"The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit."

Isaiah 61:1-3a (NRSV)



"Women don't realize how strong they are, even in a patriarchal culture that discourages women from exercising voice and power. Mothers can instill in their children's hearts love, not hatred, for their neighbor. Women can build peace—in my country and in the whole world."

A grant from the Women and Girls Mission Fund helped a Baptist woman in the Republic of Georgia to begin a Women's Religious Leadership Academy for Peace; she teaches Jewish, Muslim, and Christian women to be peacemakers and conflict mediators in this religiously-divisive region of the world that straddles Eastern Europe and Central Asia.



"Girls today want to fit in and live up to society's expectations of what and who they should be, yet the pressure to engage in unhealthy lifestyles is immense in Cameron's high-poverty neighborhood." Thanks to a Women and Girls Mission Fund grant, Cameron Community Ministries (Rochester, New York) began an R&R for Girls Group to mentor at-risk 4th-6th graders in life skills of Respect and Responsibility.



In impoverished rural villages in Andrapradesh, India, a grant from the Women and Girls Mission Fund empowers a hundred women and girls to learn a vocational skill such as tailoring. They take it a step further, empowering one another through a microenterprise cooperative from which they borrow and lend, generating more funding to expand the project. Now they don't have to work as day-laborers making bricks and tolerating physical and sexual harassment by the construction workers.



A mission funding initiative of American Baptist Women's Ministries



"Learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow." — Isaiah 1:17 (NRSV)

Throughout the Bible, we see evidence that God uses the gifts of women to bring about healing and wholeness in the world. Throughout history, women have responded to Christ's call on their lives to do good, seek justice, and rescue the oppressed.

Today the Women and Girls Mission Fund empowers American Baptist women to bring healing, wholeness, and hope to their sisters at home and around the world.

Our world is full of the evidence of oppression: women and girls often are treated as second-class citizens, and in many corners of the world, they are even politically awarded fewer rights than men. Their access to education, employment, health care, and protection is limited or absent altogether. Many women and girls face the horrors of sex and labor trafficking, mutilation, malnourishment, preventable injuries from childbirth, and death. It has been said that often the most dangerous place for a woman is in her own home.

The Women and Girls Mission Fund is used to provide life-changing opportunities for women and girls in the United States and around the world.

Why do we have a Women and Girls Mission Fund?

■ American Baptist Women's Ministries sees what happens when we issue a call to make a difference in the lives of women and girls. People want to participate, and they do!

"Then those 'sheep' are going to say, 'Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?' Then the King will say, '1'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me.'" Matthew 25:37–40 (MSG)



- Giving to the Women and Girls Mission Fund provides support to our AB GIRLS ministry, Leadership Development Fund, and Refit.
- American Baptist Women's Ministries wants to have funds readily available to support missions at home and around the world that focus on bringing healing and hope to women and girls.

How does the Women and Girls Mission Fund work?

- Women can contribute to this single fund to support a variety of crucial missions to women and girls.
- National board policy of American Baptist Women's Ministries determines the use of the fund.
- As a donor, you may designate your donation if you so choose; however, you may be assured that undesignated donations to the Women and Girls Mission Fund will be used wisely where most needed.
- Twenty percent of donations to the fund are used for the ongoing ministry needs of American Baptist Women's Ministries.

How do I give to the Women and Girls Mission Fund?

We give thanks for your faithful commitment to bring hope and healing to women and girls world-wide! Please make your contribution to "Women and Girls Mission Fund" and direct it to American Baptist Women's Ministries, PO Box 851, Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851, or give your gift online at www.abwministries.org/wgmf.

THE WOMEN AND GIRLS MISSION FUND helps AB Women's Ministries respond to mission needs that benefit women and girls, including urgent short-term mission projects, our AB GIRLS ministry, Leadership Development, and Refit.

Name	
Address	
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Email address	
I am donating \$ to the Women and Girls Mission Fund.	
Use my gift for	
missions where the need is most urgent AB GIRLS ministry	
Leadership Development Refit	

Make your check payable to "ABWM Women and Girls Mission Fund" and mail to American Baptist Women's Ministries, PO Box 851, Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851.

Give online to the Women and Girls Mission Fund at www.abwministries.org/wgmf.

