commission on Community Action and Economic Opportunity. She initiated a family mentoring program and introduced Individual Development Accounts to public housing residents. Dr. Shanks currently oversees the evaluation of summer youth employment in Detroit.

REGINA SHARMA is Senior Director of Major Gifts at Henry Ford Health System. Ms. Sharma is a proud WSU alum with a BA in Public Relations. She holds a Master’s in Public Administration from Central Michigan University. Ms. Sharma has served at United Way for Southeastern Michigan, Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan and the Detroit Regional Chamber. Prior to joining WSU, she was Development Officer for the Detroit Public Schools Foundation, raising funds to benefit programs for Detroit students. Ms. Sharma is a graduate of Leadership Detroit, a recipient of the Michigan Governors Service Award, and the Spirit of Detroit Award.

2012

CAROLYN LETT is Roeper School’s Financial Aid and Scholarship Coordinator and has served the school for over 18 years. Ms. Lett is chair of the Roeper School “All School Diversity Committee,” the advisor for the middle/upper school Student Diversity Committee, and stewards inclusivity in all areas of the school’s programs. Ms. Lett is also involved in local and national diversity work, serving as Chair of the AIMS Southeastern Michigan Diversity Committee and as a member of the NAIS “Call to Action” Committee.

KRISTINA MARSHALL, President and CEO, has worked since 1998 to advance Winning Futures as a top-rate school-based mentoring program touching the lives of 40,000 students. Ms. Marshall was the first mentee in 1994, and from that time, has made the organization her life’s mission. Ms. Marshall serves as the past president for the Detroit Chapter of the Entrepreneurship Organization (EO), is a motivational speaker, co-author of four books, past Chair of the Mentor Michigan Providers Council, and led Winning Futures to the Crain’s Best-Managed Nonprofit award.

FAYE NELSON became the Director of Michigan Programs for the Kellogg Foundation in 2018. Prior to this, she served as the Vice President of DTE Energy Company and the President and Board Chairman of the DTE Energy Foundation. She has always been committed to the revitalization of Detroit, and sees her leadership at the Detroit RiverFront Conservancy as one of her biggest achievements. A native Detroiter, Ms. Nelson led the transformation of Detroit’s Riverfront to create the beautiful riverfront we now know and love. She has served on the Board of Directors for Compuware Corporation, the University of Detroit Mercy, TechTown, the Parade Company and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

2011

VALERIE NEWMAN, JD, was appointed by in November, 2017, as director of the new Wayne County Prosecutor’s Conviction Integrity Unit, where she works to prevent mistakes in prosecution and investigate possible wrongful convictions. Prior to this role Ms. Newman served as an attorney with the State Appellate Defender Office since 1992. Throughout her career she has advocated for women’s rights and the professional development of women. In 2011, Ms. Newman successfully argued the case of Lafler v Cooper before the U.S. Supreme Court. The New York Times heralded the decision as the most important right to counsel case since Gideon v Wainwright. Ms. Newman’s many honors include the 2013 Champion of Justice award from the State Bar and being named a top lawyer in the U.S. in 2012. She created the Women Judges and Lawyers’ Culinary Challenge, raising funds for nonprofits that support girls each year, including Alternatives For Girls.

ANN NICHOLSON has a long history of promoting educational achievement in the Detroit area, from tutoring elementary school children to working with adult literacy students. Ms. Nicholson served on the Board of Trustees of Oakland University, including serving as Vice Chair and Chair. She is currently on the Board of Alternatives For Girls, the Merrill Palmer Skillman Board of Visitors, Young Woman’s Home Association and The League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe.

2010

JOCELYN K. ALLEN is the Co-Founder and CEO of the Allen Lewis Agency. Previously, Ms. Allen was the President and CEO of Wing Divas and the director of Cross-brand Communications at GM. Ms. Allen has been recognized for her professional achievements by The National Association of Black Journalists (Patricia L. Tobin Media Professional Award 2017), the Allen Miller Foundation (Multicultural Humanitarian Award) and the National Diversity Opportunity Council (the inaugural Michigan Chronicle Women of Excellence Award and the Urban Wheel Awards Minority Executive of the Year 2009).

