

2021

OUR YEAR OF IMPACT



Women
Moving
Millions

LETTER FROM SARAH & MONA

We are both deeply proud of what we've accomplished together as a team and community, and truly excited for the momentum we are building into 2022.

As 2021 draws to a close, there is much to reflect upon and be inspired by. This year the Women Moving Millions' (WMM) community went above and beyond to support where they could, being flexible and listening to their partners to meet unpredictable and urgent challenges with generosity, creativity, and boldness. The dedication and willingness to be bold when it comes to giving is what makes WMM a leading voice in closing the gap on gender equality funding and an important ally to feminist and women's organizations across the world.

Through our work this year, we've continued to demonstrate our resilience, determination, and commitment as a community. We doubled down on our commitment to catalyze resources to accelerate progress toward a gender-equal world. Through the Give Bold, #Get Equal Campaign, we surpassed our \$100 million goal, securing \$111 million in new commitments from our community to date. We've increased our advocacy, taking the global stage at the United Nations Generation Equality Forums to call for greater investment in gender equality work.

Leaning into our power of convening and collaboration, we brought together partners and leading experts in gender lens philanthropy to wrestle with tough questions about how to reimagine and evolve philanthropy to meet the timely and critical challenges of the moment. From our #GetEqual Conversations to our groundbreaking series with the UN Foundation, Building a Blueprint for a Gender Equal World, we reaffirmed a collective commitment to leverage our

combined strength, networks, and resources to build a more just and equitable world.

We've stayed rooted in our values and worked hard to adapt to our virtual world and deliver quality programming for our members. We look forward to showing up with the same energy in 2022 through rich program offerings for and with our community. We will lean into the benefits and unique opportunities presented by virtual engagement and are excited to meet in-person with members and friends at our Annual Summit in March and Philanthropic Leadership Program in May. First up, in January, we'll be launching WMM Collaboratives, providing another important platform for what our community does best: catalyze resources by and for women.

Finally, we want to take the opportunity to say thank you. Thank you to all of our members, partners, and friends. Without you, the work we do would not be possible. The road ahead is long, and many challenges await. But through the passion, drive, and commitment of this community, this work will continue to make a difference in the lives of so many women, children, and families and get us closer to a gender equal future.

In partnership,

**Sarah Haacke Byrd, Executive Director
& S. Mona Sinha, Board Chair**



2021 REFLECTIONS

Throughout 2021, Women Moving Millions continued the journey to rethink how philanthropy can evolve to meet the urgent challenges before us and how we can leverage our collective strength, networks, and voice to improve the lives of women and girls. Stepping into our unique convening role, we created more spaces for members and partners to come together, holding more than 30 community conversations throughout the year. Together, we explored new insights and emerging trends, diverse perspectives, and strategies for impact. We examined how to change systems by applying a stronger gender and racial equity lens. Even amidst the crisis and profound isolation of the past eighteen months, our

community has continued to embrace change, seeking out opportunities to learn, deepen connections, spark collaborations, and inspire bold giving.

#GetEqual

We came into 2021 fresh off the September 2020 launch of our [GiveBold, GetEqual campaign](#), which set an ambitious goal to mobilize a minimum of \$100 million in new commitments to close the gender funding gap and address the systemic and cultural barriers to equality that continue to affect the lives of millions of women and girls globally. We surpassed our goal by \$11 million in just nine months. This astounding result brought us even closer to our 2025 strategic plan goals to unlock at

least \$275M for the field.

Alongside the campaign, we hosted the **#GetEqual Conversations**, a series of five events addressing key topics such as Engaging Men & Boys to Achieve Racial & Gender Equity; Investing Locally in Frontline Health Care Systems; and Justice & Equity for Girls of Color. Through these rich conversations, we explored as a community how philanthropy needs to evolve its practices and support the transformation of inequitable systems and ensure a just future for all. These convenings proved to be crucial touchpoints for the community during uncertain times, with many of our members joining, bringing their energy, curiosity, and expertise to the table.

UN Generation Equality Forum

At the Generation Equality Forums (GEF) in March and June, Women Moving Millions announced on the global stage that we surpassed our \$100M #GetEqual Campaign commitment. We were honored to share in this historic moment that saw \$40 billion pledged to advance gender equality.

In the run-up to the Forum, and in partnership with the UN Foundation, we hosted a four-part series, **Generation Equality: Building a Blueprint for a Gender Equal World**, offering our members an exclusive seat at the table as the global gender equality goals for the next decade were being formalized. Through this series, we examined how philanthropy can support GEF in its goals and ambitions. We welcomed an outstanding roster of speakers, who engaged audiences on topics including

Building Strong & Resilient Movements; to Feminist Action for Climate Justice; Transforming Economic Justice; and Preventing & Decreasing Gender-Based Violence.

These conversations were a chance to dive deeper in the GEF process, understand how our community can work to advance its bold, feminist agenda, and where the philanthropic sector can have the greatest impact in resourcing gender equality efforts. Ann Cairns, Executive Vice-Chair of Mastercard and guest contributor gave this reminder: **“women in positions of power and wealth can use their influence to have a dramatic change in the world so it’s a question of deciding what your position is and what the change is that you want to make on a global scale”**.

