

ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2024

## Her Promise. Her Path. Her Power.

Celebrating 10 Years of WWIN Star Scholars



## We believe in her promise. We support her path. We celebrate her power.



#### **Star Scholarship and Resiliency Fund**

WWIN removes financial barriers for women pursuing their first undergraduate degrees. Renewable until graduation, WWIN Star Scholarships provide up to \$5,000 annually in scholarship aid toward the total cost of attendance (up to \$20,000 lifetime). In addition, Scholars receive personalized support from WWIN, including access to Resiliency Funds to help manage unexpected financial hardships.



#### **Career Coaching**

WWIN women have lifetime access to resources that enhance their skills, from networking to negotiating and self-confidence to self-advocacy. Our Career Coaching programs provide Scholars and alumnae individualized support to achieve their self-determined goals by working one-on-one with a certified coach.



#### **WWIN Connect**

Bringing together our statewide community of alumnae, current Scholars, mentors and supporters, WWIN Connect helps women build a personal and professional network that fosters opportunity and success.



Deb Frockt Executive Director



**Bindu Sutaria** President, Board of Directors

Dear Friends,

Let's celebrate this extraordinary milestone: the 10-year anniversary of the WWIN Star Scholar Program. When our program launched with eight Scholars, we knew we were making a longterm commitment with an impact that would grow over time. Today, we see that vision made real in our growing community of more than 600 Scholars and alumnae, from Spokane to Silverdale and every corner of our state.

This victory belongs to our Star Scholars—and to all of us in Washington. Our communities urgently need WWIN women: for their ambitions and accomplishments, their vision and values, and most certainly, their leadership. Each year, more alumnae step forward as mentors and volunteers who exemplify possibility. Through their efforts, we see the ripple effect of women supporting women and the exponential impact this makes.

## "WWIN offers women the opportunity to live the lives they imagine for themselves."

WWIN offers women the opportunity to live the lives they imagine for themselves, and in this, we stand apart. WWIN trusts each woman as the best expert in her life and supports her self-determined goals. This is the formula for our success. Each year, 99% of our Scholars graduate or persist in their studies—proving, time and again, that the right combination of support, freedom and community makes a profound difference.

We know that Washington—and our world—can only achieve its full potential when all women are free to fulfill theirs. Thank you for believing in WWIN women. Because of you, they rise and when they succeed, they transform what's possible for all of us.

Sincerely,

Jude

# Christina

" I am proof that it's never too late to improve oneself and strive for more. For the first time in my life, I'm excited about my future and know that I'm going to be okay. I will be economically stable, have the ability to care for my family, and have the means to give back to my community.

I am committed to lifelong learning, and I will continue to set the bar high! Obtaining a master's or doctoral degree is not out of the question, and it's within my reach. The sky is the limit!

I am grateful for the financial and emotional support that WWIN has given me. I feel blessed to be part of the WWIN community."

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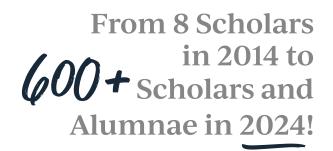
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Pierce College Applied Business Management



## Celebrating 10 Years of the WWIN Star Scholar Program

Our vision in 2014 was to invest more deeply in each woman's success at every step of her college and career journey. We recognized that it takes far more than financial aid to complete a college degree: it takes the support of a community that knows each woman by name and champions her success.

# Our combination of support, freedom and community makes a profound difference.

999% of WWIN Star Scholars

completed or continued their education, far exceeding statewide averages



Scholars graduated, and 66% were the first in their families to achieve this goal

**71**%

graduated with less than \$15,000 in student debt and nearly half had no student debt

# Eva's Promise

" I am passionate about empowering mothers. Partaking in the care of firsttime parents and witnessing them holding their baby for the first time is truly an extraordinary moment.

Coming from a minority group and being a first-generation college student, I want to break the cycle of limited options and give my kids the chance they deserve. I have seen the hardships in working and paying for my educational path, and I would like to see an easier solution for my children and future generations. This scholarship means opportunity, stability and hope."

> Lake Washington Institute of Technology Nursing

**38%** of Star Scholars are moms. Children are significantly more likely to graduate from college when their parents have degrees.

# WWIN trusts each woman's vision, capabilities and potential.

From the moment a woman applies, WWIN offers an affirming and personalized experience. We respect each woman's clarity of purpose and the steps she has already taken to achieve her goals. Scholars are selected from a highly competitive pool of applicants, and together, our cohort represents Washington's diversity.

66%<br/>are first-generation<br/>college students60%<br/>are women<br/>of color57%<br/>are nontraditional-age<br/>students (age 25+)38%<br/>are parents29%<br/>are from<br/>Eastern Washington27%<br/>are LGBTQIA+

#### Scholars bring fresh ideas to solve pressing problems.

WWIN women bring valuable perspectives and life experience to their studies and careers. Through our program, Star Scholars graduate with confidence in themselves, the skills and knowledge to navigate systems, and the power to make a positive impact wherever they go.

# Brenda's Path

" I've discovered that I have a passion for law. I also discovered that it is okay to not have a traditional path, and that gave me the courage to pursue a bachelor's degree in Theatre Performance. From public speaking to being able to understand myself more as a person, this path will eventually translate to becoming a lawyer and helping individuals who are in difficult situations.

