

## Visionary Leadership Fund Committee:

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Alexandra Samuels

Sandra Simkins

Miles Smith

Shelley Smith

Tyson Smith

Dana Valentine

Ione Vargus

Frances Vilella-Velez

Cheryl Weiss

Volume 1/ November 2007

## Annual Newsletter

### *Visionary Leadership Fund*

### *Leadership Development for Women Serving Women*

## Message From the Leadership Fund Committee

We are excited to inform our donors and friends about the great progress of the *Visionary Leadership Fund* to date and to share plans for the future.

**Thanks to the generosity of many, we have \$445,000 toward the goal of \$500,000.** Please consider a year-end donation to put the fund over the top. A contribution in honor of a special woman in your life is a priceless gift that will help women and girls throughout the region.

**Strong Women Leaders Now** Developing strong women leaders now will fortify local nonprofit organizations facing projected leadership gaps and increasing operational challenges. The *Visionary Leadership Fund* is the first dedicated funding for the type of executive training long valued in the private sector, but historically not supported by

nonprofits trying to squeeze every penny into programs and services.

**Valentine Visionary Scholars** Look at the impressive list (on back) of the first 20 women and organizations receiving leadership training funded by the Valentine Foundation. We are proud to help those who already do so much for our region and who will be role models and mentors to future women leaders. Let us know of other individuals or organizations that might also benefit from our support.

In this season of giving thanks, we especially appreciate your commitment to women and girls.

**Mary McTernan, Chair**  
**Visionary Leadership Fund Committee**

## Announcing the *Rose Wilson Garrison Scholarship*

The *Rose Wilson Garrison Scholarship* has been created through the inspiring philanthropy of Garrison family members who wished to honor the memory of their mother while contributing to the *Visionary Leadership Fund*.

Susan Garrison, Leadership Committee member and nonprofit executive, along with siblings Bruce, Mark, Pam, Jeffrey and father, Walter Garrison, consider this new scholarship an appropriate tribute to a woman who was "a very involved and giving person, as well as a leader among young women and a devoted volunteer."

The Garrisons collectively have enough experience in both business and charitable organizations to recognize the need for leadership development, and they felt that Rose Wilson Garrison would have particularly liked the idea of helping women advance in the nonprofit field. Therefore, they were determined to raise at least the \$50,000 it would take to create a **permanent endowment in her name** to fund one scholarship each year. Even Susan was overwhelmed by the response of her

family who together pledged \$80,000 to endow the *Rose Wilson Garrison Scholarship*.

When Bruce Garrison was asked what motivated him to contribute, he responded from the heart:

*"Mom believed that everyone has a duty to give the best they can and just do the best they can do. She believed everyone should have a chance, and we know those who had little chance in Mom's time were often women. She raised us to believe if you have more of anything – talent, money, whatever – you have an obligation to give that back in service to those who have less. What you get in return for giving is truly the reward – the gift comes full circle as others are inspired by you to do the same thing."*

We salute the Garrison family for their generosity and vision.

Please contact us for details about endowing a scholarship



**Rose Wilson Garrison**

**Leader and Devoted  
Volunteer**

## Valentine Visionary Leaders

Funded by the Valentine Foundation

Pamela Bryer

Maternal and Child Health  
Consortium of Chester County

Karen Buck

Senior Law Center

Rhonda Carboni

The Alice Paul Institute

Sheri Cole

The Career Wardrobe

Cheryl Cunningham

Chester Education Foundation

Sharon Easterling

DVAEYC

Taren Gaddy

Black Women's Health Alliance

Susan Garrison

The Center Foundation

Melissa Weiler Gerber

WOMENS WAY

Ronda Goldfein

The AIDS Law Project

Carolyn Haynes

Women's Community

Revitalization Project

Lisa Cordeiro Kricun

Congreso de Latinos Unidos

Catherine Malkemes

Girl Scouts of Southeastern PA

Yvette Mitchell

Education and Learning Institute

Dawn Moody

Tradeworks of Purpose/ WIIN

Carrie Rae

NARAL, Pro-Choice PA

Catherine Ritchie

Girl Scouts of Southeastern PA

Stephanie Scappa-Hall

Chester Education Foundation

Scheherazade Tillet

A Long Walk Home

Beatriz Vieira

Lutheran Settlement House

## The Need for Leadership Training

To those who work in or serve on nonprofit boards, the need for a reliable source of funding to develop leadership talent is compelling and obvious.

There are excellent local programs designed for nonprofits, such as NELI (Nonprofit Executive Leadership Institute at Bryn Mawr College) and the Nonprofit Center at La Salle; and others like Leadership Philadelphia that develop community leaders across the public/private spectrum. However, many nonprofits cannot afford them.

**A 2006 survey of Philadelphia nonprofits revealed:**

**67% of current Executive Directors will retire by 2010**

**52% have no internal candidates to replace them**

**90% have no succession plan**

The *Visionary Leadership Fund* will address the deficit for organizations providing vital services to women and girls in our region.

## Invest In Leadership Capacity

*The leadership deficit looms as the greatest challenge facing nonprofits over the next ten years. We can use our unprecedented wealth to strengthen the sector's capacity to meet society's escalating demand, or we can allow its leadership deficit – with its debilitating consequences – to widen. We are at a crossroads. The choice is ours.*

*Addressing the leadership deficit requires, first and foremost, that all participants in the nonprofit sector – from boards and current managers to foundations and individual and corporate donors – recognize the enormity of the problem and make it a top priority.*

From "The Nonprofit Sector's Leadership Deficit" – a national study published in 2006 by the Bridgespan Group

One of the Valentine Scholars described the leadership training as "... a wonderful opportunity for personal development, networking with colleagues and exploring knowledge in areas essential to nonprofit management. The executive coaching sessions have been extremely valuable to my leadership development and career goals."

- Catherine Malkemes  
Girl Scouts of  
Southeastern PA  
NELI Graduate



As a fellow funder, I know there are about a million amazingly worthwhile ways to spend your money – if only you had the luxury of unlimited dollars to grant. Given that you do not, I cannot think of a better investment the Valentine Foundation could make than in the very people whose hearts, souls, bodies and minds are what drive the advocacy for women and girls to which all of us are so committed. **Melissa Weiler Gerber**, WOMENS WAY, Visionary Leadership Committee, NELI Graduate

The *Visionary Leadership Fund* was established in 2005 to commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Valentine Foundation, to honor founder Phoebe V. Valentine and to champion women in nonprofit leadership.

The Fund is proudly maintained and managed by:

VALENTINE FOUNDATION FUNDING SOCIAL CHANGE FOR WOMEN & GIRLS

c/o Alexandra Frazier 300 Quarry Lane Haverford, PA 19041