



RHONDA WALKER
FOUNDATION

2021

ANNUAL REPORT



EMPOWERING INNER-CITY TEEN GIRLS SINCE 2003

rhondawalkerfoundation.org

Mission

TO EMPOWER INNER-CITY TEEN GIRLS TOWARDS BECOMING STRONG, CONFIDENT, SUCCESSFUL AND MORAL FUTURE LEADERS

Vision

To positively impact the lives of teen girls with quality programs and resources that provide life-changing experiences.



We Believe

The Rhonda Walker Foundation has core beliefs grounded in its mission and vision

We work tirelessly to empower our youth first

We honor equally our staff, board, volunteers and donors as our most valuable resources

We embrace diversity, inclusion and acceptance

We pursue excellence

We encourage innovation and creativity

We put honesty, respect and integrity at the forefront of everything we do

We pledge accountability

We value teamwork



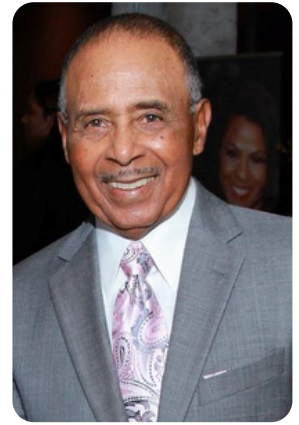
2021 RWF ANNUAL REPORT

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Reflections

Dr. Ronald Gillum, Founding Board Member



This morning as I was thinking about what I would say during this reflection period I thought that I would briefly speak to you from my perspective as an RWF teen who will be speaking on behalf of all the RWF teens. This teen is probably in the 12th grade and will be leaving the fold soon.

Remember fellow board members and staff I'm now an RWF teen, and so she begins. I am speaking to individuals I love and respect and I believe in my heart that you love me because of what you do for and with me on a daily basis. And I thank you. I also thank you for gathering a small group of friends and associates in 2003 to discuss ideas and explore plans to awaken and bring this very successful Rhonda Walker Foundation to life. And it gives me a grateful satisfaction and brings delightful joy to the depths of my heart knowing that what you did and are doing on a daily basis you are doing for me and other teens in Detroit so that we may grow up to be successful, fearless, determined and faithful women.

Over the years you set some lofty goals and objectives and caught the attention of hundreds and perhaps thousands of people across this region of the state of Michigan. And you most certainly captured my attention with your lofty and long-term goals that you set for me and my sisters. And, again I thank you. One major thing you taught us was to dream big and not to fear that we wouldn't or couldn't achieve our goals. You want us to be fearless and you helped us to understand that our goals are dreams but, dreams with action and deadlines. Now we understand why and how we must put deadlines on our dreams because as it has been said deadlines wake you from your dreams to bring you to the reality of achieving them. I thank you for instilling this in me.

When I think back to when I was a little 8th grader who was so very shy, who had low self-esteem, very little self-confidence and would not even make eye contact with anyone, but oh look at me now. As you may well know I had very few friends in those early years and who could ever in a thousand years imagine that I would be able to stand in front of a large group of adults and speak to them not only about the benefits of RWF but also delivering a clear and concise message about hope and possibilities. Oh, I thank you for this gift.

Lastly, I thank you for assigning me a mentor who has been so very helpful to my growth and development. And I truly thank you for strongly encouraging me to take advantage of the tutorial services being offered, teaching me life lessons and of course selecting me into this great dynamic organization. And I pledge to you that I will do all I can to be the best that I can possibility be.

A Message from Our President and Founder Rhonda Walker



Greetings,

The Rhonda Walker Foundation(RWF) steps into our 19th year of empowering teen girls in Detroit and we are so grateful. I am excited to share the remarkable work we have done with the youth in our Girls into Women Program during the past year.

Our team found safe ways for our teens to come together, celebrate their accomplishments, build sisterhood, learn new skills and make a difference in our community with the return of our signature events like Scholar Power, 24-Hour Girl Talk, Give and Get Fit and Camp I Can! We also had engaging virtual workshops that taught us about creating a new vision for the year, career development, tracing our lineage, skin care, and a mental health check-in to make sure our RWF Girls were still thriving and excelling. For the first time, RWF hosted a Juneteenth celebration that taught our teens the importance of this holiday as well as valuable lessons about financial literacy. Our teen ambassadors also had wonderful opportunities to network with some of our community's top executives and speak at corporate events on behalf of RWF. I could not be prouder of our teens this year.

