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Women and Girls Fund New Hope Scholarship Application

WAUKESHA, January 3, 2018 – The Women and Girls Fund of Waukesha County is accepting applications for the 2018 New Hope Scholarship. The **Women and Girls New Hope Scholarship** is available to help women achieve their educational goals. The purpose of the endowed scholarship is to provide an annual \$5,000 grant to encourage and support women seeking a second chance at a better life through education by assisting in the elimination of the financial barrier of tuition. The Women and Girls New Hope Scholarship Fund is an endowed fund created to give non-traditional women a second chance at pursuing post-secondary education.

Scholarship Award Criteria

- Must be a female non-traditional* student and Waukesha County resident.
 - Must have been accepted to a post-secondary educational institution.
 - Is considered financially independent for purposes of determining eligibility for financial aid.
 - Has dependents other than a spouse
- * Non-traditional student: *25 years or older pursuing post-secondary education for the first time or re-entering school.*

The New Hope Scholarship application can be found online at <http://www.wgfaukeshacounty.org/new-hope-scholarship/> or from the WGF office at 2727 N. Grandview Blvd. Suite 301, Waukesha WI 53188. For additional questions, please contact, Michelle DuBord at 262-955-1765.

"This is truly an inspirational gift. This scholarship will change the community one woman at a time while also inspiring other donors to join the movement to impact more women and girls in Waukesha County," Michelle DuBord, executive director. "We are excited to announce the first recipient at the annual Women of Distinction luncheon on May 8, 2018, at Country Springs Hotel."

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Recognizing the impact her family had on Waukesha County, Karie Stupek, daughter of the late Dick and Carol Richards, owners of Country Springs Hotel and prominent Waukesha business leaders, recently returned to Waukesha County to make a difference. Although Karie and her husband Tom, moved to Arizona thirteen years ago, Karie recognized her strong connection to her Wisconsin roots.

Following the passing of her mother last September and the death of her dad late in 2014, she searched for ways to honor their memory. Missing them immensely, thoughts returned to Wisconsin where Karie continued to monitor all the local happenings throughout Waukesha County. In addition, her sister Nancy still lives in Waukesha, and still is aligned with Country Springs Hotel. Although Arizona is now home, their interest in supporting non-profit organizations helping un-wed mothers, victims of domestic abuse, and those needing financial assistance became part of their personal strategy to give back to Waukesha County. Karie and Tom returned to Waukesha to finalize the sale of her parents' home. Building on their number one priority - impacting women and children in need - they reached out to the Women & Girls Fund to discuss options to help pay it forward.

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The Women and Girls Fund seeks to aid and enrich the lives of women and girls, so they become thriving residents of their communities. Each year, the WGF awards grants to local nonprofit agencies to support projects and programs that promote the welfare, independence and self-sufficiency of women and girls of all ages. Areas of interest include leadership, education, health and wellness, family and relationships, and arts and culture. Established in 2004, the Women and Girls fund is a permanent endowment within the Waukesha County Community Foundation. In 2017, the WGF awarded nearly \$89,000 to local nonprofit agencies including ten grants and five Women of Distinction awards.