Purposeful Women Entrepreneurs & Philanthropists: Building Wealth & Giving—The Untold Story

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This white paper tells the significant story of women entrepreneurs and philanthropists creating wealth and giving back. We share important facts on wealth creation, where we are today, and the potential for tomorrow.

Women entrepreneurs and philanthropists in the US make significant contributions to the economy and their communities. We consider what we have built, what we have earned, what we own—and now, what we can give. The data on wealth creation, foundations, donor advised funds, ESOPs, and more tells a compelling story. This report captures the overall picture of women's economic impact on the US economy, GDP, and giving.

Women overall have great impact and represent a significant force in the story of American wealth and philanthropy. They sit at the intersection of powerful trends: growth of women entrepreneurs, wealth creation, and philanthropy.

Research from the Women's Philanthropy Institute finds that, across many income levels and generations, women are often more likely than men to give to charities—and in many comparisons give more—while a 2018 Fidelity Charitable study found entrepreneurs' median charitable giving to be 50% higher than that of non-entrepreneurs.

Now add a historic shift in wealth:

Women overall: McKinsey projects women will control approximately $34 trillion in U.S. assets by 2030. Women control $18 trillion in U.S. assets today.

There are 15.7 million women entrepreneurs in the U.S. and approximately 14.5 million firms employing nearly 12.9 million people. The big news: women-owned-businesses (WOB) generate $3.3 trillion for the U.S. economy, and with the right infrastructure in place, that number could climb to $10.2 trillion.

The 2026 Report of The Impact of Women-Owned Businesses**,** which looked at businesses through 2025, shows that "women-owned businesses play an increasingly vital role in shaping the American business landscape and driving the economy." They represent 40.6% of all U.S. businesses.

Here are some additional findings from the Wells Fargo report:

- **272,567** — Women-owned employer firms with more than $1 million in revenue. They are 1.9% of all women-owned businesses, yet they generate about $2.2 trillion in revenue and 9.4 million jobs.
- **6,004** — Women-owned firms with more than $20 million in annual revenue, just 2.4% of all U.S. firms of that size, compared with 22.5% owned by men.

Additional Key Facts:

- **$8.5 billion** — Combined 2025 revenue of the 50 Fastest-Growing Women-Owned/Led Companies, which together employ more than 23,000 people (Women Presidents Organization and J.P. Morgan Commercial Banking, 2026).
- **55** — Women leading Fortune 500 companies in 2026, a record 11% of the list (Fortune).
- **43 women, $166.3 billion** — America's richest self-made women in 2026, both records, in the first year the list was limited to billionaires (Forbes).
- **$73.6 billion** — Venture capital raised in 2025 by U.S. companies with at least one female founder, a record 27.7% of U.S. deal value (PitchBook).
- **$33,219** — Average charitable giving by affluent U.S. donor households in 2024, even as the share of affluent households that give fell to 81% from 91% in 2015 (Bank of America Study of Philanthropy, 2025).

The full report: The data on women-owned businesses and GDP impact:

Women-owned businesses have grown to a historic share of the U.S. economy. The 2025 Wells Fargo Impact of Women-Owned Businesses Report, which uses 2024 business data, found that women-owned businesses represented 39.2% of all U.S. businesses. Growth in the number of firms has not eliminated the scale gap.

Women-owned businesses accounted for only 9.6% of U.S. business employment and 6.2% of business revenue—a difference that points to the continuing need for access to

capital, supplier opportunities, mentorship, contracts, markets, and growth-stage investment.

The purchasing gap can be measured as businesses owned by women need both private sector and public sector suppliers. Wells Fargo's research on larger women-owned firms notes that 85% of Fortune 100 companies have supplier diversity programs. It also estimates that women-owned businesses would have received about $77 billion more in federal contracts in fiscal year 2020 if their share of contracts had matched their share of employer businesses. Contracts of that size are how a $5 million company becomes a $50 million company.

The 2026 edition of the Wells Fargo report (reporting on 2025) counts 15.7 million women-owned businesses, 40.6% of all U.S. businesses. From 2022 to 2025 the number of women-owned firms grew 12.1%, nearly twice the 6.3% rate for firms owned by men, and their employment grew 11.1% against 3.4%.

WOB-owned businesses generated $2.8+ trillion in revenue, and the average women-owned employer firm brought in about $1.6 million a year, compared with about $4.6 million for the average employer firm owned by men. Census Bureau data point the same direction.

Annual Revenue	What the Data Show for Women-Owned Firms	Source
All sizes	15.7 million businesses; 40.6% of all U.S. businesses (2025)	Wells Fargo, 2026
More than $1 million	272,567 employer firms. 1.9% of women-owned businesses reach this level, compared with 5.4% of men-owned businesses	Wells Fargo, 2025
More than $10 million	2% of women-owned small employer firms, compared with 7% of those owned by men	Federal Reserve Banks, 2026
More than $20 million	6,004 firms; 2.4% of all U.S. firms of this size, compared with 22.5% owned by men	Wells Fargo, 2025
More than $50 million	No published national count	The gap our Enterprising Women EOP report in 2027 sets out to close

The $50 million line.

Wells Fargo's researchers note that even at $20 million the number of firms is too small to support Census-based estimates of their employment and revenue. What exists instead are glimpses.

The Women Presidents Organization maintains a Zenith group for members whose companies exceed $50 million in gross annual revenue. The 2026 list of the 50 Fastest-Growing Women-Owned/Led Companies, published by WPO and sponsored by J.P. Morgan Commercial Banking, shows what this tier can do: the 50 honorees generated more than $8.5 billion in revenue in 2025, an average of about $170 million per company, and employed more than 23,000 people. Seventy-six percent of their CEOs founded the business, and 58% started it with their own funds.

C200 reports that the companies of its more than 400 members represent over $1.4 trillion in revenue.

Capital remains a major challenge: The capital picture in 2025.

PitchBook reports that U.S. venture-backed companies with at least one female founder raised a record $73.6 billion in 2025, a record 27.7% of all U.S. venture deal value. Their share of U.S. venture exits rose to 25%, and the combined valuation of female-founded unicorns reached a record $481 billion.

The headline needs careful reading. About two-thirds of those dollars went to artificial-intelligence companies, and more than $30 billion went to just two of them, Anthropic and Scale AI.

The number of deals for female-founded companies fell for the fourth year in a row. Capital is reaching a few women-founded companies at very large scale and reaching most of the others less often, and that is the gap women investors are positioned to close.