Being awarded the WWIN scholarship helped me feel more secure in my goals. The organization prides itself on supporting women and their own individual paths to the careers they love. In moments where I doubt where I am headed, the values of WWIN help remind me that I am in control of my life and what I choose to do matters."

A ...

### Brenda

Central Washington University, Ellensburg Theatre Performance

**(00,000** Washington women who are 25 and older have some college but no degree. WWIN stands out by reaching and serving these nontraditional-age students.

## WWIN offers each woman the freedom to pursue her self-determined goals.



**Renewable scholarships** provide Scholars the freedom to focus on their studies and pursue career-building opportunities like research and internships.



**Resiliency funds** help Scholars stay on track to graduate despite emergency needs such as transportation, technology and health care.



**Career coaching** offers Scholars the freedom to choose and build skills that matter for their future, including networking, interviewing, negotiating and self-advocacy.

# Scholars take places of influence in Washington's workforce and communities.

A college degree is an irrevocable achievement that prepares women for a lifetime of continued learning and success. Scholars graduate ready to adapt in a changing world, taking their place as leaders and inspiring others.

# Unity's Power

" I hope to continue the pursuit of my education by obtaining my master's followed by my Ph.D. As I transition into becoming careerfocused, getting out and working directly with my community is very important to me. I want to be resourcefully active in organizing services and programs that significantly benefit our region. Helping those around me in any way I can has always been a rewarding experience, even if it's simply showing someone like me that having a dream and reaching for it is more than imaginable—it's achievable."

Unity

Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences



## WWIN offers belonging in a community that sees and understands each Scholar.



**Personal connection** and encouragement from the WWIN team help each Scholar feel seen, valued and supported.



**Community-building events** help Scholars and alumnae know they belong. The relationships forged there encourage persistence and foster success.



**WWIN Connect,** our online networking platform, provides WWIN women a place for ongoing connection and access to valuable professional resources and opportunities.

# WWIN alumnae lift their voices to transform Washington's future.

WWIN alumnae lead by example in work, school and beyond. They pay it forward, supporting others and inspiring generational change within their families and communities.

## Thank you for your partnership with WWIN and investment in Washington women.

#### **STAR PARTNERS**

BECU Charlie's Produce Conner Homes HSBC The J. Jill Compassion Fund Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Sound Credit Union Washington Trust Bank

#### **SPONSORS**

Leadership Level Charlie's Produce

#### Champion Level

SSA Marine Umpqua Bank Washington Trust Bank

#### Advocate Level

Kitsap Bank Protect Al

#### Friend Level

Automus Consulting, Inc. Sound Credit Union

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Namratha Agarwal Jennifer Anker Julia Atalla Britni Babington, *Vice President* Amy Barnes Audrey Ford, *Secretary* Shea Hamilton Maneesha Lall Shawn McCord, *Treasurer* Sally Revell Elizabeth Sholander, *Immediate Past President* Katie Sluss Kirsten Smith Bindu Sutaria, *President* 

#### **Financial Summary**

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

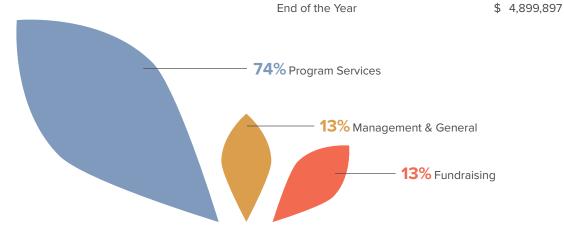
#### **OPERATING SUPPORT & REVENUE**

Contributions & Grants	\$ 715,541
Special Events (net)	\$ 123,356
In-Kind Contributions	\$ 34,496
Investment Return (net of fees)	\$ 517,860
Total Operating Support & Revenue	\$ 1,391,253

#### **OPERATING EXPENSES**

Program Services	\$ 1,154,318
Management & General	\$ 194,855
Fundraising	\$ 206,287
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 1,555,460
Change in Net Assets	\$ (164,207)
NET ASSETS	

### Beginning of the Year \$ 5,064,104



# Kendra

"When I looked into WWIN, I saw women of all different backgrounds, I saw women of all different ages, and I even saw pictures of Star Scholars with their children. This made me feel so comfortable and represented. I knew I had to apply.

WWIN has been a huge help financially, allowing me to focus on school. But I really value the feeling of community it has given me. I'm a first-generation college student, and I didn't know anyone in my field before I got started. Being part of WWIN and meeting other women like me really makes a difference."

Spokane Falls Community College Computer Science



### **Our Vision**

Every woman has a clear path to achieve her full potential.

### **Our Mission**

WWIN provides scholarships and supports to help Washington women facing barriers to opportunity succeed in college and careers so they, their families and our communities can thrive.

### **Our Values**

#### RESPECT

We recognize the inherent worth of each person and foster a culture where diverse experiences and points of view are honored.

#### **SELF-DETERMINATION**

We trust each woman as the best expert in her own experience and support the educational path she chooses to fulfill her life's goals.

#### EQUITY

We recognize that higher education is not equally accessible to all women and commit to using our resources to remove barriers to opportunity.

#### COMMUNITY

We believe a supportive network of women has the power to lift each other and make generational change.

#### INITIATIVE

We regularly evaluate the environment and our programs to respond effectively to changing needs.



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Washington Women In Need 501(c)(3) EIN #91-1559848

Want to support Washington women today? Make your gift now!

