



WNY WOMEN'S FOUNDATION
Strong Women. Stronger Community.

"Alone, we can do so little. Together, we can do so much."
— Helen Keller

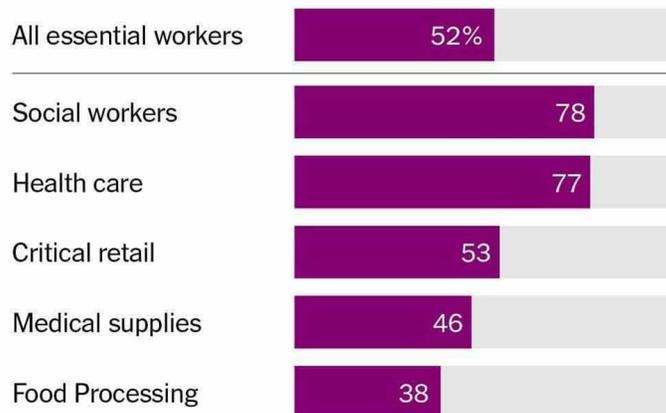
Working for Our Community



The WNY Women's Foundation exists to support the women and girls of our community, a mission which has become even more critical lately. During these strange times, we've seen how a pandemic of this scale especially impacts and disrupts the lives of women in our communities.

The New York Times recently reported that 1 out of 3 jobs held by women has been designated as essential and **52% of all essential workers are women.**

Share of Essential Workers Who Are Women



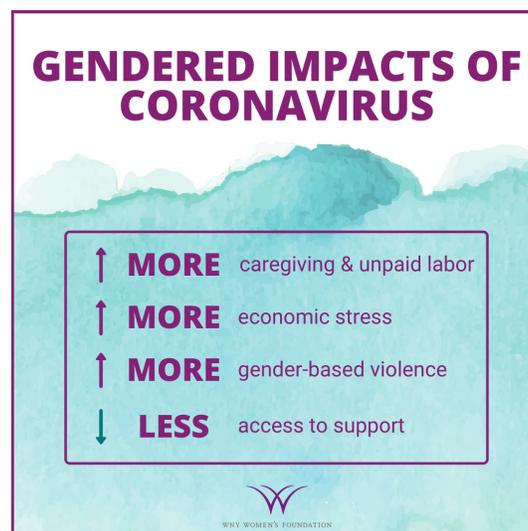
Source: American Community Survey microdata, 2014-18; ipums.org



Here at the WNY Women's Foundation, we've been working overtime to advocate for these women in recent weeks. We pushed for **paid sick leave** and for affordable and **accessible child care for essential workers** with our partners at the Child Care Resource Network and Workforce Development Institute.

Recent wins include: helping to secure **\$500,000 in child care subsidies** for Erie County and successfully urging the Cuomo administration to provide **free child care for essential workers**. Advocacy works!

The gendered experience of coronavirus is based in the gender inequalities that impact all of us, **every single day**. This crisis is only making these disparities more visible.



That's why we're actively continuing our work to advocate for women's economic empowerment by bringing a gender lens to recovery discussions at the local, state, and federal level. We're using our strong influence, data, and relationships to lead the way back to prosperity for our country. We do

that by **centering the needs of women**, especially women of color, in all our work. Women will lead the way forward to an economy that works for all of us, and not just the privileged few.

Keep reading below to see other ways we're supporting women in our community, including offering our popular Pathways to Progress Speaker Series as **free webinars for all** and launching our **WNY Women-Owned Business Directory**.

Thank you for your continued support of our work. We are strong advocates for the women of Western New York in good times and we will be even louder now, raising our voices to advocate for essential working women

Support the
WNYWF

TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF WHILE YOU CONQUER YOUR WORLD



PATHWAYS TO PROGRESS WEBINARS

Join us online: Pathways to Progress Webinar Series

Self-care is especially important during difficult times like these. So make yourself a cup of coffee and log on to one of our upcoming **Pathways to Progress Webinars!**

Keep Calm and Carry On: Building Resilience During COVID-19

Friday, May 8, 9-10am

Free!

Join Ashley Amidon and Megan Moore Supervising Counselors with Crisis Services for this informative webinar discussing emotional intelligence and resiliency, and how to balance your mental health while supporting those around you.

Register for Building
Resilience

You Got This: Managing Anxiety in Challenging Times

Friday, May 22, 9-10am

Free!

How can we manage the heightened anxiety of a pandemic? Jenna Witkowski of the Buffalo Psychiatric Center will share her insights and practical tips for how to manage on a daily basis and feel more resilient during times of crisis.

[Register for Managing Anxiety](#)



WNY Women's Foundation Advocacy at Work

Women's foundations have always been the certainty amidst uncertainty.

Now more than ever, the WNY Women's Foundation (WNYWF) is hard at work advocating for women and families in our community. Here's a sampling of what we've been up to:

Child Care

We rallied state-level elected officials to expedite the release of Federal CARES Act funding, participating in state-wide coalitions and media campaigns to direct best use of these funds. As a result, Governor Cuomo announced essential personnel child care scholarships on April 23rd!

**ADVOCACY
WIN!**

We continue to work for greater financial compensation and support for health and safety of our child care small businesses and providers risking their health to provide essential child care.

The WNYWF Board of Directors helped solicit suppliers for health and safety supplies needed by Erie County child care centers, and we coordinated the delivery to Child Care Resource Network for disbursement.

**ADVOCACY
WIN!**

The WNYWF is communicating rapidly-changing regulations to local child care providers and promoting child care availability and enhanced affordability to essential personnel parents and employers.

Pandemic Recovery

We are joining statewide efforts in partnership with the Governor's Office, the New York State Office of Children and Family Services, Empire State

Child Care Campaign, Winning BeginningNY, and New York State Child Care Task Force to address issues around child care during the pandemic.

WNYWF will serve on a Regional Economic Recovery Council organized by Congressman Ryan for his 7 regions including the unrepresented NY27 Congressional region. WNYWF will add a gender lens to the conversation and will share its research and data to a central repository being created.

ADVOCACY
WIN!

Voting

We are educating the public on the process to access voting by ballot. Assessing policy that would reduce barriers to voting during the pandemic.

Impact Grants and MOMs: From Education to Employment

We are connecting recipients of our [Impact Grants](#) and [MOMs: From Education To Employment students](#) with the resources they need to overcome new barriers created by COVID-19, including internet access and computer availability.

ADVOCACY
WIN!

[Learn more about our 2020 advocacy priorities.](#)

Support Women-Owned Businesses in Western New York!

Small businesses are the backbone of our community and a reminder of the perseverance and creativity of our Western New York entrepreneurs.

The WNY Women's Foundation created the WNY Women-Owned Business Directory to spotlight these businesses and make it easy for you to find female-owned businesses to support. The directory is crowd-sourced and constantly being updated. Thanks to you, over 100 small businesses are now featured!

So stay home, shop local, and support women!

View Directory

WNY WOMEN-OWNED
BUSINESSES

Don't Miss Out!



For the latest updates on our work, follow WNYWF on social media!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WNYWomensFndn>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/wnywomensfoundation/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/wnywomensfoundation>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/wny-womens-foundation>

The mission of the WNY Women's Foundation is to create a culture of possibility so each woman and girl can live, grow, and lead to her fullest potential.

GIVE. EMPOWER. REPEAT.

In The News

Make A Donation

WNY Women's Foundation | 716.887.2621 | WNYWomensFoundation.org

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