Women at the head of large enterprises.

The corporate side tells a similar story of progress from a small base. A record 55 women lead Fortune 500 companies in 2026, 11% of the list and the highest share in its 72-year history, up from 7.4% in 2020.

The Women Business Collaborative's 2025 count found roughly 270 women running U.S. private companies with more than $1 billion in revenue, about 8.6% of such companies. These women face the same choices about wealth, exits, and giving as the founders profiled here, and their philanthropy is just as thinly documented.

The Great Wealth Transfer

Wealth-Transfer Projection Through 2048	Amount
Total wealth expected to transfer	$124 trillion
Expected to go to heirs	$105 trillion
Expected to go directly to charity	$18 trillion
Wealth transferred by Baby Boomers and older generations	Nearly $100 trillion
Expected inter-spousal transfers	$54 trillion
Share of inter-spousal transfers expected to go to women	More than 95%

Source: Cerulli Associates, U.S. High-Net-Worth and Ultra-High-Net-Worth Markets 2024 (December 2024).

Women and wealth: 2026 facts with JPMorgan

- **Wealth growth:** Wealth controlled by women grew about 51% from 2018 to 2023. Chang shared this from J.P. Morgan's 9th annual gender parity report, released in March 2026.
- **Money and purpose:** J.P. Morgan Private Bank reports that nine in ten women see money as a tool for achieving their purpose.
- **Inheritance and giving:** These figures come from J.P. Morgan's latest investor study, conducted in 2025 and still the one the firm cites in 2026.
    - 63% of women 61 and older have received an inheritance.
    - 93% of women expecting one aren't relying on it to reach their goals.
    - 75% of women make financial decisions with their partner or take the lead themselves.
    - Of women who have inherited, 45% invested it and 28% gave some to charity.

Projections

Projection	Figure	Source
U.S. assets controlled by women by 2030	$34T, about 38% of all U.S. assets (McKinsey estimate)	J.P. Morgan Great Wealth Transfer report

Who holds the wealth and who receives it.

Baby Boomers and older generations account for 81% of the transfer. High-net-worth and ultra-high-net-worth households are only 2% of U.S. households, yet they will pass on $62 trillion, more than half of the total. Millennials stand to inherit $46 trillion over 25 years, and Gen X $14 trillion in the next ten. Nearly $40 trillion of the spousal transfers will go to widowed women in the Boomer and older generations.

Women's wealth is already growing faster.

UBS's Billionaire Ambitions Report 2025 counts 374 women billionaires worldwide and finds that their average wealth rose 8.4% in the year, against 3.2% for men, the fourth consecutive year in which women outpaced men.

Altrata's Billionaire Census 2026 puts women at 13.1% of the world's billionaires and estimates that more than 1,235 women are in line to inherit from billionaire spouses over the coming decade, about 90% of all spouse heirs.

In the United States, the 62 women on the 2026 Forbes 400 hold a combined $954 billion, up from $872 billion a year earlier. McKinsey adds a point any financial institution will notice: 53% of the assets women control in the United States and Europe are unmanaged, compared with 45% of men's.

A new generation of women giving while living

A 2026 RBC Wealth Management survey adds generational detail to the idea of lifetime giving. It surveyed more than 2,000 high-net-worth individuals in the United States, including 1,505 women, all with at least $1 million in investable assets.

Its findings include:

- **61%** of Millennial women plan to transfer wealth to their children during their own lifetime rather than waiting until death
- **52%** of Millennial women rank giving back as an important financial goal, compared with 24% of Gen X women and 29% of Boomer women
- **23%** of women across generations name philanthropy or charity as a key beneficiary of their wealth plans
- **62%** of Millennial women cite business ownership as a source of wealth, compared with 10% of Boomer women
- **43%** of Millennial women cite executive roles as a source of wealth, compared with 14% of Boomer women

These findings suggest that the sources of women's wealth are changing—and that younger wealthy women are thinking about lifetime transfers, family, philanthropy, and legacy earlier in their financial lives.

Women are building this wealth themselves.

- Forbes' 2026 list of America's Richest Self-Made Women has a record 43 members with a record combined net worth of $166.3 billion**,** up from 38 women a year earlier, and it is the first year the list has been limited to billionaires. Twenty of the 43 made their fortunes in technology.
- J.P. Morgan Wealth Management's 2025 Investor Study found the same independence among a much broader group of investors: 93% of women who expect an inheritance say they are not counting on it to reach their financial goals, and three in four are confident they will reach those goals. Among women who have already inherited, 28% used part of the money to give to charity.

Giving: More dollars, fewer donors

Giving USA's 2026 report, covering charitable giving in 2025, adds important nuance to the giving totals. Total giving of $617.2 billion marked the second consecutive year of strong growth: 5.7% in current dollars and 3.0% after inflation. Yet the share of total giving coming from individuals has declined over decades—from about 80% in the late 1980s to 64% in 2025—even as the dollar amount from individuals has grown.

The proportion of U.S. households making charitable gifts has also declined, from roughly two-thirds in 2008 to about half today, meaning fewer donors are giving more. Bequest giving increased 19.7% in 2025 to $62.19 billion, one of the fastest-growing categories. All of this makes philanthropy planning, business-exit planning, and lifetime giving especially important conversations for successful entrepreneurs.

The same pattern holds among affluent households.

The 2025 Bank of America Study of Philanthropy found that 81% of affluent households gave to charity in 2024, down from 91% in 2015. Those who gave averaged $33,219, more than 30% above the pre-pandemic average, and 43% of affluent individuals volunteered. Only 13% of affluent households involve children, grandchildren, or other younger relatives in their giving decisions, which leaves a great deal of room for the family philanthropy described later in this paper.

Women have been the steadier donors.

The Women's Philanthropy Institute's Women Give 2024 tracked 20 years of household giving. From 2000 to 2020 the share of single women who gave fell from 56.4% to 41.7%. That is a real decline, but it is much smaller than the drop among single men (53.2% to 32.9%) or married couples (79.1% to 59.0%). In every year on record, single women were more likely to give than single men.

Mega-gifts and women philanthropists

Mega-gifts are reshaping the top of American philanthropy. Giving USA 2026 found that gifts exceeding 0.1% of annual total giving—about $600 million in 2025—totaled $19.22 billion in 2025, up from $11.72 billion in 2024.