It is only because of donors, community partners and stakeholders like you who share our commitment to uplift the teen girls in our city that makes all this possible. Every time you donated to the Rhonda Walker Foundation, volunteered your time, or shared your talents, your gift directly benefited Detroit youth and showed our girls that they matter, and their future is worthy of your investment.

Thank you so much for being a part of the RWF extended family and for believing in our mission to empower and educate inner city teen girls towards becoming the strong, confident, successful, and moral future leaders our community needs.

With a Heartfelt Thank You,

Rhonda Walker

Rhonda Walker
President and Founder



At-A-Glance

RWF Teens Shine



Ayriss (RWF Class of 22) and Kiara (RWF Class 24) networking with Ray Scott, CEO, Lear Corporation at the Automotive Hall of Fame

Kat'lyn and Jewel (RWF Class of 22) joining RWF President and Founder, Rhonda Walker and Board Member, Carla Sarti, Lear Corporation, Vice President of Global Business Services, on a panel with women executives at Lear



Jewel (RWF Class of 22) and Chandler (RWF Class of 23) speaking at Neapco Employee Golf Outing with Rhonda Walker accepting donation on behalf of RWF

Shyanne (RWF Class of 21) had fun as a Caddie for A Day at the Rocket Mortgage Classic Area 313 Celebrity Scramble for Tom Izzo!





Lloyd Banks
CEO/Principal, Banks & Company
RWF Board Chair



Ruselda Villanueva Johnson
Chief Executive Officer

A Message from Our Leadership

Dear Friends:

We are humbled and honored to bring to you the 2021 Rhonda Walker Foundation Annual Report.

During the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, we braced ourselves for the road ahead that was not completely clear. The landscape had changed.

Out of this reality, we began looking to the future and considered how to ensure we are set up for success in both the near and long-term. The Rhonda Walker Foundation through these unique times, became innovative and creative not only to support the mission but also to support the community at large.

Thanks to your generous support, we were able to welcome our largest class of incoming teens: Twenty-five 8th graders. Thus, allowing the Rhonda Walker Foundation to have a larger reach and enhance positive impact on our future leaders.

As we move into 2022, we at the Rhonda Walker Foundation are looking forward to providing a greater diversity of services to inner-city teens, by increasing partnerships to strengthen our communities and changing lives for the better.

Decisions made today will have lasting positive effects for years to come as we, together, support the Girls into Women 5-year programming.

Looking back at 2021, we thank the Rhonda Walker Foundation Board of Directors, the staff, volunteers, mentors, donors, community partners, and corporations, who have helped us receive award winning status.

Phenomenal, successful events hosted in 2021, helped provide financial support for the mission of the Rhonda Walker Foundation that included our sold out Annual Automotive Industry Golf Challenge; the Give and Get Fit Movement Weekend; and the Rise Up for Girls breakfast; all together raised \$700,000.

Thank you for helping us set an example on how to make a positive difference. We hope you enjoy our 2021 Annual Report.

To learn more, visit: www.rhondawalkerfoundation.org.

By working together, we will do even more in the future to transform our community, our country and our world.

Sincerely

Lloyd Banks
CEO/Principal, Banks & Company
RWF Board Chair

Ruselda Villanueva Johnson
Chief Executive Officer

RWF Alumna Spotlight

RWF Teens Shining Beyond High School



Congratulations to RWF Class of 2017 Alumna, Cydney Gardner-Brown on her selection as a 2022 Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Program Fellow. Out of 900 applicants, Cydney is the only University of Michigan Alum and Detroit native to be a part of this year's cohort of 45 fellows. Congratulations Cydney, we are so excited for you and your future career as a US Diplomat! Cydney is a 2017 RWF Grad and 2021 University of Michigan graduate.

Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders

With Powerful, Impactful Virtual Programming

Thank You to Our Amazing Facilitators

Girls in Construction

**Stephanie Burnley, Co-CEO/
Assistant General Manager**
Devon Industrial

Mental Health Check-In

Whitney Jenrette, CEO
The Mental Drive

Skin Care and Entrepreneurship

**Rhashida Williams,
The Glam Doctor**
**LaNedra Manly,
Body Source**

Finding Our History Genealogy

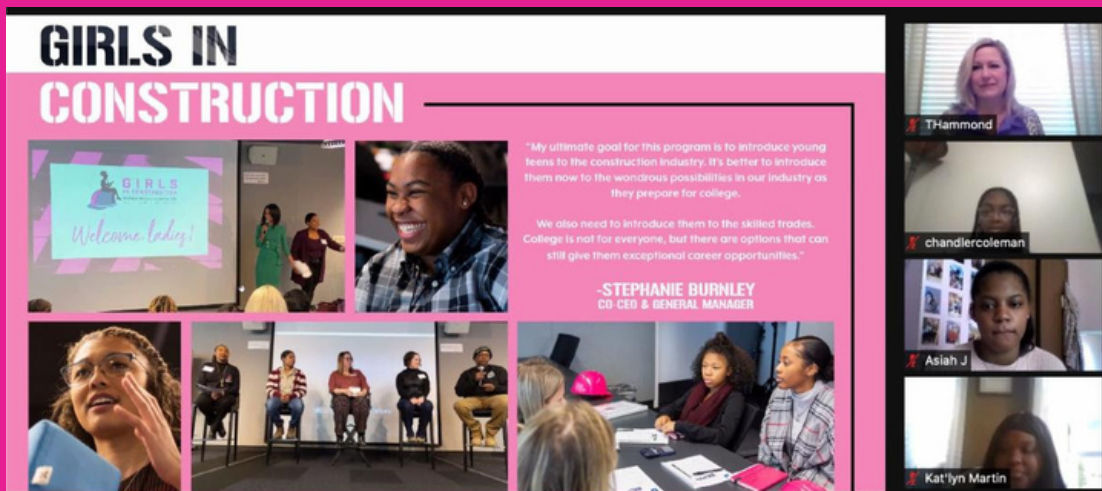
Oyatunde Amakisi
Detroit Women of Color

Speed Mentoring

Renato Jamett and Colleagues
Raymond James

Virtual Vision Boarding

Kelly Garrett Batie
Mayor, Lathrup Village



Led by Co-CEO and Assistant General Manager, Stephanie Burley, the Devon Industrial team welcomed the RWF Teens for a morning of career development like none other. The virtual workshop included representatives from various departments from Sales and Human Resources to Marketing and Project Management to show our girls the multitude of career opportunities for women in the construction industry. This is the second time RWF has partnered with Devon Industrial for this insightful workshop for RWF juniors and seniors.

The RWF Scholarship Fund

Educational Excellence; RWF College Preparation Program

The Rhonda Walker Foundation understands that education is one of the most important investments a person or organization can make to help reduce many inequities in our society today. This is why we are dedicated to empowering tomorrow's leaders. The RWF scholarships provide financial assistance to students pursuing their college education. Scholarship awardees are selected based on their academic achievement, community service, character, participation in our five-year Girls into Women Program and senior essay and capstone project. **The RWF Scholarship Fund was expanded this year to include an allocation of \$20,000 for The RWF Alumnae Scholarship.**

Scholar Power 2021 - Celebrating Excellence RWF Board Awards \$38,000



The 15th Annual Scholar Power Breakfast, sponsored by Brose North America, brought the RWF Family together to celebrate the accomplishments of the Class of 2021 and to recognize our amazing volunteers and mentors. The morning was highlighted by moving testimonies from our graduates, inspiring remarks from RWF Alumna, Cydney Gardner-Brown and the inaugural awarding of the Dr. Ronald Gillum Scholarship for Academic Excellence and Resilience. Scholarships were also awarded by Lear for Academic Excellence and for Community Service from the Rizik Family in memory of Brian Rizik.