CHRISTIANNE SIMS is the Director of Fusion, the Young Professional Organization of the Detroit Regional Chamber. She founded Urbanize (D), a communications and talent engagement consultancy, and is the project manager for the Emerging Leaders Roundtable for the BING Institute. Ms. Sims appears on the 2009 Diversity Champion Honor Roll of the Race Relations & Diversity Task Force and was named one of Crain’s 20 in their 20s in 2010.

SUSAN P. STEIGERWALT, MD, has practiced medicine in metro Detroit her entire career, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to women, African-Americans, and the city. Dr. Steigervalt and her partners established a state-of-the art medical clinic on Detroit’s east side, renovating an abandoned building. She is currently a nephrologist in Ann Arbor, and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area, including Beaumont Hospital-Farmington Hills and Beaumont Hospital-Grosse Pointe. Dr. Steigervalt speaks and publishes on hypertension and kidney disease, conditions prevalent in the community she serves.

2009

KAREN LOVE has worked for numerous print publications including the Michigan Chronicle, as well as a career in community connections focused on the elderly in Midtown Detroit. In 2013, Ms. Love founded her own firm, KarYzma Media Consulting Inc. specializing in black media, and has embarked on the second stage of her career as the community connections coordinator for greater Midtown. There, she interacts with seniors by creating and maintaining activities that improve their quality of life. Before embarking on this journey, Ms. Love was the COO at the Michigan Chronicle from 1989-2013. At the age of 65, Ms. Love returned to college earning a degree in sociology at EMU and a master’s degree in gerontology from the University of Southern California. Ms. Love’s numerous awards include the Chicago Tribune Black Achiever Award and the Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries 2008 Unsung Hero Award.

MARLA TAPPER YOUNG, formerly co-owner and Customer Relations Manager of Tapper’s Diamonds and Fine Jewelry, created and led the “Dress for a Dream” campaign in 2004, which made gently used evening dresses available for high school girls across metropolitan Detroit to enable them to attend their senior proms. Ms. Tapper Young leads Tapper’s annual Coat Drive and has been a mentor to young women through Jewish Family Services.

2008

LINDA FORTE retired from her position at Comerica after 42 years developing the company’s corporate-wide diversity, philanthropy and community involvement strategy and programming. Under Ms. Forte’s leadership, Comerica has been recognized for outstanding leadership in diversity, including national awards from Diversity Inc., Hispanic Business and Black Enterprise magazines. In 2011, Ms. Forte was appointed as a commissioner for the Detroit Sewerage and Water Department and in 2016 she was recognized in Black Enterprises’ “Top Executives in Diversity.”

MINNIE PEARCE served as a Title I Consultant at Detroit Public Schools from 1969-2011. Previously, she served as a parliamentarian and national trainer for the Parent Institute of the National Coalition of ESEA Title I Parents, Inc., providing supplementary academic assistance to economically and educationally disadvantaged children.

RHONDA WALKER has been waking Detroiters up with weekday news for over 15 years, currently as Local 4 News Morning Anchor. She provides daily newscasts and video blogs for the Local 4 News website and hosts special programming and events. Ms. Walker is the President of the Rhonda Walker Foundation which she founded in 2003 to empower inner city teen girls to become strong confident, successful and moral future leaders.

2007

CARMEN HARLAN retired in 2016 from her position as a senior news anchor at WDIV Local 4 after a career that spanned 40 years. Ms. Harlan was honored for her stellar professional achievements and exemplary commitment to children’s causes, among them: Sparky Anderson’s CATCH, the Karmanos Foundation, Operation ABLE, The Children’s Center and Alternatives For Girls. As a co-anchor, Ms. Harlan helped to make “Local First News at 11” the top-rated news program in Detroit. She is currently collaborating with New York-based designer and fashion consultant PingPong Khumwan of Maison Khoomwan to create a clothing line unique to Detroit.

FRANCINE PARKER retired from her position as Executive Director of the UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust which, with more than 730,000 members, is the largest non-government purchaser of retiree health care in the U.S. As a health care leader and innovator, Ms. Parker previously served as the first woman president and CEO of Health Alliance Plan. She serves on local and national boards including Siena Heights University, Greater Detroit Area Health Council and the Alliance for Health Reform.

