The Valentine Fund for Visionary Leadership is a separate endowment established at the Valentine Foundation through the generosity of many individual and foundation donors who share our commitment to developing the leadership capacity of the important local nonprofit organizations whose primary focus and mission-driven activities benefit women and girls.

Grants from this fund support leadership development for both current and emerging women leaders. Applicant organizations are encouraged to propose initiatives that address their specific leadership needs, including but not limited to courses, workshops, certificate programs, coaching, and succession planning. Tell us what you need to build your leadership team!

In 2012, we were proud to recommend grants to three effective local organizations and support three inspiring women who are on their way to becoming visionary leaders.

Leadership Fund Committee
Mary McTernan, Co-Chair
Alexandra Samuels, Co-Chair
Cynthia Jetter
Natalie Levkovich
Ann Rieckecker
Barbara Silzle
Cheryl Weiss

One Year Later: 2011 Leadership Fund Grantees Reflect

Jennifer Boyer
Senior Director of Housing and Operations, Laurel House

Online course in non-profit leadership from New England College
Because her full-time job, community leadership positions and family responsibilities limited her availability for other programs, Ms. Boyer chose online courses to achieve her professional development goals. She reports that they helped her “embrace my role as a woman leader in the field of domestic violence and homeless services.”

Malkia Singleton
Vice President, Social Services, People’s Emergency Center
NELI Ascending Leadership Program
“I have become a more self-aware person and leader, [which] has given me the space to think about what I intend for my team to hear from me and tools to make sure my intent and impact are in alignment. NELI gave me the confidence and support to redesign the residential department to create a sense of improved accountability and clarity around job roles.”

Zakia Williams
Director of Clinical Services Maternity Care Coalition
NELI Ascending Leadership Program
“I gained awareness about my leadership strengths, strategic planning and organizational health. It also helped me to develop a plan for reaching long term career goals and allowed me to discover where I need further development. I became a member of a cohort of other developing leaders...After attending NELI, I am a more confident and well-rounded leader.”

The 2012 Leadership Fund Grantees

Delaware Valley Association for the Education of Young Children

Susan Baren-Pearson
Director of Institutional Advancement
Non-Profit Executive Leadership Institute (NELI) at Bryn Mawr College: Executive Leadership Certificate
“The experience of meeting with peers, exploring methods and tools for better assessing an organization and recasting mindsets would enable me to be a more effective visionary for DVAEYC.”

Maternal Child Health Consortium of Chester County

Cecilia Arce
Healthy Start Program Manager
NELI Ascending Leader Certificate
“Moving from a career as a classroom teacher to a non-profit manager demands a new set of leadership skills to effectively lead and motivate my diverse team.”

African Family Health Organization

Oni Richards-Waritay
Executive Director
NELI Executive Leadership Certificate
“My leadership goals include developing strategic thinking and planning, learning to effectively convey vision, developing a culture of constant quality improvement and organizational learning that facilitates program delivery breakthroughs.”

2012 Leadership Fund Donors
Isaac H. Clothier IV
Robin Eisenberg and Bean Meles
(in memory of Renee Abramson Eisenberg)
Tucker C. Gresh
Dainette M. Mintz
Neilda E. Mott