



# June 2024 Featured Grants

## Strengthening the Economic Power of Women



TOGETHER WOMEN RISE



# About Featured Grants

Featured Grants fund:

- direct services
- new projects
- expansion of existing projects
- general operations
- capacity building



# The Global Issue

## Economic Opportunity for Women

- “Extreme poverty has a gender bias.”
- Worldwide, 2.7+ billion women legally restricted from job choice
- 90+ percent of women’s employment in low-income countries is in informal economy
- Women working = economy growing

# June Featured Grantee: Kula Project

- Eradicates poverty through development of entrepreneurs
- Works in Rwanda's coffee communities
- 15-month Kula Fellowship
- Equips farmers - training, tools, increase coffee production, support diversified revenue streams, personal mentorship

# Life Challenges of Women: Rwanda

- Extreme poverty
- Gender-based violence
- Limited opportunity to escape poverty
- Lack of education access
- Limited access to credit and resources





# How Our Grant Will Be Used

\$50,000 General Operations Grant

Supports Kula's strategic plan to

- increase impact
- simultaneously increase efficiency and focus
- scale programmatic reach



# June Featured Grantee: Upaya Social Ventures

- Provides investment and support – early-stage companies creating dignified jobs for people in extreme poverty
- Works in most underserved segments of India, especially women
- Supports small and growing businesses – too big for microfinance, not ready for traditional investments

# Life Challenges of Women: India

- Deep poverty
- High risk: gender-based violence and sexual assault
- Unequal pay, unequal job access
- Lack of dignified, well-paying jobs





# How Our Grant Will Be Used

\$50,000 General Operations Grant

Supports data gathering and analysis:

- measure disproportionate impact of extreme poverty on women
- define methods to overcome wage gap

Goal: 50,000 jobs by end of 2025





