



Women Have Options supports reproductive choice for all women

Spring 2013

Announcing the Women Have Options Fund at the Columbus Foundation

A recent bequest from the estate of Carol Anne Christy has ensured the sustainability of Women Have Options, making it possible to handle future emergencies or develop new programs as needs change.

Ms. Christy was a life-long activist and supporter of women's rights. For many years, she was a professor of political science at Ohio University in Lancaster, with a particular interest in women's participation in politics. Her many other interests included gardening, volunteering in environmental projects, travel, and biking.

This unanticipated gift vastly strengthens our ability to carry out our mission of providing reproductive choice for all Ohio women. The board and volunteers of WHO/O are incredibly grateful for this gift, which affirms the importance of our work and will benefit thousands of women in the years to come.

The bequest has been invested in the Women Have Options Fund at the Columbus Foundation. We encourage others who care passionately about reproductive freedom to contribute to this endowment fund and leave a legacy for the future of women in Ohio.

In January, our founder, Emily Rutherford, was honored at the statewide Roe v. Wade anniversary event, sponsored by Freedom of Choice Ohio (FOCO), Ohio's pro-choice coalition. She was honored for her lasting contribution to the reproductive health, rights, and justice community. Congratulations for all that you have done, Emily, and for your continued passion for this cause!

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Stories of the Women You Have Helped

*Maya

Maya was a 17-year-old high school student who found herself pregnant. As someone who had been raised by a single mother on welfare, she dreamed of something more for her future. When she learned of her pregnancy, she made the difficult decision to have an abortion because she wanted to make something of herself before starting a family. Your help enabled Maya to have the opportunity to delay starting a family, in order to finish school and be in a much better position to raise the family she had dreamed of.

Tanisha

Tanisha was a struggling single mother with a 6-month-old son. When she went for a regular check up, she had no idea she was pregnant. The thought of having two children within a year, with only her to provide for them was unimaginable. The help of Women Have Options enabled Tanisha to make the decision that was best for her and her family.

Aisha

Aisha had a serious medical condition that required medical clearance from her regular doctor. Getting clearance was difficult because her doctor held anti-choice beliefs, expressed them to her, and delayed her abortion. By the time she was cleared, she was 13 weeks along in the pregnancy. With Ohio's 24-hour waiting period, Aisha had to make two visits to her clinic, totaling 240 miles of driving, since there was no abortion provider in her area. Your contributions assisted Aisha in making a very expensive and time consuming choice.

Jenny

Abby had been in an abusive relationship for two years. Shortly after she made the courageous decision to leave this relationship with her two children, she found out she was pregnant. She was unable to afford an abortion on her own, and was terrified at the thought of returning to the abusive relationship. Thank you for helping Jenny afford the choice she needed for her life and family.

*All names have been changed.



On April 28, we are going to make Women Have Options history! Last year, the bowl-a-thon raised over \$27,000 and this year we hope to raise even more. Everyone can be involved in the bowl-a-thon. The goal is to fundraise for an important cause, so you don't even have to bowl to participate!

To start a team, join a team, or donate to an existing team, go to bowlathon.nnaf.org and scroll down to find the Women have Options event. Each participant is responsible for raising or donating a minimum of \$50 to attend the event, but we encourage everyone to raise at least \$150, so we can reach our fundraising goals together. The funds you raise have a direct and significant impact on women's lives. So please join us and give choices to women in Ohio!

Are You Registered for the Fourth Annual Bowl-a-Thon?

Thanks to our local sponsors who have generously supported this event:

Blue Rock Station Green Living Center
Brezel
Choice Network
Evolved
Pattycake Bakery
Pure Romance by Cheryl
PUSH Dayton
Rendezvous
Signature Wines
St. James Tavern
T & S Management
Wholly Craft
Wilde Hunt Corsetry

4000 Years For Choice: Art & Fundraising Gala Wrap-Up

Last October, WHO/O supporters, friends, and art-lovers gathered at Signature Wines in Columbus to celebrate our 20th anniversary. The evening featured the 4000 Years for Choice nationally touring art exhibit, illustrating visual narratives about the reproductive rights movement from around the world and throughout history.

The event raised over \$3000 and was a great opportunity to come together to celebrate the 20th anniversary of WHO/O. Participants met and mingled over wonderful wine and thought provoking art, and shared our passions for reproductive justice!



We are going digital!

We continue, slowly but surely, to transition to an e-newsletter. To make sure we have your current email address, please send an email with your name and current email address to info@womenhaveoptions.org.

Help us save on printing and mailing costs, so your donations go further. Thanks!



In February, WHO/O held its second board retreat. For several of the newer members, it was their first retreat, and was a time to come together to celebrate WHO/O's achievements and strategize for the future. Great things lie ahead!

WOMEN HAVE OPTIONS

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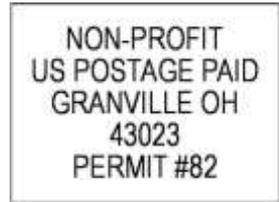
Website:
www.womenhaveoptions.org

Mission statement:
Women Have Options supports reproductive choice for all women.

Member of the National Network of Abortion Funds (NNAF)

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W O M E N H A V E O P T I O N S

Justice requires that all women be able to make personal decisions about childbearing.

Please join us in our commitment to women's lives and futures. Your tax-deductible contribution enables women in our community to get help when they need it. Any amount is appreciated! Please send your contribution to:

Women Have Options, P.O. Box 5, Granville, OH 43023

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____

- I would like more information about WHO/O.
- I would like to help with special events.
- Add my friend's name and address to your mailing list: _____

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Email _____

*Contributions to WHO/O may be made through **United Way** by choosing the Donor Option and naming Women Have Options to receive your dollars. You may also make donations directly on our website (www.womenhaveoptions.org) using Network for Good, or by joining our cause on Facebook.*