So many women are making a difference as philanthropists:

MacKenzie Scott was the largest identified contributor. Since 2019 she has given away approximately $26.3 billion to more than 2,700 organizations, including a record $7.1–$7.2 billion in 2025 alone to roughly 225 organizations, with more than $1 billion of her 2025 giving going to higher education. Her giving illustrates the scale of lifetime philanthropy now being directed by women.

Cerulli's $54 trillion figure refers to total projected inter-spousal transfers, not transfers exclusively to widows; Cerulli separately estimates that nearly $40 trillion will pass to widowed women among Baby Boomer and older generations. Because women generally live longer, they will increasingly make the final decisions about where substantial family fortunes go.

Women are already organizing their giving.

Collective giving has grown quickly, and women lead it. The 2024 study In Abundance counted close to 4,000 giving circles in the United States, with about 370,000 members who gave more than $3.1 billion from 2017 to 2023. In 84% of those groups, women are more than half of the members.

The very wealthy carry a large share of all giving.

Altrata estimates that individuals with a net worth of $30 million or more gave $207 billion to philanthropic causes in 2023, nearly 38% of all individual giving worldwide. The women in this report belong to that group, and their decisions carry corresponding weight.

Givers donate time, money, or both, and they are proud to give as they build and throughout their lifetimes. Through Entrepreneurs of Purpose (EOP), a legacy program of the Enterprising Women Foundation, we salute all GIVERS and hope more women will tell their stories. The collective facts are breathtaking.

The opportunity is not simply to accumulate wealth, but to turn entrepreneurial success into philanthropic impact—giving while living—and to create a legacy that extends far beyond the business itself. Women are highly engaged donors who connect money with purpose, family, community, and legacy.

Enterprising Women magazine in its fall 2026 issue focuses on business exits and the important choices they bring. When a founder sells a company, she has choices about what happens to the wealth she has created.

She can:

- Scale the business and build community
- Establish a family foundation or donor-advised fund and plan her exit strategy and giving
- Endow organizations she cares about
- Invest for impact
- Mentor and fund the next generation of women entrepreneurs
- Create a philanthropic legacy during her lifetime

What are we going to do with it?

Women have fought for generations for the right to own businesses, control capital, enter industries that excluded us, compete for major contracts, sit at decision-making tables, and create wealth of our own. We know how difficult it can be to access capital—and how much harder it is for some women than for others. There are good signs ahead. The focus now is on givers and how they can use their success to impact giving for good.

Women as capital providers: examples

There is now a substantial ecosystem of women-founded, women-led, and women-focused venture and angel capital, ranging from multibillion-dollar venture firms to national angel networks specifically backing women entrepreneurs.

One important distinction: a women-led fund is not necessarily a fund investing primarily in women founders. Some of the largest women-led firms invest across the entire market; others have an explicit mandate to invest in women. Together, they demonstrate that women are increasingly becoming allocators of capital, not merely participants in the investment industry.

Some examples:

Fund / Organization	Woman Leader(s)	Scale	Why It Matters
Forerunner Ventures	Kirsten Green, Founder & Managing Partner	Approx. $3B AUM	A major mainstream VC franchise and early investor in Chime, Oura, Hims & Hers, Faire, Warby Parker, and Glossier.

Fund / Organization	Woman Leader(s)	Scale	Why It Matters
Acrew Capital	Theresia Gouw, Founding Partner; Lauren Kolodny, Co-Founder	More than $1.7B managed	Invests in fintech, cybersecurity, data, and AI; portfolio includes Chime, Coinbase, Plaid, Gusto, and Vanta.
Inspired Capital	Alexa von Tobel, Founder & Managing Partner; Penny Pritzker, Co-Founder	Major multi-fund VC platform	Backs early-stage technology companies; founded by an entrepreneur-turned-investor.
Rethink Impact	Jenny Abramson, Founder & Managing Partner	Roughly $300M+ across funds	An impact-oriented VC firm with a gender lens investing in health, education, climate, and economic empowerment.
Female Founders Fund	Anu Duggal, Founding Partner	Approx. $140M across funds	A well-known venture firm created specifically to invest in female-founded technology companies.
Halogen Ventures	Jesse Draper, Founder & General Partner	100+ investments	Its portfolio is 100% female-founded and 85% female-CEO-led.
SoGal Ventures	Pocket Sun and Elizabeth Galbut	Global early-stage VC	Focuses on underrepresented founders, undercapitalized geographies, and underserved markets.
Astia	Sharon Vosmek, CEO	$65M+ AUM; 180+ investments	A pioneer in investing in women-led companies, with a global network of more than 6,000 advisors.

These are women allocating billions of dollars of institutional capital.

From entrepreneurs to angels: increasing the number of investment funds, angel funds, and more

The angel-investing story is equally important. Successful women are increasingly moving from wealth creators to investors, mentors, board members, and philanthropists.

Golden Seeds as one example:

In June 2026, Golden Seeds announced it had surpassed $200 million invested in 279 women-led companies, which subsequently raised more than $2.5 billion in total capital.

With nearly 300 active members, nine chapters, and investors across 28 states, Washington, D.C., and internationally, Golden Seeds does two things simultaneously: it funds women entrepreneurs and it creates women investors.

More than 1,150 investors have participated in its network over its history. When it was founded in 2004, women represented only about 5% of angel investors; today, Golden Seeds reports that women constitute more than one-third of U.S. angel investors.

The national numbers bear this out.

The University of New Hampshire's Center for Venture Research reports that women were 46.7% of the U.S. angel market in 2023, a market of 422,350 active angels who invested $18.6 billion. Women-owned ventures were 46.3% of the companies seeking angel capital that year, and 28.8% of those that sought it received it.

Today: ***Build wealth → Scale wealth → Use wealth → Give wealth → Create legacy***

Philanthropy does not have to wait until death. Women who have built companies or accumulated substantial wealth can make transformational gifts during their lifetimes, create foundations or donor-advised funds, fund scholarships, support women entrepreneurs, invest in communities, endow university programs, support health and research, mentor the next generation, and bring children and grandchildren into philanthropy. That is the essence of giving while living.

Cerulli's projection that $18 trillion of the Great Wealth Transfer could ultimately go to charities through 2048 provides a remarkable quantitative foundation for this idea. Even a modest shift from end-of-life giving toward lifetime philanthropy would put trillions of dollars to work earlier.

Exits and wealth creation: a wave of exits is coming.

The Gallup Pathways to Wealth Survey, supported by JPMorganChase and the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, finds that 52.3% of U.S. employer businesses, about 3 million of nearly 6 million firms, are owned by people 55 and older. Among employer-owners nearing retirement, 74% plan to sell the business, take it public, or give it away.

