



Annual Report 2011



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Social Media

In 2011, inspired by the sea change in the way the world communicates, Dining for Women launched an effort to enrich member and chapter connections through social media. With so many chapter pages and groups thriving on Facebook, this opportunity for conversation and photo sharing brings a personal touch that is so important to our mission. Social media unified our voice, sending a global message of hope to the women and girls we serve.









"Social media presents the opportunity to bring the outside world into your home."

Bella Babot Dining for Women CA, Santa Cruz Chapter

Mission

Dining for Women's mission is to empower women and girls living in extreme poverty in developing countries by funding programs that foster good health, education, and economic self-sufficiency and to cultivate educational giving circles that inspire individuals to make a positive difference through the power of collective giving.

Vision

Dining for Women's vision is to create a new paradigm for giving—collective giving on an immense scale while maintaining the intimacy of small groups with a focus on education and engaged giving.

Founding Values



All women deserve to be self-sufficient.



Education transforms the giver and the receiver.



Connections are the engine that power giving.



Transparency and integrity will mark our work.



To reach all, we must believe we can.

Board of Directors

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From the President

Marsha Wallace



2011 was another year of tremendous growth for Dining for Women, preparing us for ever-growing opportunities to empower women and girls. Enthusiasm for DFW's mission is reflected in a 66% increase in program revenue and a 55% increase in active chapters, allowing us to provide critical funding for high-impact, grassroots programs. Clearly, the mission and vision of DFW continues to resonate. Our ability to change lives increases as DFW expands.

Managing growth can be challenging. Throughout 2011 Gail Peay, our first Executive Director, was a steadying beacon, helping us to set up systems and to reach out into the community of Greenville, South Carolina, our home and headquarters.

We held the Fourth Annual Leadership Conference in San Jose, California. Highlights included impact reports from grantees, Lotus Outreach, PINCC, and Darfur Peace and Development Organization. Gayle Tzemach Lemmon, author of *Dressmaker of Khair Khana* and passionate women's advocate, was keynote speaker, riveting us with stories of her life in Afghanistan.

Honoring our commitment to efficiency, DFW automated the donation processing system. The transition to automation was led by one of our most passionate volunteers, Luc Moyen. We are grateful for his dedication, generosity, and expertise.

For me, the highlight of 2011 was the Dining for Women trip to Nepal, which I was privileged to share with my 15-year-old daughter, Anna Leese, and 13 other DFW members from across the United States. We visited projects with three organizations: Heifer International, One Heart World-Wide, and SWAN. During each project visit, we met women who, by their own descriptions, had been reticent and isolated but are now emboldened. They were extremely proud of the skills they'd acquired by participating in self-help groups and trainings, ranging from literacy and animal husbandry to skilled birthing attendants' courses and agriculture. Equipped with vital skills and education, they smiled broadly, conveyed their self-determination and self-respect. Though language was a barrier, we spoke a common language: the language of the heart. We shared smiles, embraces, songs, celebratory dancing, and pride in their accomplishments. They knew that we cared for them, about them, and that we understand and celebrate the magnitude of their achievements.

As Founder of DFW, I am committed to our collective role as a global change agent, bringing hope, dignity, and self-sufficiency to women and girls. The dedication of the Board of Directors, key volunteers, regional leaders, chapter leaders, and members of DFW has propelled us forward, enabling us to better serve our membership and program partners and the mission of DFW.

The future for women and girls is brighter as a result of your compassion, your engagement in the mission of DFW, and your determination to empower women and girls worldwide, which, in Nicholas Kristof's words, is "the moral challenge of our time." My life is committed to meeting this challenge. Thank you for sharing the journey.

Marsha Wallace Founder & President

Marsha

Dining for Women

2011 Featured Programs



Our 2011 collaborative donations to 12 international programs totaled \$466,940, an increase of more than \$150,000 from the previous year.