#RWFEMPOWERS



Class of 2021 Testimonials



"Being a part of the Rhonda Walker Foundation has been much more than an opportunity for me, it has been an experience that I will carry with me forever. It has shaped me to become a strong, driven, and independent, young black woman." - Jakalyn



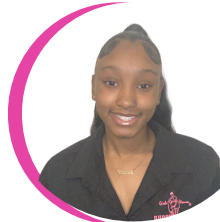
"I am a better young woman because of this opportunity. Even if I feel down or stumble off my path the foundation lets me know I will always have them to uplift and straighten me on my way. I couldn't see my life without the foundation guiding me." - Kissiah



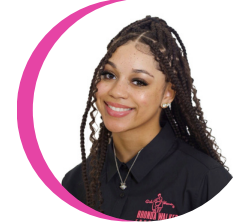
I am now a confident, successful, bright, well-rounded young woman who is ready to take on her future life. I am a "glow-getter" - a driven busy gal who strives to achieve her goals in life while attaining a beautiful glow both inside and out. This foundation has gifted me the ability to be able to only strive for success. - Shyanne



"The Foundation has prepared me for anything I decide to do after I graduate. Any decision I make, I have no doubt that I'll be successful because RWF has prepared me for every step of the way in the next chapter of my life." - Ayrinn



"The Rhonda Walker Foundation has helped me grow into the beautiful young lady I am today and has helped me overcome my shyness, boosted my confidence and made me a better person. Before I joined the Girls into Women Program, I never knew how to talk in front of a group of people, Now I can!" - Tionne



"Being in the Rhonda Walker Foundation has taught me that any girl can become a strong, independent, young women who can do great things in this world. I have learned that that girl can be me, and with the strength and wisdom that was bestowed upon me by the great woman around me, I can accomplish all my dreams and goals." - Aisha



"I know what some of my goals in life are thanks to the foundation. I will give back to the community as much as I can and will always try to help those around me. The Foundation has taught me the importance of giving back. It has also taught me that it doesn't take a lot of people to make a difference." - Arianna



"While in the Rhonda Walker Foundation, I have learned to be myself and to be open-minded and try new things. Being part of RWF has helped me grow into a young women with an open mind and a lot of resources." - Genesis



"Being a part of this program has helped me become a more mature and considerate person. Today, I have a better attitude and beautiful family that is providing me with everything I need to be successful. Without the foundation some of the things I do or know today wouldn't be possible." - Diamond



Camp I Can Returns

Confidence, Leadership, Sisterhood

The three-day Camp I Can is our annual empowerment, personal development and leadership retreat where teens are challenged to find their voice, inner strength and overcome fears through a series of activities and engagement with adult facilitators and fellow teens. Each challenge is faced with encouragement and determination. Teens are pushed out of their comfort zone in a rural environment free from the distractions of urban living.

Echo Grove Camp ~ Leonard, MI



24-Hour Girl Talk Brings RWF Teens Together for a Day of Empowerment



Building a Healthy Community

11th Annual Give and Get Fit Movement Weekend Returned with Two-Days of Health and Wellness

Fitness Classes on Saturday
5K on Sunday!



2021

RWF Cares! Giving Back to Our Community



A Day at Rebel Nell Learning About Social Entrepreneurship

Our teens spent a day with at Rebel Nell-Detroit learning about how founder Amy Peterson took an idea and built an ethical, sustainable jewelry brand that empowers women with barriers to employment. Teens shared their own ideas for creating change through business and learned hands-on how the Rebel Nell-Detroit team creates jewelry.

19th Annual RWF Cares Christmas for the Homeless

Toys, Clothing and Personal Care Package Drive for Nearly 100 Children and Women at Genesis House II Shelter

The Rhonda Walker Foundation (RWF) Family came together in a big way to benefit deserving families of the Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries' Genesis House II Homeless Shelter for our annual RWF Cares Christmas Celebration. Our wonderful volunteer Secret Santas showed up once again to provide gifts for the men, women and children living in the shelter. Then, led by RWF founder, Rhonda Walker and her sister, Robin Gamble, along with the teens, board of directors, volunteers, and staff of the Rhonda Walker Foundation spread holiday cheer and heartfelt compassion for the 19th straight year with a fun celebration at the Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries Banquet Facility! The Detroit Axemen joined once again to provide teddy bears for every child. A special thank you to Santa for joining us all the way from the North Pole.



Thank You

\$700K Raised for Detroit Youth!!



9th Annual
Automotive Industry
Golf Challenge

11th Annual Give
and Get Fit
Movement
Weekend



3rd Annual Rise Up for
Girls Breakfast



2021

RWF is Growing



**RWF Welcomes Our Biggest Class Ever!
25 New Teens Join the RWF Girls into Women Program**



New Backpacks Full of Supplies for a Great School Year!