We are delighted to share a more in-depth look at the outcomes and recommendations from this series in our new report: [Realizing Generation Equality: A Blueprint for a Gender Equal World](#)

IT'S HARD TO FIGHT FOR EQUAL RIGHTS,
WITHOUT EQUAL SUPPORT.

GIVE
BOLD
GET
EQUAL

**Immersion Experience: Exploring the Intersection of Climate, Gender, and Race**

Designed and led by expert faculty and climate leaders, Dr. Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and Dr. Katharine Wilkinson from The All You Can Save Project, WMM held its first-ever three-part Philanthropic Immersion Experience which offered critical perspectives on climate and its relationship to gender and racial justice movements. In the interactive sessions, members were joined by climate experts and leaders to deepen their understanding of current climate change movements, and why and how to be in service of diverse climate justice movements.

Women's Leadership Series

In the fall, we held a special three-part Women's Power & Influence Leadership Series focused on how women can use their wisdom, power, and influence to build back stronger after the global pandemic. Through candid, fireside chats with trailblazing leaders, we discussed how to create a more inclusive economy, examined the power of storytelling to shift attitudes and beliefs, and explored how women's leadership and decision-making are essential to global peace and security. Our peace and security conversation was particularly poignant and urgent, as we heard from pioneering leaders Ambassador Melanne Verveer, Vital Voices CEO Alyse Nelson, and Women for Women International founder Zainab Salbi just days after the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan.

Gender Impact Investing Intensive

The two-part Gender Impact Investing Intensive followed in November, picking up where the Women's Leadership Series left off on the topic of women, money, and power. Led by impact investing expert and fellow trailblazer Tuti Scott, the Intensive offered members the opportunity to reflect on their own personal stories, explore biases, practices and norms and how they intersect and create their own plan of action for moving money with a gender and social inclusion lens.

“The power of the WMM community for me has been tremendous... I have been shown through the examples of other WMM members how much of a gift authenticity can be for others, and how vulnerability can be a portal for immense strength.”

Rachael Wells, WMM Member

LOOKING AHEAD



In 2022, we will continue to work to advance our 2025 strategic plan goals to grow our community and drive an additional \$275 million to the field, invest in the leadership journey of our community to enhance their philanthropy, and spark a demonstrable increase in resources for women and girls from external sources.

Our members will help shape the agenda to ensure that wherever members are in their learning journeys, they will be heard and have something to learn and contribute alongside their peers in this space.

We already have a full and ambitious program calendar lined up for next year, designed to help meet the needs of this global moment in the movement for gender equality.

New Ways to Work Together: WMM Collaboratives

In early 2022, we are excited to launch five pilot Collaboratives: Mental Health, Climate Justice, Economic Empowerment, Girls, and Arts & Culture. WMM Collaboratives will be hands-on working groups -- a space for members to learn, share knowledge, and collective action. Each one focuses on a specific issue that intersects with gender equality and presents significant barriers to progress. These Collaboratives advance our organizational values of being bold in action and powerful together and our history of stepping up when resources are falling short in areas where it matters most.

A Welcome Return to Being Together: WMM Annual Summit and Member Day

Given the turbulent reality of the past couple of years, we are especially looking forward to coming together, in-person, for our Member Day on April 11 and Annual Summit April 12 and 13. This flagship, invitation-only event will convene in Washington, D.C., and bring together our members, prospective members, and partners to learn, share, and connect with each other and external experts in gender-lens philanthropy and feminist movements. We are working hard to make this our most engaging and productive Summit yet, striving to restore the intimacy of an in-person setting while harnessing our collective energy to share innovative ideas, perspectives, and tangible actions towards a gender-equal world.

Philanthropic Leadership Program - May 1-4

The WMM Philanthropic Leadership Program is an immersive learning journey that takes place over a 3.5 day experience designed to help participants build deep connections within the community, amplify their leadership, and deepen their impact. We are delighted to announce that the PLP will return to its full, in-person model in 2022.

Cohorts of up to 16 members will meet with guest faculty covering topics ranging from trust-based and gender lens philanthropy to systems change, movement building, leadership development, and storytelling. Through this experience, participants will explore women's critical role in philanthropy; gain clarity and comfort with the resources and tools for social change; learn how to apply a gender

lens and systems thinking approach to the work; recognize power dynamics and the need to shift and share power; and build a supportive network of peers, collaborating and leveraging collective strength, networks and voice to push the agenda for gender equality.



OUR COMMUNITY

The heart of Women Moving Millions is our community. This year, we've been delighted to welcome new members to our growing community, strengthening our already diverse group of fearless women leaders.

Several members have been recognized through awards for their work, others have inspired us with their own ['Stories of Impact'](#), and so many have shared their expertise through our UN Generation Equality series, #GetEqual conversations, and Women's Leadership Series, among other events.

We continue to be inspired by the way our members have stepped up over the course of 2021, and look forward to what we can achieve together in 2022.

*Thank you all for the role you played in
building and shaping this community - we look forward
to another exciting year ahead, and continuing this
journey with you.*