ALICE G. THOMPSON has been CEO of Black Family Development since 1994. She expanded programs to encompass a comprehensive continuum of family and youth services. Under her leadership, the organization has provided an array of positive youth development services to thousands of youth. Ms. Thompson is a graduate of Leadership Detroit, and is very active in professional, educational, community, and faith-based initiatives. She serves on several non-profit Boards, including the WSU Board of Visitors.

2006

DENISE KNOBBLOCK STARR currently serves as the City of Detroit’s Human Resources Director. Formerly, Ms. Starr was chief administrative officer for Compuware Corporation. A graduate of the University of Detroit-Mercy, Ms. Starr has become a respected leader in the field of facilities management and administration.

NETTIE SEABROOKS rose to her position as Executive Advisor to the Director of the Detroit Institute of Arts in 2008, powered by her passion for learning. Previously, Ms. Seabrooks spent 31 years at GM, where she was the first African American woman executive. Blazing trails for women in public service, Ms. Seabrooks served as the first woman Deputy Mayor, Chief of Staff and Chief Operating Officer for the City of Detroit during the administration of Mayor Dennis Archer. She retired from the DIA in 2013, and is now a consultant to the Manoogian Foundation and serves on the board of the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy.

KIM TRENT is the SVP, civic and corporate engagement, at Compass Strategies. Her career includes cabinet-level positions with principals from both the U.S. House and Senate and the Michigan Governor’s Office, statewide efforts to protect affirmative action, and raising funds to process thousands of rape kits. Ms. Trent served on WSU’s Board of Governors, and currently serves on Governor Whitmer’s Labor Economic Opportunity leadership team.

2005

JUDITH ELLIS started as a volunteer with First Step Western Wayne County Project on Domestic Violence, and served for 31 years, eventually as the executive director. Under her leadership, First Step grew from a small grass roots agency to a multi-site, multi-service organization serving more than 30 communities and close to 7,000 clients a year. Retiring from First Step in 2012, she now works as a consultant.

MAHA FREIJ is the Executive Director at ACCESS and a leading visionary in the Arab American community with regard to philanthropy and building strong institutions to strengthen the voice of the community in American civil society. Under her leadership, the Center for Arab American Philanthropy, a national institution of ACCESS, has become the only national Arab American community foundation in the U.S., connecting philanthropists across the country and helping them to make a greater impact. Ms. Freij has also been a key leader in growing ACCESS from its roots as a regional human services organization, to what it is today — a community builder nationwide.

Congratulations

DENISE ILITCH

On a well-deserved
honor!