1st RWF Juneteenth Celebration with Raymond James



RWF Welcomes New Board Members



Burt Jordan

Atlantic Coastal Acquisition Corporation, President

"I am humbled and honored to have been asked to serve such a great organization that is doing such great things for the youth of our great city. It is a real chance to continue to pay it forward."
- Burt Jordan

Carla Sarti

Lear Corporation, Vice President of Global Business Services

"I am very excited about joining the Rhonda Walker Foundation Board. I believe much of my success is related to having amazing mentors growing up and throughout my career. I have always tried to give back in this capacity from being a Girl Scout Leader, mentoring numerous people at work and mentoring veterans moving into civilian life. I heard about the Rhonda Walker Foundation from one of my colleagues a few years ago and fell in love with the mission. "
- Carla Sarti



RWF Board of Directors and CEO

RWVF Program Pillars & Impact

Annual Investment
\$5000 per teen



- COLLEGE PREP** - Year-round tutoring in all subjects and SAT Prep courses; Cross-country college tours; Scholarships; College Application Support (college interview and essay writing seminars)
- PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT** - Etiquette; Financial Literacy; Public Speaking; Goal Setting; 24-Hour Girl Talk Teen Conference; Camp I Can: Confidence, Team Building and Leadership Summer Retreat
- MENTORING** - One-to-one Mentoring for each teen; Empowerment Mentoring Dinners; Peer-to-Peer Mentoring
- CAREER DEVELOPMENT** - Entrepreneurship; Career Planning; Resume Writing; Interviewing Skills; Job Shadowing; Internships and Summer Jobs Program; Dress for Success
- HEALTH & WELLNESS** - RWF Zone Fitness Program; Nutrition Classes; Mental Health Workshops; Give and Get Fit 5K/10K Run and Community Health Fair
- COMMUNITY OUTREACH & CULTURAL AWARENESS** - Community Service Projects through the RWF Cares Initiative; Race for the Cure; the Annual RWF Cares Christmas Party benefiting the Detroit Rescue Missions Ministries Genesis House II Shelter; Fields trips to local museums and theaters

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT AND SOCIAL IMPACT

Beginning its 19th year, Rhonda Walker Foundation has impacted the lives of hundreds of inner-city teen girls, maintaining an average of 60 at-risk teens enrolled in its Girls into Women program. The impact of its five-year core program is profound having graduated 15 classes of empowered, future leaders since its founding in 2003.



Audited Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2020

ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 614,140
Other Assets	\$ 101,267
Investments	\$ 301,399

TOTAL ASSETS **\$1,016,806**

LIABILITIES

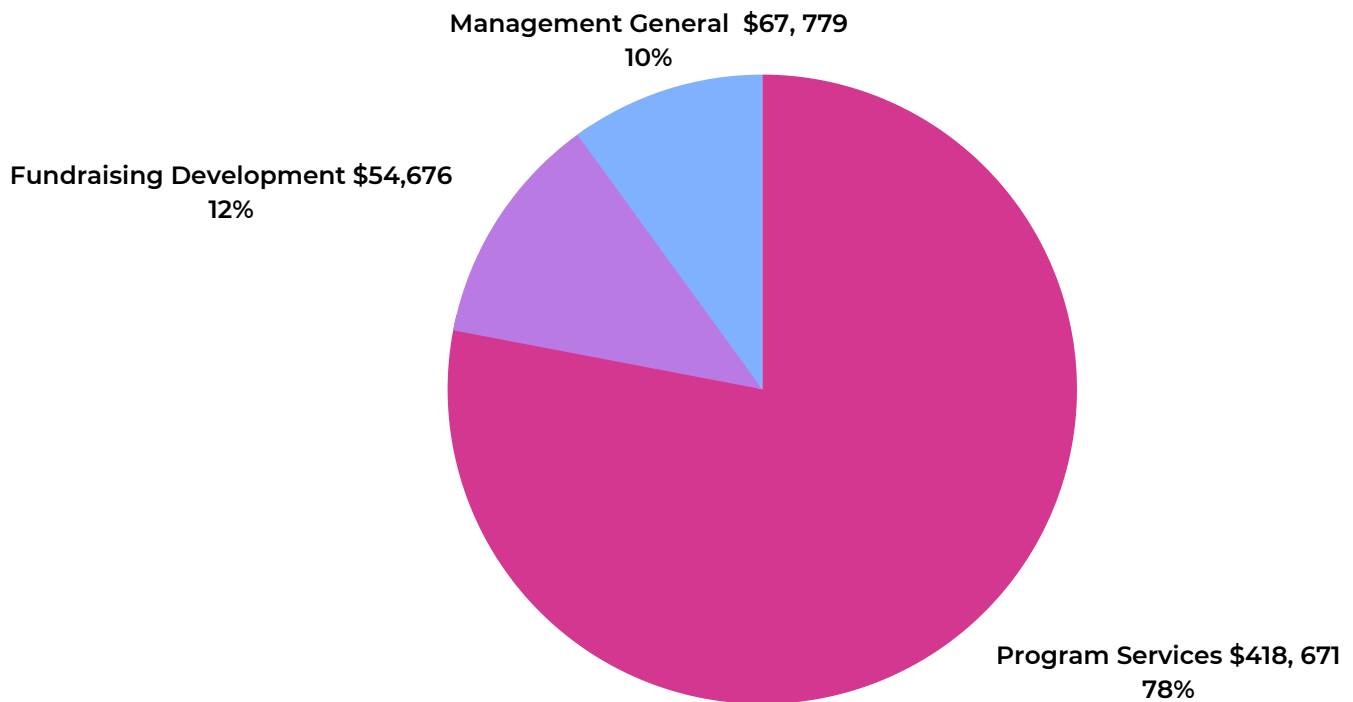
Accounts Payable	\$ 71,525
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 71,525

