

# *women's fund*

OF GREATER LA CROSSE

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## **LOCAL WOMEN'S FUND BECOMES INDEPENDENT**

### ***Announcement comes as fund honors volunteers***

LA CROSSE, Wis. — At its annual volunteer recognition reception today, the Women's Fund of the La Crosse Community Foundation, is announcing that it has become its own nonprofit organization called the Women's Fund of Greater La Crosse.

The move to independence came at the invitation of the La Crosse Community Foundation board in response to the fund's development and friend-raising success, opining that the funds' efforts toward both are more consistent with that of an independent nonprofit organization.

"Making this announcement today is somewhat symbolic for us," said Sara Battison, board chair for the Women's Fund of Greater La Crosse, "because it's the same day we recognize the donors who have helped the fund become successful and who have enriched the lives of women and girls in our community."

The Women's Fund of Greater La Crosse tonight will award its annual Roberta Zurn Women In Outstanding Leadership Award to Jean Marck. The award recognizes women who, like Zurn, have encouraged the advancement of women and girls. Marck will be honored for her lifelong commitment to volunteerism, including nearly 50 years with the League of Women Voters and behind-the-scenes work with many local organizations and projects such as the Salvation Army and the La Crosse County Jail Storybook Project. Past recipients include June Kjome, Sister Leclare Beres, Jean Bassett, Roberta Gelatt and Signe Schroeder (founding members of The Women's Fund) and Marian Ramlow.

The Women's Fund was created in 1998 as a designated fund of the La Crosse Community Foundation. The Women's Fund of Greater La Crosse has already incorporated and requested 501(c)(3) charitable status from the IRS, so gifts to the fund will continue to be fully tax deductible. Donated funds will continue working to enhance initiatives supported by the Women's Fund of Greater La Crosse, whose mission is to enrich the lives of women and girls so they can do the same for others.

*Founded in 1998 as the Women's Fund of the La Crosse Community Foundation, the Women's Fund of Greater La Crosse exists to enrich the lives of women and girls so they can do the same for others. The fund provides financial support for programs that foster an effect on attitudes and actions that benefit women and girls; promote opportunity, health and self-sufficiency for women; and encourage women and girls to develop as philanthropists. Since its inception, the fund has awarded nearly \$151,996 in grants to local programs and agencies.*

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