Ian and Marcy Burnstein

FOCUSED ON WHAT MATTERS

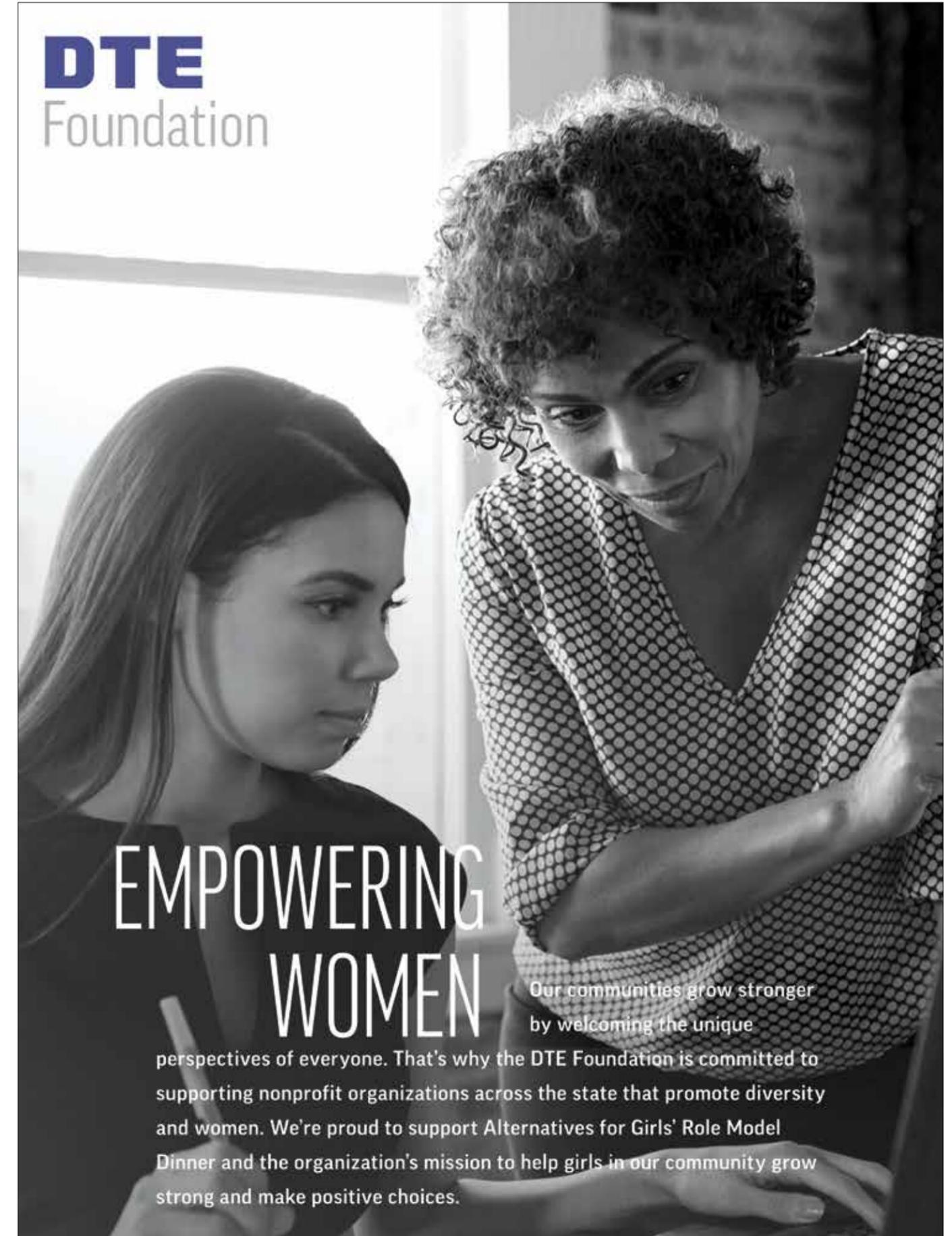
EMBRACING HUMANITY. PROTECTING THE PLANET.

We uphold our commitment to the communities that have welcomed us, give generously to our neighbors and embody our core value of embracing humanity every day. We are passionate about actively engaging in volunteerism and philanthropic opportunities as well as providing assistance globally and in local areas. Learn more at MGMRESORTS.COM/FOCUSED. MGM Resorts International is proud to support **ALTERNATIVES FOR GIRLS.**

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DETROIT



DTE
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EMPOWERING WOMEN

Our communities grow stronger by welcoming the unique perspectives of everyone. That's why the DTE Foundation is committed to supporting nonprofit organizations across the state that promote diversity and women. We're proud to support Alternatives for Girls' Role Model Dinner and the organization's mission to help girls in our community grow strong and make positive choices.

Flagstar
Bank

Working together to change lives.

Flagstar Bank proudly supports Alternatives for Girls. We're committed in our support of organizations like Alternatives for Girls, who tirelessly dedicate themselves to improving the communities in which we live and work.

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AFG ROLE MODELS 2019–1991

2005

ROCHELLE RILEY, currently the Director of Arts, Culture and Entertainment, City of Detroit, was previously a nationally syndicated columnist for the Detroit Free Press for 19 years, and advocated in her column for improved race relations, literacy, community building, and children. In 2018, Ms. Riley published *The Burden: African Americans and the Enduring Impact of Slavery*. The Michigan Press Association has twice named her Michigan’s best local columnist. In 2016, Ms. Riley was inducted into the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame. She received the 2017 Eugene C. Pulliam Editorial Fellowship from the Society of Professional Journalists and the 2017 Ida B. Wells Award from the National Association of Black Journalists for her efforts to make newsrooms and news coverage more accurately reflect the diversity of the communities they serve.

