



Women Investing *in* Women

*Grants for Women
to take their business to the next level*

For more than 25 years, The Women's Fund has created economic, educational, and personal growth opportunities for women and girls and encouraged their advancement and full participation in the community. In honor of our 25th Anniversary in 2022, The Women's Fund is focusing on the pivotal role that women-owned businesses play in growing our region's economy while recognizing some of the unique challenges female entrepreneurs face. As Women Investing in Women, we are offering grants of up to \$5,000 each to help take your business to the next level!



Women Investing *in* Women Grants - *Five @ \$5,000*

Purpose: To provide funding to women entrepreneurs in Oneida and Herkimer Counties, to enable them to grow their businesses. We are offering 5 grants of up to \$5,000 each.

Eligibility: Applications will be considered from businesses that:

- Are at least 51% woman-owned
- Are based in Oneida County or Herkimer County, New York
- Are legally incorporated
- Have been in existence for at least one year with plans to improve/expand

Examples of what we will fund:

- Equipment
- Hardware/Software
- Consulting services
- Training/education
- Marketing

What we will not fund:

- Ongoing operating expenses (salaries, rent, etc.)
- Religious or political businesses
- Debt reduction
- Already incurred expenses

Other guidelines:

- Only one request will be accepted per business
- Request must not exceed \$5,000
- Grant Deadline - Friday, September 30, 2022

Visit womensfundhoc.org for more information.

In cooperation with

**GRIFFISS
INSTITUTE**
INNOVARE ELEVATION SERIES



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GRANT APPLICATION SPECIFICATIONS

Grant applications must be received no later than September 30, 2022 via

- **our website at womensfundhoc.org**
- **email to grants@womensfundhoc.org**
- **postmarked mail dated on or before 9/30/2022 to
The Women's Fund, 2 Williams Street, Clinton, NY 13323**

Your application packet must include:

- Cover letter on your letterhead including
 - The name of your business and principal female owner(s)
 - Date the business was established
 - Business address, telephone number, email address, and website if applicable
 - Project name or brief description and amount of funding you are requesting
 - Executive Summary - a concise description of your business and products/services, with any pertinent details about its inception and growth
- Business Plan with current financials and 1-3-5 year marketing and financial projections
- Proof of incorporated business status, i.e. DBA, Certificate of Incorporation, LLC certification
- Proposal for use of grant funding, including
 - Detailed description of the project and how it will enhance your business
 - Describe the need or problem this project will address.
 - State the specific dollar amount you are requesting.
 - Explain how the award will help take your business to the next level and your plan to implement the necessary changes to get you there.
Include if this is a one-time project or part of a larger expansion.
 - Budget for project, including your own investment toward the project, if any, and copies of price quote(s) for expenditures.
 - Timeline for project.
 - Include any applicable background information and/or supporting documentation about your industry and how this will increase your ability to be viable and competitive.

Visit womensfundhoc.org for more information.

Questions? Email grants@womensfundhoc.org



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GRANT APPLICATION COVER SHEET

Name of Business: _____

Address: _____

County: _____

Date of Incorporation: _____

Principal Female Owner(s) : _____

Contact Person: _____

E-Mail address : _____

Phone Number: _____

Website: _____

CHECKLIST for PACKET:

- ☐ Cover letter with Executive Summary
- ☐ Current Financials and Business Plan
- ☐ Proof of Business
- ☐ Proposal for Funding
 - ☐ Project description and amount requested
 - ☐ Budget and price quotes for related purchases
 - ☐ Timeline
 - ☐ Any relevant supporting documentation

Criteria used in evaluating applications and awarding grants include:

- Complete application
- Review of identifiable business need
- Detailed use of the proceeds of the grant
- The potential of the grant to satisfy the identified business need
- The potential impact of the grant on overall business growth and success



