

WOMEN'S FOUNDATION OF ALABAMA

Women's Policy Institute

Presented by Kate Messervy Director of Advocacy and Engagement Women's Foundation of Alabama



### Vision

We envision a society where power and possibility are not limited by gender, race, or place.

### Mission

Women's Foundation of Alabama is a community-driven foundation impacting the world around us by accelerating economic opportunity for women.



### **Status of Women in Alabama**



Underpaid

Women Are Paid 67 Cents for Every Dollar a Man Makes

### Underutilized

Only 52% of Working Women Participate in the Economy, vs 63% of Men

# E?

#### Lack Childcare

Alabama has a 40% Supply Gap in Affordable, Quality Childcare



#### **High Maternal Deaths**

AL has 3<sup>rd</sup> highest maternal mortality rate in the US.

Source: Status of Women in Alabama 2020, The Women's Fund of Greater Birmingham



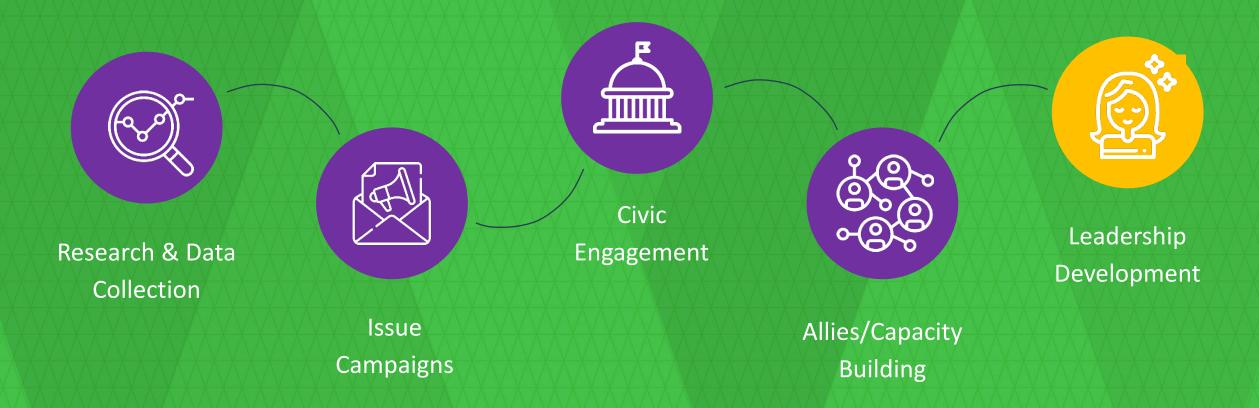
Women's Policy Institute

Real Change Happens When Women Lead





# Women's Policy Institute



The Women's Policy Institute is a permanent and durable advocacy apparatus of Women's Foundation of Alabama focused on public policy solutions to advance and accelerate economic opportunity for women in our state.

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# Women's Policy Institute

Curriculum Summary | 40+ hours of expert training

#### PAST

- Political, economic history
- Women's movements, gender equity
- Racial equity

#### PRESENT

- State government
- Issues impacting women
- Community organizing



#### **FUTURE**

- Advocacy campaigns
- Messaging
- Coalition building

# Women's Policy Institute



- 80+ expert training hours
- Sessions include: economic history, racial equity, state government, community organizing, campaign messaging, coalition building

#### 70 Diverse Fellow Graduates / 24 Alabama Counties Represented

Race/Ethnicity	XXXXXX	Age		
Black/African American	49%	• 20-29	27%	
White/Caucasian	37%	• 30-39	27%	
Hispanic/Latina	10%	• 40-49	27%	
Asian/AAPI	2%	• 50-59	17%	WOMEN'S FOUNDATION
Jewish/White	2%	• 60-69	2%	OF ALABAMA

### Women's Policy Institute Fellow Campaigns

- Fellows created innovative advocacy campaigns focused on:
  - Medicaid Expansion, Maternal Health & Mortality
  - Early Voting

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- Home-Based Child Care strategies
- Representation on key boards and committees
- Dignity for Incarcerated Mothers
- Alabama Women's Economy fund (AWE)
- WFA will strategically invest time, resources and funds to execute these and other Fellow-led initiatives





# As a Women's Policy Institute Fellow, you will gain...

Team Skills Experiential Learning Individual Leadership Development Cross-Movement Building





# **Fellow Experience**