2004

GLENDA D. PRICE, PH.D. became the first African American president of Marygrove College in 1998. Following retirement in 2006, Dr. Price served as Interim President of the Michigan Colleges Foundation, and President of the Detroit Public Schools Foundation. In 2015 she was ranked in CRAIN’S Detroit as “Most Connected”. She has been active in the community, serving on numerous non-profit boards, as a member of the City of Detroit Financial Advisory Board, co-chair of the Blight Removal Task Force, and the national board of directors for the American Association of University Women.

SHIRLEY R. STANCATO was appointed by Governor Whitmer to serve on the WSU Board of Governors. She retired at the end of 2018 from serving, since 2000, as president & CEO of the New Detroit, Inc., southeastern Michigan’s leadership coalition devoted to race relations, serving as an essential forum for discussion, advocacy and to identify issues and provide solutions to promote racial equity in the region. Prior to New Detroit, Ms. Stancato enjoyed a long career with what is now Chase Bank. Among her many community roles, she served as board member and board chair at Alternatives For Girls. A lifelong Detroit, Ms. Stancato earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Wayne State University.

2003

CLAIRE J. ROBERTS, a member of the Society of Industrial and Office Realtors, is VP of Colliers International, in Minneapolis-St. Paul. She has been a commercial real estate broker representing landlords and tenants for over 20 years. Throughout her career, Ms. Roberts has been actively involved in the Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) Network, which influences the success of the commercial real estate industry by advancing the achievements of women. Ms. Roberts served on the CREW Detroit Board for 3 years, the MNCREW Board of Directors for 6 years, serving as Chapter President in 2014.

BRENDA ROSENBERG builds upon her background in fashion and design, employing her creative thinking and innovative risk-taking to initiate social change. Her desire to establish partnerships, open doors and dialogues across various divides inspired her to co-create the Tectonic Leadership program with Samia Moustapha Bahsoun. The goal was to make a more beautiful world by breaking barriers and reframing relationships, utilizing creativity to actualize change.

2002

THE HON. JUNE BLACKWELL-HATCHER retired in 2018 as Wayne County Probate Court Judge. She was the first woman in history in the Estates Division of the Wayne County Probate Court and one of only two African American female judges in Michigan to preside over an Estate docket. Judge Blackwell-Hatcher has served as president of the Association of Black Judges of Michigan, and has been a member of the National College of Probate Judges, the Michigan Probate Judges Association, the Greater Wayne County Chapter of Links, Inc., and the Wayne County Probate Bar Association.

THE LATE MARILYN MALIN strived to develop ways to help workers connect with jobs. She co-owned Staff Solutions, Inc., a temporary employment firm, which created an innovative system of delivering employees to job sites in the tri-county area via bus and van.

2001

NANETTE LEE REYNOLDS, ED.D. retired from state government in 2003, having served for ten years as director of the Civil Rights Dept. She founded Renovations, LLC to assist organizations and institutions “achieve the benefits of diversity”. She also was a representative on the King Center National Holiday Advisory Committee and served on the Michigan Commission on Genetic Privacy and Progress.

JOANNE START is Managing Director at BPI Group U.S., responsible for leading the company’s Midwest market expansion into Michigan; this is a subsidiary of BPI group, a global management and human resources consulting firm headquartered in Paris, France. In this role, she brings her experience in relationship management, leadership development and executive coaching to global clients such as Coca-Cola, Walgreens, Panasonic Automotive, and Ascension Health. She is active in the International Women’s Forum, the Detroit Economic Club, Inforum-Michigan, and the Michigan Women’s Foundation’s Power of 100 Women, and volunteers to bring leadership development to AFG’s leadership team.

2000

MAUREEN A. FAY, O.P., PH.D., worked to improve education as President of the University of Detroit Mercy and as a member of the Dominican Sisters of Adrian, Michigan. As the first female president of a Jesuit university, Dr. Fay serves as a role model and mentor to other women who have become the “first” in various educational leadership roles. Her honors include CRAIN’s list of most influential women in Detroit, as well as awards from the Salvation Army and the National Conference for Humanity and Justice.