What Dining for Women's Donations Provided

January: Matrichaya, India

\$34,394

Stimulated social-economic change among more than 400 tribal women and girls through literacy programs, vocational training, education, legal awareness instruction, and community health camps

February: Prevention International: No Cervical Cancer (PINCC), El Salvador

Expanded sustainable cervical cancer programs by providing supplies and training for local medical professionals and community health workers to screen for and treat cervical cancer by utilization of an innovative, low-technology method

March: Village Enterprise, Uganda

\$38,894

Village Enterprise

Shining Hope

for Communities

Created economic change for 170 groups of women-led businesses (three people per business) through training, mentoring, seed grants, and formation of Business Savings Groups in 19 villages

April: Lotus Outreach, Cambodia

\$39,762

Enabled 150 victims of human trafficking, rape, and domestic violence a new start in life through counseling and advocacy

May: Mujeres Aliadas, Mexico

\$42,263

Opened a birthing center and hired two professional midwives and a nurse, expanding services at two clinics serving impoverished rural women

June: Shining Hope for Communities, Kenya

\$36.264

Supported a free Kibera slum school for 100 girls ages pre-K-third grade, in addition to expanding a collective of 27 HIV-positive women by empowering them economically

July: Emerge Global, Sri Lanka

\$30,902

Enabled 82 girls who have survived abuse to gain critical business skills and self-sufficiency and to build personal savings through jewelry production, mentoring, and advocacy

August: Nurturing Minds, Tanzania

\$29,091

Provided seed funding for Sega Girls School to develop and start a school-run poultry farming business to furnish school expenses and scholarships for this marginalized population of girls

Fistula Foundation

September: Fistula Foundation, Ethiopia \$57,106

Supplied life-changing fistula repair surgeries and post-operative care for more than 125 women

October: Mercado Global, Guatemala \$39,030

Dramatically improved the lives of rural indigenous women artisans through financial literacy, business skills training, and retail market access to create and deliver high-quality products

November: India Literacy Project, India

\$46,009

Created powerful alternatives to sex trafficking, illiteracy, and female oppression by providing rural tribal villages with two years of funding for 850 girls' scholarships, vocational training for 125 young women, and formation of women's self-help groups, including functional literacy and women's rights training

December: Project Muso, Mali

\$36,526

Enabled 72 women and their cooperatives to achieve economic self-sufficiency by providing a revolving fund of matching grants, no-interest loans, and financial management skills training



Matrichaya



Changing the world one dinner at a time

A Few Words from our Programs

Dear Dining for Women advocates and members,

Matrichaya - January 2011, India

We express our sincere thanks to all members of Dining for Women for supporting Matrichaya in its endeavor to help slum dwellers and villagers in Ranchi. The Basic Primary Education provided to needy and out-of-school children has put them into the mainstream education system. The Women Adult Education program has helped illiterate women read and write instead of blindly putting their thumb's impression on documents given to them.

Fistula Foundation



Chanchala Mishra President, Matrichaya

Fistula Foundation - September 2011, Ethiopia

We take seriously our commitment to be good stewards of your gifts. We value your confidence and strive for the greatest transparency in our use of funds - and the highest impact possible. On behalf of the women we all serve, thank you for providing loving care, changing lives forever. You are truly making the world a better place!

> Kate Grant, CEO The Fistula Foundation

PINCC



PINCC (Prevention International: No Cervical Cancer) – February 2011, El Salvador

Your support provided funding for the sole purpose of our program working toward the prevention of cervical cancer in Central America. Again, we are delighted with our association with Dining for Women and very grateful for all of your support. I know that many women will receive the care they need to survive this disease, and the medical structure of these countries has been greatly strengthened because of your involvement.

> Kay Taylor, MD, Executive Director Prevention International: No Cervical Cancer

Nurturing Minds



Nurturing Minds - August 2011, Tanzania

Dining For Women granted \$29,091 to Nurturing Minds in support of The Sega Girls School for start-up of its first business, poultry farming, to assist the school in earning income to support running costs and full scholarships for its student body - vulnerable girls - and provide hands-on learning opportunities for girls in entrepreneurship.

DFW's funding will allow Sega to make the first important step toward school sustainability. Visitors from the local town, education and government officials from Tanzania, and foreign visitors are impressed to see Sega's first business up and running - thanks to DFW's support.