Chase's 2026 survey of about 1,000 small business owners found that 40% plan to retire within the next decade and that 70% are in early-stage planning or have no formal succession plan. Every one of those transitions is also a decision about giving, and the best time to make it is before the sale.

The opportunity for women and girls

One extraordinary gap remains: although women are gaining enormous economic power and frequently champion women's advancement, only a small portion of philanthropy is specifically directed toward women and girls.

The Women's Philanthropy Institute reports that giving to organizations focused on women and girls exceeded 2% of overall U.S. charitable giving for the first time, reaching 2.18% in 2022 and approximately 2.04% in 2023—more than $11 billion annually. Women may soon control tens of trillions of dollars in America, yet only about two cents of every philanthropic dollar currently goes specifically to organizations serving women and girls.

Giving to women & girls

The 2025 Women & Girls Index covers 57,165 organizations. Much of the 2022 surge came from reproductive-health organizations, where giving rose nearly 40% that year and fell 10% the next. Set those aside and giving to women's and girls' organizations grew 7% from 2021 to 2023; after inflation, total giving to the field fell 2% over the period. These organizations also rely on government grants for about 20% of their revenue, twice the rate of other U.S. nonprofits. That leaves them more exposed when public funding tightens, and it makes private philanthropy matter more.

Women philanthropists support education, health, the arts, faith, poverty reduction, climate, medical research, universities, communities, and countless other causes. But the figures demonstrate how much room remains for women to intentionally use their wealth to advance other women.

Become a GIVER

The next great opportunity is to become a GIVER. Givers build businesses and then use their success to build other people. They create jobs. They hire women. They buy from women-owned businesses. They mentor and sponsor. They invest. They make introductions. They support their communities. They give to education, healthcare, entrepreneurship, research, the arts, social justice, and the causes that matter deeply to them. Credit those who make the transition from successful entrepreneur to major philanthropist.

Build wealth—because wealth gives us the power to act.

Consider Cordia Harrington. She built Crown Bakeries from a single McDonald's bun supplier in 1996 into a major bakery company. But her story is not simply about how much bread her company produces or how large it became. She turned business success into opportunity for others.

Her philosophy has a name: CORD—Create Opportunity, Realize Dreams. Her giving is deeply rooted in education and in her own experience as the first person in her family to attend college. Her philanthropy has helped create university facilities, entrepreneurship

and innovation programs, scholarships, study-abroad opportunities, and other educational resources.

What happens to this business without me?

An exit is not something to consider only when a buyer suddenly appears. Is there a succession plan? Could the company be sold? Could employees participate in ownership, such as through an ESOP?

Merrilee Kick provides a remarkable example. She founded BuzzBallz/Southern Champion in 2009 with no outside investors, bootstrapped the business herself, and expanded its distribution. By the time she sold it to Sazerac in 2024, the company had grown substantially—and she has made education central to her philanthropy.

In 2024 she made a transformative $30 million gift to Texas Woman's University, establishing the Merrilee Alexander Kick College of Business & Entrepreneurship, the largest gift in the university's history.

Do not wait until the end to become a philanthropist.

Janet Johanson demonstrates exactly this kind of intentional giving. She founded BevSource in 2002, grew it into a highly successful company as sole owner, and has deliberately connected entrepreneurship, investing, estate planning, and philanthropy. She uses a donor-advised fund, establishes annual giving priorities, evaluates outcomes, and has involved her children so that philanthropy becomes part of the family's shared values.

Giving is more than the check.

We also have relationship capital, intellectual capital, reputational capital, and human capital. Look at Allison McCrea, President and CEO of SDI International, who leads a global procurement and workforce-solutions enterprise. A particularly meaningful part of her impact is mentoring business leaders and championing supplier diversity—opening access for women-, minority-, and diverse-owned businesses within major corporate supply chains. Her philosophy is simple and powerful: opportunity brings responsibility to create opportunity for others**.** In May 2026, SDI International ranked No. 1 on the list of the 50 Fastest-Growing Women-Owned/Led Companies published by the Women Presidents Organization and sponsored by J.P. Morgan Commercial Banking.

Purchasing can be philanthropy. We salute so many of the women growing businesses, selling businesses and giving back. Consider Pamela Chambers O'Rourke. She started ICON Consultants in 1998 as a one-person operation and grew it into a major workforce-solutions enterprise, championing women-owned businesses. Her example reminds us that every company decides where its dollars go. Directing purchasing opportunities toward women and diverse entrepreneurs can help another business grow, employ people, and create wealth.

Women invest in women

This is one of the greatest opportunities before us. Women entrepreneurs need capital, so successful women must increasingly become investors in women. Put women-owned businesses into the supply chain. Invest in women-founded companies. Introduce women entrepreneurs to bankers, private-equity firms, venture investors, customers, and strategic partners.

> ***Your network is your net worth—but your greatest worth may ultimately be what your network does for somebody else.***

The scale in numbers.

Forbes counts 62 women on the 2026 Forbes 400, with a combined net worth of $954 billion. Several of the women named above are among them: Alice Walton ($118 billion), Abigail Johnson ($41.6 billion), Marilyn Simons ($36.6 billion), Melinda French Gates ($34.6 billion), and MacKenzie Scott ($27.9 billion, after giving away roughly $26 billion).

Only 13 of the 62 are self-made, which is why the separate self-made list matters. Its 43 women, led by Diane Hendricks ($21.7 billion) and Judy Faulkner ($9.6 billion) and including Oprah Winfrey ($3.4 billion), Rihanna, and Beyoncé Knowles-Carter, built a combined $166.3 billion themselves. Their peers at $50 million, $100 million, and $500 million in revenue are far more numerous, and almost nothing is published about how they give.

Formalizing philanthropy: foundations, donor-advised funds and family offices

The entrepreneurial journey does not end with creating wealth. Increasingly, successful women are building a second enterprise—the enterprise of philanthropy. Some create private or family foundations. Others establish named foundations and donor-advised funds (DAFs), very often through a community foundation. Others combine both. The same skills that built their companies—strategy, measurement, innovation, risk-taking, networks, and a determination to solve problems—are increasingly being applied to how they give.

Women also bring an additional philanthropic dimension. Bank of America's gender research finds that affluent women are almost twice as likely as men to support the advancement of women and girls (23% versus 12%), and more likely to take responsibility for teaching children about giving (46% versus 35%).