PAMELA RODGERS owns Rodgers Holdings, LLC, and is a partner in the soon-to-launch social enterprise, “Eats All Good”, creating plant-based innovative food products, and committed to employing AFG participants. She sold her successful business, Rodgers Chevrolet, Inc. of Woodhaven, Michigan, in 2017, as one of very few women in the world who was able to start and grow an auto dealership from the group up; she built Rodgers Chevrolet into one of GM’s flagship franchises and ranked among the largest black-owned dealerships. She has served on the GM Women Dealers Advisory Board and on the boards of New Detroit, the Detroit Black Chamber of Commerce, the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan, the Merrill Palmer Institute and Alternatives For Girls, among others.

1999

JULIE FISHER CUMMINGS, founder of Lovelight Foundation, strives to enhance the quality of life for underprivileged children, women and families. In addition to her work at the Lovelight Foundation, Ms. Fisher Cummings serves as the managing trustee of the Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation and teaches child policy at the University of Miami. She is a former trustee of Children’s Hospital of Michigan and current president of the Washington D.C.-based National Association for Children of Alcoholics.

THE HON. DENISE PAGE HOOD, JD administers the law and strives for justice as Chief U. S. District Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. Nominated by President Bill Clinton and confirmed by the Senate in 1994, Judge Hood became the first African American judge in 13 years to join the Eastern District of Michigan bench.

GAIL PERRY-MASON assists nonprofit organizations, churches, individuals, families and small business to achieve long-term financial goals in her position with Oppenheimer & Co., Inc. Ms. Perry-Mason worked her way up in the company from receptionist to financial advisor and senior director of investments. She was named one of Detroit’s Most Influential in the Financial Industry by the Women’s Informal Network in 1999. For 18 years, Perry-Mason has hosted a weeklong Money Matters camp for kids. Recently, she launched the Five-Day Going Green Fast, a Facebook-based program she has developed that challenges participants to bar spending money or eating fast food for five days.

1998

MARILYN FRENCH HUBBARD, PH.D., President of Healthy, Wealthy & Wise: Change Agents, advocates for the empowerment of women in many different facets of life. Dr. Hubbard is author of the business book, “Sisters Are Cashing In: How Every Woman Can Make Her Financial Dreams Come True,” and has served on various boards. She is founder of the National Association of Black Women Entrepreneurs, Inc., and is founding vice president of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO), Michigan Chapter. Dr. Hubbard has also served in several corporate and federal leadership roles through appointments by Presidents Carter, Reagan, Bush, and Clinton.

ANN H. HOAG is a retired senior director of leadership programs for the Detroit Regional Chamber where she led Leadership Detroit’s Leadership Policy Conference, the chamber’s diversity initiatives and headed the Mackinac Conference. Ms. Hoag has served on the executive committee of Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit and has been a board member of the Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation.

1997

ALEXA CANADY, M.D. was chief of neurosurgery at Children’s Hospital of Michigan from 1987 until her retirement in 2001. She received the Children’s Hospital of Michigan’s Teacher of the Year award in 1984, and was inducted into the Michigan Woman’s Hall of Fame in 1989. In 1993, she received the American Medical Women’s Association President’s Award and in 1994 the Distinguished Service Award from WSU Medical School. In 2002, the Detroit News named Dr. Canady Michigander of the Year.

ROBERTA SANDERS retired in 2011 from her position as the CEO of New Center Community Health System where she managed a \$9.5-million budget and directed the treatment of thousands of mentally ill clients. In the 32 years she was employed with the NCCHS, Ms. Sanders served the community of Detroit and worked for inclusion and understanding. She continues to be active providing consulting serves in metro Detroit.

1996

VERNICE D. ANTHONY, is president, VDA Health Connect and Anthony & Associates LLC. Throughout her career, Ms. Anthony developed and worked with collaborative models aimed at improving health care access, quality and cost. Ms. Anthony has been board member and later interim CEO of Focus: HOPE, President and CEO of the Greater Detroit Area Health Council, senior vice president of Corporate Affairs and Community Health at St. John Health, and served as director of the Michigan Department of Public Health.

MARY KRAMER is vice president and group publisher of Crain Communications Inc. She was the first woman to be elected president of the Detroit Athletic Club and has served on a number of boards, including Leadership Detroit, the Metropolitan Affairs Coalition, the Detroit 300 Commission, the Detroit Regional Chamber, and the Michigan Colleges Foundation and Crimestoppers. She is a trustee of both the Skillman Foundation in Detroit and Grand Valley State University.