> Tracey Dolan, President **Nurturing Minds**

DFW Chapters/Leadership Summit •



US DFW Chapters



Dining for Women Chapters

Dining for Women continued its tremendous growth in 2011, with 248 chapters as of Dec. 30, 2011, in the US, Puerto Rico, Canada, Mexico, Belgium, United Kingdom, and UAE.

Leadership Summit, San Jose

Dining for Women's Fourth Annual Summit, held Oct. 13-16, 2011, in San Jose, California, was a high-energy celebration that cast a bright light on the importance of Dining for Women around the globe. Warm relations among our community members were evident in their enjoying unity through deep passion to make the world a better place for women and girls. Marsha Wallace read a quote from Gandhi that represents DFW's 6,000-member movement: "A small body of determined spirits fired by an unquenchable faith in their mission can alter the course of history."

Leaders from Lotus Outreach International, Darfur Peace and Development Organization, and Prevention International: No Cervical Cancer shared their stories. Other special summit moments occurred in recognition of how DFW's collective investments are saving lives and sparking new livelihoods by delivery of medicines, shelter, and books – raising much-needed hope throughout the world.



"After six years as a Dining for Women Chapter Leader, each month my heart is touched just as deeply as it was when I first heard about Dining for Women on 'Good Morning America,' and thought, 'What a fabulous idea! I want to do that.' From my first conversation with Marsha Wallace, I knew this was to be a life-changing and enhancing opportunity. Good friends, good food, and 'changing the world one dinner at a time'...it doesn't get better than that!"

Mary Toneff Sylvania Chapter



"Next year, the Massillon Area Chapter of Dining for Women will celebrate its sixth anniversary. Since the group started meeting, more than 100 people have attended at least one dinner. I am proud to represent Dining for Women and am passionate about the many women and girls whose lives have been touched through our work. I believe that Dining for Women is a great way for women to develop friendships, learn about and connect with different cultures, and, at the same time, enjoy great food."

Dawn Hansard Massillon Area Chapter

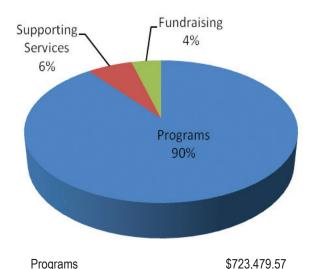
Finances/Annual Appeal

Expenses 2011*

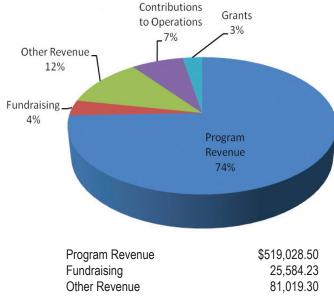
Supporting Services

Fundraising

Total Expenses



Revenue 2011*



Ρ	rogram Revenue	\$519,028.50
F	undraising	25,584.23
0	ther Revenue	81,019.30
С	ontributions to Operations	51,961.89
G	rants	19,723.50

Total Revenue \$697.317.42

51,584.66

33,947.94

\$809,012.17

Dining for Women Travel Program

The Dining for Women travel program provides a unique opportunity for members to connect with some of the women empowered through our efforts. These experiences deepen the understanding of issues faced by women around the world and, at the same time, foster strong bonds of friendship among travelers in the group. These life-changing trips are open to Dining for Women chapter leaders and members. The first Dining for Women travel trip to India was organized in 2007. Dining for Women trips are organized by volunteers, led by Patricia Andersson.

2011 Trips: Peru and Nepal

The Peru trip, May 31 through June 9, had 14 travelers from across the United States. The group visited INMED, an organization Dining for Women supported in 2010. Its mission is to equip healthcare professionals with the unique skills to serve forgotten people.

The Nepal trip, from November 2 through 15, had a group of 16 travelers. They met with women in programs run by Heifer International (supported in September 2008) and One Heart Worldwide (supported in 2006, 2007, and 2008). The group walked for more than two hours to get to the village where One Heart Worldwide was located.

^{*}DFW is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and is committed to using every donation in the most effective way possible.

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\$1,000 +

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Dining for Women

415 W. Washington St. Greenville, SC 29601

P. O. Box 25633 Greenville, SC 29616

Telephone: (864) 335-8401

www.diningforwomen.org

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