Fidelity Charitable's 2021 *Women and Giving* study found that 86% of women surveyed—nearly nine in ten—wished they could do more to create positive social change. They found women were more likely than men to participate in multiple forms of giving—financial gifts, volunteering, donating goods, and purchasing from socially responsible businesses—while spending more time on their philanthropy and more often articulating formal giving goals and legacy plans.

The infrastructure is still young.

The 2025 Bank of America Study of Philanthropy found that 24% of affluent households have a giving vehicle of some kind, and that 18% of their 2024 giving moved through one, up from 11% nine years earlier.

Just 5% use a donor-advised fund and fewer than 5% have a private foundation, while 14% have a will with charitable provisions. Respondents expect to leave 75% of their estates to children and grandchildren and 13% to charity. Most giving capacity is still waiting for a plan.

Taken together, these data support a powerful proposition: as women build and monetize successful companies, their desire for a deliberate philanthropic infrastructure should only increase.

The rise of women-led family offices

Women are increasingly running family offices, directing billions in private capital, and linking investment strategy to philanthropy, impact investing, women entrepreneurs, education, health, climate, and community development. The data are still fragmented because single-family offices are private, but several recent studies give us a much clearer picture.

Morgan Stanley/Botoff Consulting's 2025 study of 433 U.S. family offices and investment firms, covering 2,208 executives, found that women held 29% of all family-office executive positions—including 17% of CEO/President roles, 16% of CIO roles, 39% of CFO roles, 52% of COO roles, and 48% of Chief Legal Officer/General Counsel roles. Morgan Stanley notes that women's representation at the top of family offices exceeds their representation at the top of corporate America.

Earlier FINTRX research identified 25 U.S. single-family offices specifically managed or led by women; nineteen of these women were C-suite executives, nine were CEOs, and eleven were CIOs, and seven were themselves founders, co-founders, or sources of the family wealth. The 25 offices represented an estimated average of more than $2.4 billion in assets under management each—an enormous concentration of capital even within this small sample.

The Wharton 2026 Family Office Survey found that 74.7% of family-office philanthropic activity is conducted through a family foundation; 54.9% give to charities; 52.7% give directly to particular causes; 35.2% use donor-advised funds; and 9.9% explicitly use ESG or impact investing as a philanthropic mechanism.

There is also growing convergence between giving and investing: among offices using ESG strategies, 71% employed thematic investing (clean energy, gender equality, health care, water), and on average 9.3% of charitable giving had shifted into for-profit ESG/impact vehicles. Philanthropic capital is increasingly moving beyond grants and into investments intended to generate both returns and social outcomes.

UBS similarly found that philanthropy is the most frequently used channel through which family offices pursue sustainability or impact objectives (41%), with 27% concentrating on strategic philanthropy—attacking underlying causes rather than simply providing short-term relief—and 44% pursuing education-related impact through philanthropy.

J.P. Morgan Private Bank's 2026 Global Family Office Report, based on 333 family offices in 30 countries with an average net worth of $1.6 billion, found that 86% lack a clear succession plan for their key decision makers and that 53% of business-owning families rank succession planning as a top issue. More than three-quarters are engaging the rising generation. The women who lead these offices, and the women principals behind them, will shape how that handoff happens and how much of it reaches philanthropy.

A sample of important women-led family-office examples:

Woman	Family Office / Platform	Leadership	Capital and Philanthropy Connection
Laurene Powell Jobs	Emerson Collective	Founder & President	Major private investment-and-philanthropy platform active in venture, AI, health, education, media, and climate; has committed $3.5 billion over 10 years to climate work through the Waverley Street Foundation.
Melinda French Gates	Pivotal	Founder	Hybrid philanthropic/investment organization focused on women; $2 billion pledged to women and families since 2019, with 49 funds and 13 companies receiving committed investment capital through 2025 and $491 million in charitable support committed in 2025 alone.
Valeria Alberola	Aurora Borealis	CEO	Family office associated with Mike Bezos and family; structured to oversee trusts, foundations, and multigenerational assets. The Bezos Family Foundation focuses heavily on learning and youth development.

Woman	Family Office / Platform	Leadership	Capital and Philanthropy Connection
Renata Erlikhman	OW Management	CIO	Single-family office managing Oprah Winfrey family wealth, with particular emphasis on backing women-led companies—consistent with Winfrey's broader philanthropy in education and women's advancement.
Dawn Fitzpatrick	Soros Fund Management	CEO/CIO	One of the most important woman-run family investment organizations, linked to the Open Society Foundations' global philanthropic network.
Katie Sproul	Halstatt	CEO	Woman-led family investment firm; the Halstatt Charitable Foundation prioritizes women, environment, and community.
Christina Lewis	BFO21 / Beatrice Advisors	Founder	Founded a private family office and then Beatrice, a woman- and minority-owned multi-family office explicitly connecting wealth preservation with community impact, legacy, and financial empowerment; Vice Chair of the Reginald F. Lewis Foundation.
Geneva DeStefano	DeStefano Fund Management	Founder & CEO	Private, family-directed investment office; giving focuses on women, children, and older adults facing hardship.
Suna Said	Nima Capital	Founder & CEO	A woman who is both wealth principal and family-office leader, identified by FINTRX among ESG-oriented women-led offices.

The explosion of donor-advised funds

The newest national DAF numbers are enormous. For FY2024, the Donor Advised Fund Research Collaborative reports:

DAF Measure	FY2024
DAF accounts	3.59 million
Total DAF assets	$327.87 billion
Contributions into DAFs	$90.57 billion
Grants from DAFs	$64.60 billion
Overall payout rate	25.2%
Average account size	$91,300
DAF sponsoring organizations	1,512

Assets rose 27.9% in one year, contributions rose 38.6%, and grants increased 17.9%. This is one of the strongest trends in American philanthropy—and community foundations are central to it. Of the nation's 1,512 identified DAF sponsors, 803 are community foundations, compared with 103 national sponsors and 606 single-issue charities.

Community-foundation DAFs alone held $64.65 billion in assets across 101,189 accounts in FY2024, receiving $12.74 billion in contributions and granting $12.41 billion, with an average account of $638,909 and a 22.3% payout rate. Assets increased 16.4% in one year while contributions jumped 45.4%.

A Council on Foundations survey found that DAFs represented 41% of participating community foundations' reported assets, 60% of gift dollars received, and 67% of grant dollars distributed—and that more than half of surveyed community foundations granted more from their DAFs during the year than they received in new contributions.