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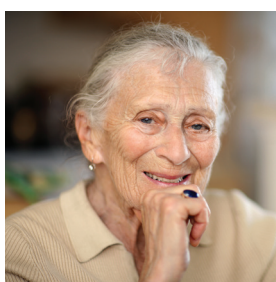
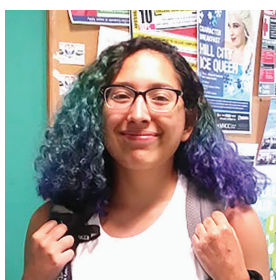
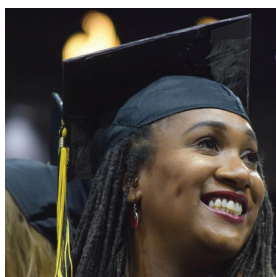
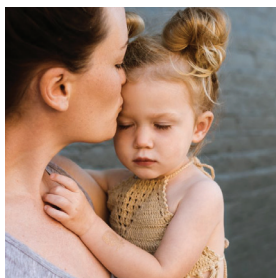
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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **What is the deadline to apply?**
Your application packet must be received by September 30, 2022 by mail, email or our website.
2. **Can I apply if I don't have access to a computer?**
Yes! Follow the grant specifications and include the cover sheet with you application packet and mail everything to The Women's Fund, 2 Williams Street, Clinton, NY 13323.
3. **What if I don't need \$5,000 for my project?**
You may apply for less than \$5,000 if your project budget is less.
4. **What if my project will cost more than \$5,000?**
Each grant awarded will be up to \$5,000. Should your project require more money, please include confirmed sources for that additional funding in your budget.
5. **When will winners be notified?**
We will notify all applicants by October 31, 2022.
6. **How are the winners selected?**
A panel of local business leaders and representatives from The Women's Fund and Griffiss Institute will review each application packet for completeness as well as other criteria including the potential for the grant to satisfy the business need and positively impact future growth and success.
7. **If I receive a grant, when will I receive funding?**
Winners will receive grant funding in November, 2022 at an award reception.
8. **Is there a deadline to use this grant funding?**
Each awarded project should begin in 2023 and all, or the phase of the project that requires this funding, should be complete by year-end.
9. **What if I don't use all of the funding received?**
A final report will be required upon completion. Any unused grant funds will be returned to The Women's Fund of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, Inc.
10. **What if I have other questions about the grants or the application process?**
Please email any questions to grants@womensfundhoc.org.
You may also leave a detailed voicemail at 315.381.3072 and we will respond as quickly as possible.



Our History



The inspiration for The Women's Fund of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, Inc. came from the 75th Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote, in 1995. After attending the national celebration in Seneca Falls, Ann Allen had the idea of forming a women's organization in Herkimer and Oneida Counties to assist women and girls in a time of crisis. She invited a number of friends and acquaintances who were willing to each donate \$1,000 or more to establish a fund for this purpose. These women became the founders of The Women's Fund. After many long hours and the selfless dedication of our founders, The Women's Fund of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, Inc. became a reality in 1997!

The Women's Fund at its beginnings had two main components - first to raise money and secondly to decide where to grant the funds raised. All local not-for-profit organizations that provide services and programs for women and girls are eligible to be considered to receive funding. The first grant was made to The House of the Good Shepherd for "Smart Start", an early intervention program working with new mothers. Since that time, we have granted hundreds of thousands of dollars and made a positive difference for countless women and families in our area.



Annie's Fund

As we grew and became better known in the community as a source of help and hope, the late Richard Hanna, an area businessman and former congressman, came to us with a proposal to create a fund to help individual women in temporary but immediate crisis situations. With Mr. Hanna's financial support, Annie's Fund was established in 2005. It was then necessary to find "Partner Agencies" to identify women in need and to front monies to them which would be reimbursed by The Women's Fund. Our first gift was simple but life changing - \$50 for a woman to renew her nursing license. Without this support, she would not have been able to continue in her career and provide for her family. We partner with more than a dozen local agencies and will add organizations as needs continue to arise.



Isla's Fund

In 2018, Isla's Fund was established with a generous donation from one of our board members to help women in need of financial assistance to further their education and remain in school. We believe that education is the most powerful tool in helping women escape the confines of poverty. But...emergencies happen, and this stop-gap measure of a grant from Isla's Fund can make a significant impact on a woman's ability to move forward today and for a more positive future. Our first partner college was Mohawk Valley Community College, and we work with the staff to identify female students in need. We also provide for female students through Young Scholars, and the Education Committee of The Women's Fund continually works to consider and add other institutions to further our reach within the community.

The Women's Fund is a volunteer driven agency sustained solely by donor contributions and led by women who are committed to creating a movement to change the lives of women and girls in our area. We support women in overcoming the obstacles they face due to poverty, violence or other life-changing situations.

Since 1997, we have awarded:

- \$427,000 in program grants to promote the health and well-being of women and girls in our community, empowering them to achieve independence and success in life.
- \$200,000 to hundreds of women through Annie's Fund
- \$8,000 through Isla's Fund in partnership with Mohawk Valley Community College and Young Scholars. Additional partner colleges in our area continue to be added.

2022 marks our 25th Anniversary and while we are proud of our history, we are always looking for innovative ways to assist women and girls to become strong and successful. We are dedicated to the vision of our founders and will continue to work together to make a difference and Empower Women and Girls in our community.