1995

GUADALUPE G. LARA, LMSW, dedicated 27 years advocating for families at Children’s Hospital of Michigan until she retired in 2006 to care for her ailing mother in Texas. She returned to Detroit to work as the director of the Consortium of Hispanic Agencies where she worked with six member agencies to advocate on behalf of Hispanic issues. She has continued to be active with Detroit’s Latin Americans for Social and Economic Development (LA SED), Ms. Lara held a variety of leadership positions and has been recognized for her work on inclusion by over 45 organizations. She has presented her work in the United States, Norway, Australia, Mexico and Canada.

ANGELA B. WILSON is executive director of Young Detroit Builders, and is the president of the board of directors of the Eastside Community Network (formerly Warrant Conner Development Coalition.) She was executive assistant to former Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer, and served as a board member of the American Friends Service Committee and the Michigan Metropolitan Girl Scouts Council.

1994

NANCY J. DIEHL’S legal career in the Wayne County Prosecutor’s Office spanned 28 years. At the time of her retirement, Ms. Diehl was Chief of the Trial Division, overseeing general trials, child and family abuse, homicide, auto theft, major drugs, and victim services. Her work as founder and director of the Child Abuse Unit and the expanded Child and Family Abuse Bureau, which gained state and national attention as a model program of the team approach of prosecutor and advocate vertically handling abuse cases in the criminal justice system. She is the co-author of four booklets pertaining to children and the legal system: it is good to tell the truth, kids go to court, kids and secrets, and sometimes it is sad to be at home, what is a kid to do about domestic violence?

REV. JOANN WATSON is the Associate Pastor of West Side Unity Church and Host of the Radio/TV show: “Wake Up Detroit” featured on Comcast Channel 91 via Watkins TV Broadcasting and 910 AM Radio Superstation. Previously, she served as a Detroit City Council Member and the president and CEO of JoAnn Watson Systems, Incorporated, where she promoted social and economic justice. Reverend Watson is devoted to combatting racism, countering sexism and promoting peace, justice and freedom. She is founding President of the National Association of Black Talk Show Hosts, serves on the Advisory Board for American Girl, is a Consultant to Pathways to College, and is a member of The Detroit Council of Elders and The National Black Council of Elders.

1993

HELEN B. LOVE continues to build on her professional experience, personal interests and community ties since retiring from Ford Motor Company as Community Relations Director. Committed to building the health, wellness and long-term care literacy of Detroit residents, Ms. Love produces the Detroit Area Agency on Aging’s “Senior Solution” weekly radio show. This encore career builds on Ms. Love’s years of experience in local television production and service on numerous non-profit boards.

1992

THE HON. VESTA SVENSON is a former judge of the 36th District Court. Judge Svenson was rated best judge in the tri-county area by a group of her peers in 1991. She is a member of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan and continues to serve as a visiting judge in various courts.

1991

THE LATE MILDRED JEFFREY was a lifelong campaigner for social justice and civil rights. In the 1940s, she joined the NAACP and embraced the labor movement, working to organize textile workers across the county. Ms. Jeffrey had a long and celebrated career with the United Auto Workers, ultimately serving as director of its Consumer Affairs Department from 1968 until her retirement. In 2000, Ms. Jeffrey was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Bill Clinton.

Sisters at the Summit Award

AFG presented the first Sisters at the Summit Award in 2004 to the 2003 WNBA Champion Detroit Shock. The Shock finished the 2002 WNBA season 9-23, recording the worst record in the league, then rebounded to finish a league best 25-9 the following season, earning home court advantage throughout the 2003 WNBA Playoffs and marking the best single-season turnaround in WNBA history.

The second Summit Award was presented in 2009 to Rashida Tlaib, the first Palestinian to get elected to the Michigan State House. Tlaib has worked on local initiatives and is dedicated to putting an end to fraudulent schemes that mislead residents. Ms. Tlaib was elected to the U.S. Congress in 2018, representing Michigan’s 13th congressional district, as one of the first two Muslim women elected to Congress.