This is strong evidence against thinking of the community foundation merely as a local charity. It is increasingly a philanthropic platform and outsourced family-foundation infrastructure.

Why a woman entrepreneur might choose a community foundation

For an entrepreneur—particularly before or after selling a company—there are compelling reasons why she might choose a community foundation. A DAF can receive cash and publicly traded securities, but sophisticated sponsors can often accept closely held business interests, restricted stock, private-equity interests, real estate, farms, timberland, and other complex assets. This means philanthropy can sometimes be planned around the entrepreneur's business ownership rather than waiting until everything has been converted to cash.

A community-foundation DAF also gives the entrepreneur something a national financial DAF may not provide to the same degree: knowledge of local nonprofits, community

needs, convening power, and personal philanthropic advice. That distinction matters enormously for women entrepreneurs who say, “I built my wealth here. Now I want to give back here—but I don't necessarily know every nonprofit doing the best work.”

Models in action

Portfolia, founded by Trish Costello, is particularly relevant because its purpose is not simply to finance entrepreneurs—it is to turn more women into venture investors.

Portfolia reports a community of more than 2,000 women investors across 48 states and 20 countries. A 2025 profile reported 14 funds and 185 investments valued at more than $65 million in 118 companies, with approximately 90% of its investors being women. Its model is powerful: women pool investment capital through professionally managed venture funds and gain exposure to sectors such as women's health, longevity, and diverse founders.

Joanna Drake and the Care Economy.

Joanna Drake is an entrepreneur-turned-venture capitalist who has become a significant investor in the Care Economy—businesses and technologies serving families across parenting, health, caregiving, aging, household management, and financial well-being. She is Co-Founder and Managing Partner of Magnify Ventures, alongside Julie Wroblewski. Magnify invests at the earliest stages in companies redesigning the systems families rely upon, typically writing initial checks of $250,000 to $2 million. In July 2026, Magnify announced Fund II with $100 million, increasingly focused on AI infrastructure for the Care Economy.

Pivotal Ventures, founded by Melinda French Gates, anchored Magnify's first fund, and returned as an investor in Fund II. Drake and Wroblewski are helping turn caregiving from an overlooked and disproportionately female burden into a major category for venture investment, innovation, and wealth creation.

Ann Drake: building success—and building opportunity

Ann McIlrath Drake is an especially strong example of the theme “Build, Lead, Give Back—and Create Institutions That Will Outlive You.” Her philanthropy is not simply charitable giving; it is a continuation of her leadership work: identifying a barrier, build something that removes it, and invest the resources needed to make the solution endure.

Drake built an extraordinary career in one of the most traditionally male-dominated sectors of American business. As Chairman and CEO of DSC Logistics, she transformed her family's warehouse and trucking operation on Chicago's South Side into one of the nation's leading supply-chain management companies. Northwestern credits her with helping elevate supply-chain services from a commodity function into a strategic component of business. Her philanthropy includes a $70 million gift to Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management, and the Ann McIlrath Drake Executive Center is scheduled to open on the Evanston campus in fall 2027. In 2013, she founded

AWESOME—Achieving Women's Excellence in Supply Chain Operations, Management and Education—which grew into a community of roughly 1,500 senior women leaders working to advance women and transform the future of supply-chain leadership.

She established Lincoln Road Enterprises, an operational philanthropic organization with a mission to elevate women's leadership across business, global supply chain, engineering and technology, infrastructure and design, and space and astrophysics. Her Women's Leadership Center at Williams Bay on Geneva Lake in Wisconsin may become one of the most visible expressions of Drake's philosophy. It connects the different strands of her philanthropy by bringing together women who have received scholarships through Kellogg, AWESOME, and other organizations to form relationships across institutions and generations.

The lifetime opportunity

Kendra Scott — a terrific model.

Scott started her jewelry company in 2002 with $500 and built it into a billion-dollar lifestyle brand. Her company says it has contributed more than $60 million to charitable causes since 2010. In 2023 she established the Kendra Scott Foundation—but rather than creating an entirely independent private foundation with its own infrastructure, the Kendra Scott Foundation is a component fund of the Austin Community Foundation.

Her focus is women and youth; health and wellness; education; and entrepreneurship. It makes grants, operates signature programs, and supports the Kendra Scott Women's Entrepreneurial Leadership Institute at the University of Texas.

Amy Bell — a CEO using a community-foundation DAF.

Amy Bell, CEO of The Cook's Nook, opened a donor-advised fund with the Austin Community Foundation soon after moving to Austin in 2016. Her giving focuses on food access, equity, sustainability, and investment in communities of color. She has specifically described the community foundation's value as its ability to provide information and insight about community priorities, helping her make better philanthropic decisions.

Tory Burch — The Tory Burch Foundation.

Burch created her foundation in 2009 with a very direct relationship between her entrepreneurial success and her philanthropic mission: providing women entrepreneurs with capital, education, and community.

Her original business vision was to build a global brand that would support a foundation focused on women's empowerment. Notably, the Foundation is a public charity rather than a traditional private family foundation—demonstrating that “having your own foundation” does not necessarily mean operating a private one.

Its reported impacts include more than $3 million in grants to women-of-color founders, plus entrepreneurial education, mentorship, and access-to-capital programs.

Kimberly Storin — executive, women-in-tech advocate, and DAF holder.

Storin, a technology executive, and her husband established a donor-advised fund at the Austin Community Foundation in 2014 and have supported the Austin Women's Fund. Rather than simply writing checks, they use the community foundation for data and insight on what is happening locally and where donations can be most effectively deployed—precisely the value proposition for an entrepreneur accustomed to using data in business.

Sylvia Fritz Dobbs — a business-community foundation model.

Dobbs, CEO of Mini Mart, LP, established the Mini Mart Charitable Fund at a community foundation to manage the company's local giving, citing the foundation's expertise as something the company needed to give effectively in the communities it had served for decades.

Payton Shubrick — next-generation entrepreneur.

Shubrick, the young founder and CEO of six Brick's, recently established a donor-advised fund at the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts and has been encouraging other entrepreneurs in her industry to reinvest in the community. This matters because it suggests structured philanthropy is no longer confined to people in their 60s, 70s, and 80s after a lifetime of wealth accumulation. Entrepreneurs can institutionalize giving while they are still actively building the company.

Women entrepreneurs who created their own foundations

Sara Blakely — The Sara Blakely Foundation.