NET ASSETS

Donations and Support	\$ 789,409
Donations (Grants)	\$ 155,872

TOTAL NET ASSETS **\$ 945,281**

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS **\$ 1,016,806**



Thank You

To Our Generous Donors and Supporters

\$50,000 - \$100,000

Axalta Coating Systems
Faurecia
Lear Charitable Foundation
Lear Corporation
Raymond James Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Bonnie Smith
Brose North America
Don Manvel

\$15,000 - \$24,999

AT & T
BASF
Borg Warner
Bridgewater Interiors
Joyson Safety Systems
Magna
Metalsa
On Semi
S'Drol Metals, Inc.

\$10,000 - \$14,999

Diamay North American Automotive, Inc.
DTE Energy Foundation
James Group International
LTC Roll and Engineering
Marlene and Bill Emerson
Michael Woodson
NEAPCO Holdings, LLC
Pace Industries
Rocket Mortgage Giving Fund
Vanguard Charitable

\$5,000 - \$9,999

American Axle and Manufacturing
Auto Liv
Beth Chapell
Celani Family Foundation
Detroit Manufacturing Systems
Flex n Gate
Gentex Corporation
General Motors
Hanon Systems
Hitachi Automotive
Hitachi Metals
ITW Automotive
Kevin Layden
Linamar
Martinrea
MGM Grand Detroit
Stephen and Cheryl Winter
The Chemico Group
Victor Edozien
William and Mary Larkin

Every effort has been made to ensure
the accuracy of this listing.

Please email
info@rhondawalkerfoundation.org
should you note an omission or error.

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Adient
Amy Doyle
Ascension Health Ministry
Automotive Hall of Fame
AVL
Black United Fund of Michigan
Bobby Nahra
Carla Sarti
Chelsea Milling Company
Chris Brochert
Comcast
Dakkota Integrated Systems
David and Kiana Barfield Family Foundation
Delta Dental
Denso Corporation
Devon Industrial
Divisha Financial
Eric Guindi
Fiat Chrysler Automobiles
Fidelity Charitable
First Independence Bank
Frank Torre
Frank Venegas
General Dynamics Land Systems
Gentherm
Gilbert Family Foundation
Greektown Casino
James Group International
Jeffrey Lambrecht
Joe and Lorri Zimmerman
Joyce Hayes Giles
JP Morgan Chase & Co.
Karen Jazawik
Kenneth Hopkins
Kimberly Stafford
Knuth Family Foundation
Laborers Local 1076 Coop and Education
Trust
Laborers Local 1191 Coop and Education
Trust
Lack's Enterprises
Leonard and Sherri Pickett
LG Electronics
Lori Werner
Matthew Rizik
MCL Jasco, Inc.
McLaren Macomb Hospital
Michael and Wendy Montgomery
Michael Gunthrie

