

# “...Believe You Can Change the World...”

-Carrie Underwood

\$55,000 goes to Albion Bacon Fellows Center for the

## *Heart of the Home*

**O**n November 11, 2010, over 200 members of the Women's Fund and their guests met at St. Mary's Manor Auditorium to determine which of the grant finalists would be this year's recipient of the Women's Fund \$55,000 grant. The four finalists were Albion Fellows Bacon Center, ECHO Community Health Care, Media Ministries, and YWCA.

The finalists presented to the members and each member voted to determine which organization would receive the highly-sought-after “major impact grant” for its work in service to the women and children in Vanderburgh County. The members awarded the \$55,000 grant to Albion Fellows Bacon Center.

Since 1981, Albion Fellows Bacon Center has served as the safe haven and support system for thousands of abuse victims. Its goal is to provide safe shelter and support services, which not only address victims' immediate needs but also their support efforts to live violence free after leaving the shelter.

Albion received the grant to upgrade the heart of their home, the kitchen. “The heart of a home is the kitchen and it is a place where our stomachs and souls are nourished,” said Brian Gower, board member, during Albion's presentation to the Women's Fund members.

During a typical day at Albion, you are likely to see a mother feeding her children or battered and broken women embracing each other around a table in the kitchen. In this facility, daily life and counseling sessions take place in the out-of-date kitchen.

Thousands of women and children have used the kitchen over the past 20 years. Aside from replacing a few appliances here and there, the kitchen hasn't

changed in all that time. The floor, cabinets, countertops, and several appliances are original — remarkable considering the kitchen sees about ten times the daily traffic of most homes.

The \$55,000 grant was awarded to Albion's “Heart of the Home-Kitchen Renovation” project and will be spent for a complete kitchen renovation including the purchase of new appliances. This grant allowed for improvements of efficiency, quality of life of the space, and would help boost their long-range plan, which allows Albion to address the issues of women and children without using precious, general operating dollars.

The other three finalist each received a \$3,000 grant from the Women's Fund. In addition \$60,000 was added to the Women's Fund endowment to forever benefit women and children in Vanderburgh County.

### Support Our Grant Finalists

The Women's Fund encourages fund members and others to learn more about our grant finalists. All finalists welcome donations of any amount.

**Albion Fellows Bacon Center**  
812-424-7273  
[www.albionfellowsbacon.org](http://www.albionfellowsbacon.org)

**ECHO Community Health Care**  
315 Mulberry Street  
Evansville, IN 47713  
812-421-7489  
[www.echochc.org](http://www.echochc.org)

**Media Ministries**  
16 West Morgan Ave  
Evansville, IN 47710  
812-401-5558  
[www.dreamcenterevansville.org](http://www.dreamcenterevansville.org)

**YWCA**  
118 Vine Street  
Evansville, IN 47708  
812-422-1191  
[www.ywcaevansville.org](http://www.ywcaevansville.org)



Members of the 2010 Women's Fund look on while Amy Canterbury (second from right), chair of the Women's Fund grants committee, presents a \$55,000 grant to Albion's Brian Gower, Jenny Ballard, and Candice Perry.

# Update: Patchwork Central



“Wow! That’s the first comment we hear about the changes that have taken place at Patchwork Central because of the Women’s Fund grant,” said Amy Rich, co-executive director. “All of these changes are

helping families and children in Evansville because of the Women’s Fund.”

In 2009, the Women’s Fund awarded Patchwork Central a \$50,000 grant to provide much-needed repairs to the “Meeting House,” the organization’s main building which had received very few upgrades since it was constructed 25 years ago.

Since receiving the grant from the Women’s Fund over a year ago, Patchwork Central has been able to make the changes that helped lift the spirits of children and staff. The first thing Patchwork Central did was change the dull gray paint throughout the building to warm brown and bright green and blue colors. “The place is more inviting, and the more we paint, the more we’re realizing that we can’t stop until all the grey is gone because its drabness makes even the brightest colors look a little dingy,” said Rich.

Next, a new commercial refrigerator and freezer were purchased, which replaced the four older

residential models Patchwork Central had been utilizing. The new commercial appliances allow food to stay fresh longer, so the emergency food pantry can store even more food for families in need.

Patchwork Central has also bought a new commercial kitchen range. Since buying the new range, Patchwork Central has been able to turn off the gas and pilot lights when they are not in use. This new feature has allowed Patchwork Central to save energy, which leads to saving money on utilities. The children have already put the oven to good use, and all of their recipes turned out perfectly.

All of these changes are helping families and children in Evansville because of the Women’s Fund. “Whether it’s a paint job that lifts people’s spirits, or an oven that actually works well for kids to learn how to cook, or energy-efficient appliances that allow us to budget more of our money to directly help people, all of these changes are improving lives,” said Rich.



## Invest in the Future of Women and Children in Vanderburgh County...

### Ways to Participate:

**Individual Membership:** Your contribution of \$1,000 (or more) will allow you one full vote for the nonprofit organization of your choice at the Women’s Fund annual meeting.

**Shared Membership:** Shared memberships are typically made up of individuals who join with others, such as family, friends, or coworkers, who together are allowed one vote for the nonprofit organization of their choice at the Women’s Fund annual meeting. Contributions to a shared memberships must total \$1,000 (or more).

**Supporter:** Supporters are people who believe in the mission of the Women’s Fund but are unable to participate as a voting member. Contributions of any amount are welcome at any time from women *and men*.

### Ways to Give:

**Automatic Debit:** Your bank will automatically transfer the amount you authorize on the date(s) you request, allowing you to spread your gift over the course of the year. For example, authorizing just \$83.34 per month for 12 months is all that’s needed to be a full member of the Women’s Fund.

**Check or Credit Card:** Send your check to the Women’s Fund of Vanderburgh County, 401 SE 6th Street, Suite 203, Evansville, IN 47713. Or use a credit card online at [www.womensfundvc.org](http://www.womensfundvc.org) or by calling 422-1245.

**Employer Match:** Don’t forget to ask your employer about matching your contribution, effectively doubling your gift to the Women’s Fund.

**Stock Transfer:** Save on capital gains taxes by donating appreciated stock to become a full member. Call 422-1245 for transfer information.

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