Spanx founder Sara Blakely launched her foundation in 2006 to support women through education and entrepreneurial training. Her giving has included scholarships, women's entrepreneurship programs, and major initiatives assisting women business owners, including a $5 million pandemic-era commitment to female-run small businesses. The foundation was also an early lead investor/guarantor in Grameen America's Social Business Fund supporting women entrepreneurs.

Eileen Fisher — The Eileen Fisher Foundation.

Fashion entrepreneur Eileen Fisher, who founded EILEEN FISHER in 1984, established her foundation in 2005. Its work has focused on women's leadership, design, innovation, and sustainability, and it remains a private foundation, with its 2024 filing reporting approximately $7.9 million in net assets. It is a good example of a founder whose philanthropic work closely reflects the values embedded in the operating company.

Diane von Furstenberg — The Diller-von Furstenberg Family Foundation.

Von Furstenberg operates philanthropy through this family foundation, whose 2024 filing reported approximately $113.2 million in assets and $8.5 million across 50 grants, with recipients including Vital Voices, Georgetown University, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial

Museum, and Baby2Baby. She and the foundation created the DVF Awards in 2010 to recognize and financially support women working to improve other women's lives worldwide.

Private Foundation vs. Community-Foundation DAF

	Private Foundation	Community Foundation / DAF
Separate legal entity	Yes	Usually no
Own board	Yes	No separate legal board required
Donor controls grants	Directly, subject to law	Donor recommends grants
IRS Form 990-PF	Required	No donor Form 990
Grants publicly disclosed	Generally yes	Donor may often remain anonymous
Annual required payout	Generally ~5%	No federal statutory DAF payout requirement
Excise tax on investment income	1.39%	None at donor-account level
Administration	Donor/foundation responsible	Sponsor handles it
Start-up legal costs	Yes	Usually minimal
Local nonprofit intelligence	Must develop or buy	Major community-foundation advantage
Family branding	Excellent	Often available through a named fund
Accept complex assets	Possible	Many sophisticated CFs can
Deduction limits	Generally less favorable	Generally more favorable
Best suited to	Large, complex, highly controlled philanthropy	Flexible, efficient philanthropy

Bank of America's 2026 comparison notes that cash contributions to a public-charity DAF may generally qualify for deductions up to 60% of adjusted gross income, versus 30% for a private foundation. The corresponding limits for many appreciated assets are

30% and 20%, respectively. Private foundations also face annual filings and a 1.39% tax on net investment income. Importantly, wealthy families increasingly use both vehicles rather than treating this as an either/or decision.

A community foundation can even be the first step toward a family foundation. The Ruppert family began with a donor-advised fund at the Greater Washington Community Foundation and subsequently created a family foundation—and they specifically advise prospective philanthropists not to let the complexity of establishing a foundation become an obstacle to beginning. The progression is extremely relevant: DAF → disciplined philanthropy → greater wealth and experience → family foundation.

Why this matters at a business sale

One of the biggest philanthropic planning opportunities can arise before a sale or liquidity event. An entrepreneur owning appreciated shares may be able to contribute shares to a charitable vehicle rather than first selling the shares personally and then contributing cash—which, depending on circumstances and structure, can produce substantial tax efficiencies. DAF sponsors increasingly emphasize the ability to handle closely held stock and other complex assets.

The data on complex assets.

At Fidelity Charitable, 69% of contributions in 2025 were non-cash assets, and since 1991 the organization has converted $18.1 billion of non-publicly traded assets into charitable dollars. For a founder approaching a sale, giving shares before the transaction is established practice.

A new frontier: philanthropic capital for women entrepreneurs

Investor Marcia Dawood and others are advocating the use of philanthropic capital—including certain DAF assets—for impact investments in mission-aligned for-profit businesses, including women-founded companies. Where permitted by the sponsoring organization and applicable rules, an investment can be made from philanthropic assets; returns remain inside the charitable vehicle rather than returning personally to the donor, so the capital can potentially be recycled into additional impact investments or charitable grants.

Austin Community Foundation provides an actual example through FundATX, which invested $250,000 in the first Grameen America Social Business Fund and made another $500,000 loan in 2024.

Grameen America has invested billions in businesses operated by women; in Austin alone, it had made more than 29,000 microloans totaling $116.6 million to more than 5,385 women at the time of the foundation's report. That connects two of this article's biggest themes: women generating wealth through entrepreneurship, and women using philanthropic wealth to capitalize the next generation of women entrepreneurs.

For perspective, private foundations remain substantially larger in assets than DAFs—the National Philanthropic Trust estimated approximately $1.48 trillion in private-

foundation assets in 2023, versus DAF assets that have since grown to about $327.9 billion.

The point is not that DAFs are replacing foundations. Rather, America is developing a much broader philanthropic-capital infrastructure: private foundations + family foundations + corporate foundations + community foundations + DAFs + charitable trusts + giving circles + impact investing. Women entrepreneurs can—and increasingly do—move among several of these.

The philanthropists: thinking even bigger

Then there are women whose giving reaches enormous scale and whose names demonstrate the growing power of women as philanthropists. The philanthropist nominees identified for *Women Entrepreneurs & Philanthropists: Building Businesses, Leaving Legacies* include Melinda French Gates through Pivotal; MacKenzie Scott through Yield Giving; Laurene Powell Jobs through Emerson Collective; Sara Blakely through the Sara Blakely Foundation; Tory Burch through the Tory Burch Foundation; Oprah Winfrey through the Oprah Winfrey Charitable Foundation; Sheryl Sandberg through Lean In; Reshma Saujani through Girls Who Code and Moms First; Kendra Scott; Michele Kang; Beyoncé Knowles-Carter through BeyGOOD; Rihanna through the Clara Lionel Foundation; Sheila Johnson; Mellody Hobson; Alice Walton; Marilyn Simons; Tsitsi Masiyiwa; and Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, among others. The list extends across industries and generations: Dolly Parton, Abigail Johnson, Judy Faulkner, Diane Hendricks, Eileen Fisher, Cathy Hughes, and many more.

Their interests differ. Their giving vehicles differ. Their fortunes came from different places—some built businesses, some created fortunes through entertainment or investing, some steward family wealth. Yet all demonstrate that women are becoming increasingly significant allocators of capital for social change, and that role is likely to grow in the years ahead.

