



# Lost Coin Women's Fund, Inc.

P.O. Box 82  
Milton, MA 02186

*WOMEN HELPING WOMEN TO BECOME SELF RELIANT AND SELF EMPOWERED*

## HONORARY CHAIRPERSON

Evelyn F. Murphy, Ph.D.  
*Former Lt. Governor of  
Massachusetts*

## BOARD MEMBERS

Kathleen Chase  
Kara Fernandes  
Anne Finn  
Julie Graham  
Monique Hubbard  
Seana Kelley  
Janice Leary  
Mary E. McNamara  
Nancy Riley  
Claire O'Rourke, SSC

## FOUNDING MEMBERS

Dorothy Conceison,  
*(1931 - 2008)*  
Barbara Mahar  
Marie Sheehan

*“Never doubt  
that a small  
group of people  
can change the  
world –  
it is the only  
thing that  
ever has.”*

*Margaret Mead*

Visit us online at  
[www.LostCoinWomensFund.org](http://www.LostCoinWomensFund.org)

## Dear Friends of Lost Coin Women's Fund:

Welcome to the second edition of the LCWF Newsletter! We have had an exciting year helping low-income women gain the training and education they need to improve their lives, care for their families and gain personal fulfillment. We know we couldn't do this without the generosity of your donations, so thank you from the bottom of our hearts (and theirs) for allowing these women who ask for your assistance to realize their dream and be recognized in the American workplace as professionals.

This year we provided grants to 21 individual women totaling over \$25,000! Since our inception in 1993, hundreds of women have received LCWF grants totaling over \$350,000! We also received a donation from an estate of a woman who passed away, as you will read about later in this newsletter.

Women who apply for a LCWF Grant experience the exhausting work of navigating life on the margins; patchy child care, substandard housing, old cars that don't start and jobs that do not



provide anything close to economic self-sufficiency. They lack education to enter the professional job market and know that education is the key to quality of life for themselves and their families. And, they are determined to get the education or training necessary to make this a reality.

Your donation to LCWF is critical to moving these women from welfare and poverty to experience the American dream. Thank you so much!

No donation is too big or too small. Please use the enclosed envelope to send a donation, request an honor or memorial card, and/or provide names of those who may be interested in the Lost Coin Women's Fund.

## A Message of Sympathy

Oscar Conceison, father of Kara Fernandes and Nancy Riley who are current board members of Lost Coin Women's Fund, and husband of Founding Board member, Dorothy Conceison, died on October 3, 2011 at

the age of 85. Kara and Nancy lovingly remember their father's reference to the Lost Coin Women's Fund as the "Pennies from Heaven Group". Please join us in offering our condolences to the Conceison family at this time.





Among our donors this year include the following corporations:

- *AIM Mutual Ins. Co.*
- *American Legion of North Easton, MA*
- *Chase Corp.*
- *Bank of America*
- *Bridgewater Savings Bank*
- *DCR Systems LLC, Gallery Collision Ctr.*
- *International Assoc. of Firefighters, Local 1783*



Students who receive Lost Coin Women's Fund grants utilize the money for study in various programs, including the following:

- *Nursing*
- *Accounting*
- *Business*
- *Biology (research)*
- *Graphic Arts*
- *Emergency Medical Technician Certificate*
- *Funeral Service Preparation/Mortuary Science and Thanatology Science*
- *Psychology (Bereavement Counseling)*
- *Human Services*
- *Phlebotomy Certification*

## With Gratitude...

For all your dollars donated this past year, we have received an abundance of heartfelt gratitude by our recipients. Let us share some of the thank you remarks in the hope that they fill you with pride. You, the donors, have made it possible for so many low income women to receive the training and education needed as they strive to make a better life for themselves and their families.

**From Julie:** "Words cannot describe how thankful I am that you have chosen me to be awarded with the grant from your foundation. By awarding me with this grant, you have brightened my future as well as my son's future. I cannot thank you enough. You have provided me with the stepping stone which will allow me to further my education and provide a better life for my son."

**From Jennifer:** "Your assistance in this journey makes my life's backpack a little lighter and my faith stronger. Thank you!"

**From Anne:** "I am so grateful to receive the grant from Lost Coin Women's Fund. Because you have invested in me, I feel even more motivated than ever to achieve my goal. As a single mother who sometimes feels a little overwhelmed, I know that your confidence in me will help me to push forward and finish my degree."

**From Kathleen:** "Thank you so much for my award. I very much appreciate it. With little family support and quite a few trials along the way, it means a lot to me to have your support. To know that you have heard "my story" and have cared about me, means everything."

## Receive the Reward... Join the Board

There is nothing more rewarding than when our Board approves a Grant allowing a woman to further her education. In fact, the individual Board member who reviewed the woman's qualifications is known to say "I don't want her to wait for the approval letter. I want to call her right away and give her the good news!"

We are always seeking new Board Members who are willing to continue the mission of Lost Coin Women's Fund. If you are an individual who is willing to be a part of an active, working Board of Directors and want

to experience the reward of helping low-income women, LCWF may be for you!! The work on the Board requires a minimum of 3 to 4 hours per month, plus attendance at our monthly Board Meetings. We meet the first Wednesday of each month from 4:30 to 6:30 P.M. at Cunningham Park Hall in Milton.

You are more than welcome to attend a few of our Board Meetings to see what we are all about. If you have any questions, you can contact Mary McNamara at (617) 698-4666.

## Remarkably Generous Gift



Lost Coin Women's Fund is pleased and grateful to report that it has received a remarkably generous gift of over twelve thousand dollars from the Helen M. Sheehan Revocable Trust. A longtime resident of Brockton, Ms. Sheehan was also a long-time supporter of the LCWF mission to provide academic grants to low-income Massachusetts women. She and her sister, Nora Cronin, were known throughout the southeastern Massachusetts area for their many volunteer efforts. Lost Coin Women's Fund is proud to know that its efforts have been recognized by such a dedicated local leader in charitable endeavors as Helen M. Sheehan.