In 2012, the Summit Award was presented to Mandi Murray, the first Female Battalion Commander, first Female Brigade Commander and first Female General Officer in the Michigan Army National Guard. Ms. Murray is currently vice president/managing counsel, provider operations with Trinity Health. Ms. Murray is a Bronze Star recipient.



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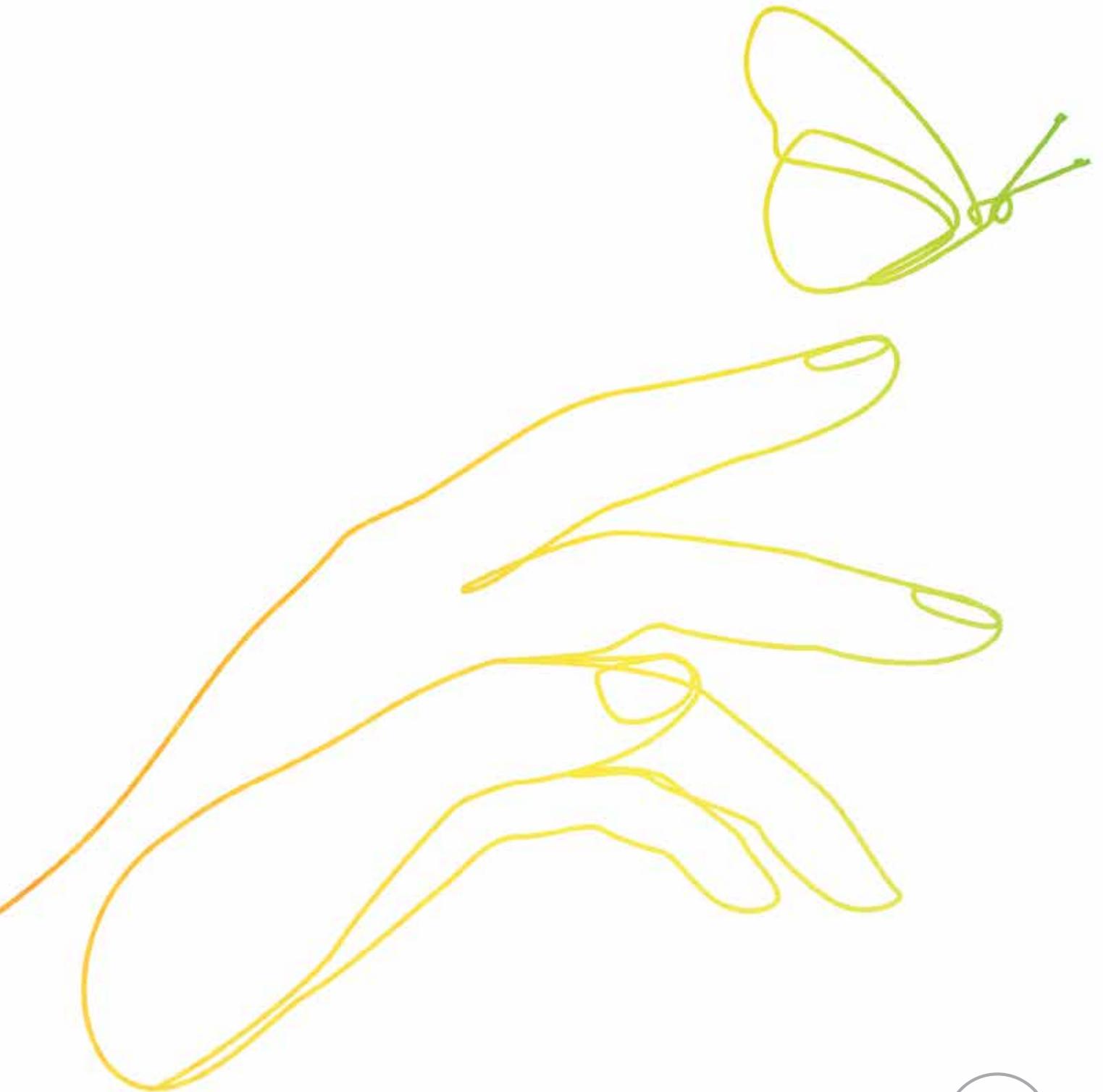
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