Women entrepreneurs, ESOPs, and the new legacy of employee ownership

For generations, entrepreneurial success has often been described as a relatively simple journey: start a business, build it, scale it, sell it, and create wealth. For today's extraordinary generation of women entrepreneurs, that definition is no longer enough. Increasingly, successful women are asking a bigger question: What happens to the business, the employees, the culture, and the community after I am gone?

That question places Employee Stock Ownership Plans—ESOPs—squarely in the conversation about women entrepreneurs, succession, philanthropy, and legacy. An ESOP allows a business owner to sell some or all of her company to a trust established for employees, creating broad employee ownership without requiring employees to personally purchase their shares.

For women who have spent decades building successful enterprises, an ESOP can provide founder liquidity while preserving the company, rewarding employees, creating wealth for workers, and extending the founder's values into the next generation. It offers

an important alternative to selling to private equity, selling to a competitor, transferring the company to family members, or simply closing the doors.

The idea represents a powerful evolution of “Do Your Giving While You Are Living.” A founder can give philanthropically while she is living—but she can also share the economic value she has created with the employees who helped her build it. Employee ownership can itself become a form of living legacy.

A $2 trillion employee-ownership economy.

The scale is substantial. The National Center for Employee Ownership reports that, using the latest comprehensive 2023 data, the United States has 6,609 ESOP plans at 6,411 companies, covering 15.1 million participants and holding more than $2 trillion in assets. ESOPs distributed more than $166 billion in benefits to participants in 2023 alone.

The coming succession challenge.

America faces an enormous business succession problem. Project Equity has reported that approximately 85% of business owners lack a succession plan, only about 15% of family businesses successfully transfer to the next generation, and relatively few small businesses listed for sale ultimately find buyers.

Employee ownership effectively introduces another potential buyer, the employees themselves.

The size of what is at stake.

Project Equity estimates that 2.9 million U.S. businesses are owned by people 55 or older, and that those businesses employ 32.1 million people and account for $6.5 trillion in revenue and $1.3 trillion in payroll.

ESOP formation is steady but small against that backdrop: the NCEO counted 309 new ESOPs in 2023 and an average of 269 a year since 2019. Privately held companies sponsor 6,098 ESOP plans covering 2.9 million participants and holding $363 billion in assets.

The wealth-building case for women.

The most important argument for employee ownership may not be about wages; it is about wealth. Women have made extraordinary gains in education, entrepreneurship, employment, and leadership, yet wealth accumulation remains uneven, and business and equity ownership are among the most important ways individuals and families build substantial long-term wealth.

Employee ownership can extend that opportunity to people who might otherwise never own a meaningful financial stake in a business. Rutgers research has reported that women represented approximately 37% of ESOP workers compared with roughly 50% of non-ESOP workers—meaning there is considerable room to bring more women-

owned businesses, and therefore more women employees, into the employee-ownership economy.

What ESOP and ownership is worth to employees.

A May 2026 research brief by Joseph Blasi and Douglas Kruse of Rutgers University, published by the Aspen Institute, reports that ESOP participants have about double the retirement wealth of otherwise similar workers without an ESOP. Closely held ESOPs hold an average of $176,000 per employee, and employees who are 55 or older or have at least ten years of tenure average about $315,000.

ESOP adoption is linked to a 6–7% average gain in productivity among U.S. manufacturers. The brief also confirms that women remain significantly underrepresented among employees of ESOP companies. When a woman-owned company with many women on its payroll becomes employee-owned, that gap narrows.

Betsy Bassan: an excellent ESOP case study.

Betsy Bassan founded Panagora Group in 2011 as a woman-owned social enterprise and grew it to more than 200 long-term employees and 300+ short-term contractors supporting work across 55 countries.

In June 2021, she took a major legacy step: Panagora became 49% employee-owned through an ESOP while remaining woman-owned. “We wanted to create a pathway for sustainability and continued success at Panagora while deepening our existing ownership culture,” she said.

Bassan has since gone further. Her forthcoming book, *The ESOP Edge*, focuses on using employee ownership to strengthen culture, retention, purpose, succession planning, and long-term enterprise value, an approach Panagora summarizes as aligning “profit, people, purpose.”

From an exit strategy to a legacy strategy.

Traditional succession planning often focuses on maximizing transaction value. Employee ownership introduces another measure: what survives the transaction. A successful ESOP transition can preserve jobs, management teams, company identity, headquarters, customer relationships, and community involvement while allowing employees to participate financially in the company's future. Women have the skills to make ESOPs a reality for good—for themselves, for their employees, and for significant exits.

Our mutual legacy of amplifying the data, the stories and building community

Share the data and build further

This White Paper is an important step. The final measure of our lives will not be the balance in our bank accounts, the valuation of our companies, the titles after our names, or the awards on our walls.

Being a taker is not success. Be a GIVER**.** Build your wealth with purpose. Use your success to create success for others. Decide what you want your life to stand for.

We are grateful every day for showcasing women who are so purposeful and putting a shining light on them. We are proud to work in leadership through Entrepreneurs of Purpose as an important legacy program of the Enterprising Women Foundation. We celebrate our strong partnerships with the leading organizations that make up the women's business community, especially C200, WPO, WBENC, WEI, Women in Cloud (WIC), WIPP, The Female Quotient, and so many others—as we bond together to build our focus on scaling companies and giving back.

Edie Fraser, Co-Chair, EOP, National Chair, Enterprising Women Foundation

Sharon Reynolds, Co-Chair, EOP, Enterprising Women Foundation; CEO, DevMar Manufacturing

Monica Smiley, President & Founder, Enterprising Women Foundation

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What's Ahead for 2027

The Enterprising Women Foundation's Entrepreneurs of Purpose (EOP) Program has announced plans to release a new report: *Women Entrepreneurs & Philanthropists: Building Businesses, Leaving Legacies* in March 2027.

The report examines how women build enterprises, create wealth, deploy capital, and generate economic and community impact that extends far beyond their businesses. A preview of the Legacy Report will be released at a kickoff event in Washington DC during Women's History Month, with the full report released at the 25th Annual Enterprising Women of the Year Awards Celebration & Conference on April 5, 2027, at the Wyndham Grand in Clearwater Beach, Florida.

Additional events and webinars will showcase the contents of the report throughout 2027. The report includes two sections: the first includes 100+ women entrepreneurs with annual revenues of $50 million or higher who have built and scaled companies, and created jobs and economic opportunities for their communities.

The second section includes 30+ women philanthropists who are putting their capital to work in education, health, entrepreneurship, women and girls, and other areas that contribute at the local, state, national or international levels.

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