

# THE ATLANTA WOMEN'S FOUNDATION



Health Issue

February 2011

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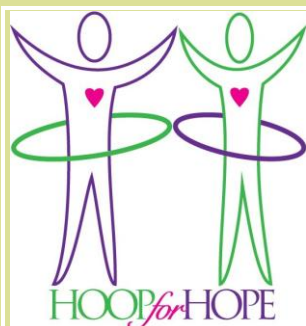
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[GirlUp.org](#)

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Come Hoop for Hope with AWF

[Hoop for Hope](#)

March 11th  
11 am - 2 pm

## Healthier Women & Girls Results in a Healthier Community for All of Us

It's hard to know exactly where the investments in health begin and end for AWF. Most of our grantee partners include some form of physical health support for their clients, but many others provide important emotional and mental health resources. Our investments in this area are critical. While many dollars go into programs providing screenings and treatments for mammograms, pap smears and teen pregnancy prevention, we also provide funds for much-needed dental care and restoration for victims of domestic violence, vision screenings for older women and important new infant care and parenting classes for young teen mothers.

We are grateful to the community for supporting the work of these organizations targeting women's health. View a complete list of our [current grantees](#).

## Investing in Women & Girls

Ayanna Buckner, MD, MPH, FACPM

Investments in health and wellness have a direct impact on the elimination of generational poverty for women and girls in Atlanta. Many diseases affect women disproportionately, predominately, or differently than they do men. Although we may not fully understand the reasons behind this, there is evidence that it is not solely due to biological and genetic factors.

The social determinants of health - the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, and work - likely play a substantial role. These circumstances are shaped by the distribution of money, power and resources in our communities. Examples include gender, education, food security, income, employment, racism, and housing. These determinants are tied closely to generational poverty and are mostly responsible for health inequities - the unfair and avoidable differences in health status. The need in Atlanta is great, and these determinants are a key priority of AWF's investments in the community.



Ayanna Buckner, AWF Supporter

Woodruff Park  
Peachtree & Edgewood  
[Donate \\$20 now!](#)

Join AWF for a hula  
hooping fundraiser and  
have fun while raising  
money for Atlanta's  
women and girls!

## Upcoming Events

Women on Board  
[Level I, March 4](#)

Hoop for Hope  
[March 11](#)

Women on Board  
[Level II, April 8](#)

Agency Bus Tour  
April 2, 2011

Women are frequently the key to improving a population's health. The health of women in Atlanta is a reflection of our educational achievement, economic development, and respect for human rights. Healthy girls are empowered with the resources and experiences to become healthy women, and that is why AWF's investments are so important. Healthy girls become women who are better equipped to lead successful and enjoyable lives, and they are able to contribute to healthy, successful, and enjoyable lives for others in their families and communities.

*Ayanna Buckner is an AWF donor and Grant Committee Member and Assistant Professor and Clinical Director in the Department of Community Health and Preventive Medicine at the Morehouse School of Medicine.*

## AWF Invests in Healthy Teen Moms

by Kim Anderson  
CEO of Families First

Families First is proud to have a partner like The Atlanta Women's Foundation supporting our *Healthy Babies, Healthy Moms* initiative. While it is always important to reduce the number of teens who become pregnant, it is also important to recognize the impact of programs like this working *with* teen moms.



Programs like *Healthy Babies, Healthy Moms* help teen moms deliver healthy babies and prevent repeat child births, but, just as importantly, help teen girls continue to develop as new mothers and as young women. Last year, 95 percent of babies born in our program were born of normal birth weight and 95 percent of our teen moms returned to school or a GED program. Low birth weight is a significant issue for babies born to teen moms and many of these moms do not complete their education creating a very limited future for their family's economic self-sufficiency.

The funds provided by AWF help us provide education, mentoring and concrete support for teens and their families during and up to one-year after the baby's birth. This support is critical in helping eliminate generational poverty for these women and their children. Research shows that a baby born to a single, teen mom who has not completed high school is 72 percent more likely to grow up in poverty. In addition to the significant health care costs associated with low birth weight babies, these children born to teen moms without support are too often abused or neglected and end up in our welfare system.

AWF's investment in this program reaffirms to the broader community that Families First is effective and has a measured impact on the health of teen mothers and their babies and on reducing the long-term impacts of generational poverty. When moms are taken care of, babies are taken care of and that helps create a healthier community for us all.

## Kaiser Permanente Supports AWF

In celebration of their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Kaiser Permanente Georgia recently awarded AWF \$250,000 in support of our 2011 Spring Grant Cycle. The contribution will provide support to local nonprofit organizations working to create healthier communities for Atlanta's women and girls.



Evonne Yancey, Laura Hardman, & AWF Board Member Beverly Thomas of Kaiser Permanente

"We are pleased to continue our partnership with The Atlanta Women's Foundation," said Evonne Yancey, Director of Community Benefit and Community Affairs. "AWF, like Kaiser Permanente, understands that health is more than a visit to a doctor when you are sick. It includes building safe and healthy environments, helping people achieve active lifestyles as well as providing access to the important care they need. Investing in the health of women and girls is an important step toward making our entire community thrive."

Kaiser Permanente also shares AWF's commitment to investing in innovative programs that seek to create long-term, sustainable changes and promote health equity and reduce health disparities. "Health inequities are too often based on issues of class, race, socio-economic status, education, and ethnicity. By partnering with The Atlanta Women's Foundation we know our investment will directly support programs addressing these issues for women and girls," said Yancey.

Kaiser Permanente has been a long time supporter of The Atlanta Women's Foundation's grantmaking including the *Promoting Women's Health* and *GoGirlGo! Atlanta* grant cycles. The most recent contribution will support several areas of community health in metro Atlanta including women and girls' access to health and wellness services, helping reduce teen pregnancy, and organizations working to reduce violence against women. AWF awards grants to organizations working in the metro Atlanta counties of Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Fulton and Gwinnett.

For more information on The Atlanta Women's Foundation and to review our annual report and other financial information, please visit our [website](#).

[Make An Online Donation to AWF by Clicking Here Now](#)

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## Health By the Numbers

### Why We Invest

Because Georgia ranks...

**36th** in the nation in the percentage of Georgian's without access to primary care.  
**45th** in the nation in the percentage of low birth-weight babies.  
**39th** in the percentage of adults that are obese.  
**49th** in overweight children ages 10 - 17.\*

### **What we Invest**

By investing in women and girls, AWF is helping to create a healthier community for us all.

**\$730,000** in teen pregnancy prevention and parenting programs

**\$2 million** to women and girls' health and wellness programs.

**\$1.4 million** to keep women and girls safe from violence.

Unless indicated, rankings are from "2008 Health Rankings: Georgia and Georgia's Children", Healthcare Georgia Foundation, Publication #36, September 2009.

\*"F as in Fat: How Obesity Threatens Americas Future", Trust for America's Health & Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, June 2010.

The Atlanta Women's Foundation

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