Supporting the Valentine Foundation’s commitment to developing the next generation of local women leaders of non-profits serving women and girls, the Fund provides grants through which agency Directors and staff members refine their skills and increase the impact and effectiveness of their agencies as well as their own personal impact on their workplace and community.

The Trustees have selected three programs to which to send Valentine Visionary Leaders: the Non-Profit Executive Leadership Institute (NELI) at Bryn Mawr College; Leadership, Inc. in Philadelphia; and CLEAR (Cultivating Leadership, Excellence and Responsibility) Circles at the Non-Profit Center at LaSalle University.

Valentine Visionary Leader Spotlight

Annette Owens-Johnson, M/W, L/W

Director of Transitional Housing, Women Against Abuse, Inc., Philadelphia

Leadership Program: Clear Circles at the Non-Profit Center, LaSalle University

In Her Words: “Leadership training strengthened my commitment to proactive leadership and allowed me to meet, interact with and learn from peers in non-profit management. It has been a vital part of my professional development.”

Her Program: Women Against Abuse (WAA) began in the mid-1970s as a part-time hotline in a women’s center and is now a leading local advocate and service provider for victims of domestic violence. WAA serves 10,000+ individuals each year through emergency residential services, legal aid, hotline counseling, education, and advocacy. The transitional housing program provides women and children with family apartments and extensive support services to help them safely and successfully move back into the community.

2009 Visionary Leadership Fellows

Leadership Philadelphia
Carol Goertzel, Pathways PA

CLEAR Circles for Women at LaSalle
Colleen Brooks, AIDS Coalition of Southern NJ
Lorna Clause, Turning Point of Lehigh Valley
Mary Catherine Dabrowski, Havertown Center w/ Mid County Senior Services
Melissa Firman, Laurel House
Jan Joell, SOWN
Kelly Leyman, Devereaux
Christine Linville, Family Support Line

Tamela Luce, Womens Way
Laura Morris, Resources for Human Development
Erika L. Orsulak, St. Christopher’s Foundation for Children
Annette Owens-Johnson, Women Against Abuse
Karla Sainz, Council of Spanish Speaking Organizations
Shana Steinberg, The Bridge
Amy Tressler, Eagles Youth Partnership
Carrie Veurink, The Career Wardrobe
Tomika Vines, Teen Challenge Philadelphia