Nancy and John Hodari Philanthropic Fund
Nancy Tellem
Nicole Franklin
Noeleen Heeney
Norman Yatooma
NTM
Pamela Rodgers
Pramod Ravindran
Raymond James Charitable Fund
Robert Stocki
Ronja Kruse
Samuel Kirkland
Shari Rogers
Shiloh Industries, Inc.
Steven Aaltonen
Thomas Seabron
Tiffany Douglas
Tricia Ruby
TWB Company
ZF Automotive
Zim's Vodka

\$500 - \$999

Burt Jordan
Colleen & Trey Dolan-Greene
Craig Rice
Creflo Mims
Dan Rudy
Dawn Beatty
Denis Wils
Diane Orley
Dina Kassab
Jada Henderson and Debra Amy
Kamilia Landrum
Katherine Jacob
Kevin Hoag
Leslie Mackellar
Lloyd Banks
Michelene Falk
Monica Briggins
P.I.E. Management LLC
Renato Jamett
Robert Lenard
Ruselda Villanueva Johnson
Scott Craig
Silvana McGuire
Sylvester Hester
Tammy Carnrike
Terry Leeser

Rhonda Walker Foundation Board of Directors



Rhonda Walker, President//Founder
WDIV-TV 4 News

Hon. Shelia Johnson
46th District Court

Lloyd Banks, Chairman
Banks & Company

Burt Jordan
Atlantic Coastal Acquisition Corporation

Kimberly Keaton Williams, Vice-Chair
McLaren Health Care

Ron Mims
GKN Sinter Metals

Monyka Murphy, Treasurer
Abbott Nutrition

Briana Mitchell
RWF Alumnae, Lambert & Co.

Lori Jackson-Brock, Secretary
Wayne County Community College District

Michael Montgomery
LTC Roll & Engineering

Sheree Calhoun
WDIV-TV 4 News

Carla Sarti
Lear Corporation

Robin Gamble
Dot Connections Consulting

Bonnie Smith
Tech Data

Dr. Ronald Gillum
Michigan Department of Education (Ret)

Kevin Smith
Public Solutions Group

Nikki Howard-Combs, MBA,CWP
1 2 NV Events

Kimberly Walker
Dick's Sporting Goods



L-R: Arlisa Robinson, Holly Murphy, Rhonda Walker, Ruselda Villanueva Johnson, Jacalyn Shelton Wallace, Robin Thurber

Rhonda Walker Foundation Staff

Ruselda Villanueva Johnson
Chief Executive Officer

Holly A. Murphy
Senior Marketing & Communications Director

Arlisa Robinson
Program Manager

Jacalyn Shelton Wallace
RWF Coordinator

Robin Thurber
Executive Assistant to the CEO

Carolyn Barden
Bookkeeper

Get Involved with the Rhonda Walker Foundation

Help Empower Detroit Youth
Join our Team of Donors, Volunteers and Mentors

DONATE

Financial gifts enable RWF to enhance programming and impact teen girls in Metro Detroit. Contributions directly support our Girls into Women Program Pillars: College Prep, Career Development, Personal Development, Health and Wellness, Community Outreach and Mentoring. To make a donation, please visit <https://rwf.kindful.com/> For special donations such as Donor Advised Funds, Endowments, or Stocks, please contact Ruselda Villanueva Johnson, CEO at rjohnson@rhondawalkerfoundation.org

MENTOR

Every RWF teen is matched with a professional, caring, supportive mentor. RWF mentors support our teens with career planning, college applications, job shadowing, and confidence building. Apply to be an RWF Mentor Today at bit.ly/RWFMentor-Apply

VOLUNTEER

RWF is looking for volunteers to assist with programming, events, office administration and our RWF Cares Community Outreach Program. Apply to be an RWF Volunteer Today at <http://bit.ly/RWF-Volunteer>

STAY CONNECTED

Don't miss out on upcoming RWF news and events. Sign up to join our mailing list.

VISIT

www.rhondawalkerfoundation.org

FOLLOW US



Please direct any questions to
info@rhondawalkerfoundation.org
313.263.1676





**RHONDA WALKER
FOUNDATION**



RWF Empowers

www.rhondawalkerfoundation.org