

Urgent Matters:

• **AWESOME NEWS! IWF has committed to holding a global conference in Detroit in 2023! See details in Mary and Faye's update message.**

- We will continue to engage Virtually until Governor Whitmer advises us further.

Virtual Member Gatherings – Mark Your Calendars!

- **June TBD** – Racism discussion led by several IWF members with deep experience working to end social injustice. Details and hosts to be announced soon.

Summer Dine-Arounds hosted by Members. Limited to no more than 12 participants, to facilitate conversation. Consider ordering your meal from a local restaurant!

- **June 10** – Host: **Donna Inch**
Theme: *What are some of the positive outcomes of the experiences over the past weeks? What are we looking forward to?* Attendance limited to 10 members. RSVP: dminch10@gmail.com.



- **June 17** – Host: **Carolyn Cassin**
Theme: *How is the world changed for us? At a personal level? From a business point of view?* Attendance limited to 10 members. RSVP: aparnis@miwf.org



- **July 15** – Joint virtual dine-around with IWF-Ohio. Looking for a MI host!
- **August 19** – Joint, virtual dine-around with IWF-Chicago. Looking for a MI host!

In-Person Events – No Charge, But RSVP'S REQUIRED:

- **Sept. 2** – Puppies & Pinot. We are hoping to be able to be together for a behind-the-scenes tour of the Canine Development Center in Rochester, personal time with a future Leader Dog Puppy and hearing about services directly from a client. Light dinner and great conversation included!
- **October 7-** Behind the Scenes Virtual Event, co-hosted by **Vivian Pickard** and **Anne Mervenne**.
- **October TBD** – IWF Global Virtual World Leadership Conference.
- **November 4** – Topic TBD.
- **December 2** - Holiday Gathering at Bloomfield Hills home of **Linda Schlesinger-Wagner**. Hopefully in person!!

President's Message:

Dear IWF-MI Sisters,



My heart bleeds as I reflect on the brutal death of George Floyd at the hands of police, as well as the undeniable evidence of the targeting, terrorism and social injustice that African Americans and communities of color have endured for too long.

Last year, IWF Global updated our organization's long-time mission of "Advancing Women's Leadership" to also include, "Champion Equality Worldwide."

This expanded awareness of our collective responsibility, as influential global leaders, to impact the world around us couldn't have come at a more opportune moment. But words are meaningless unless they are backed up by action

With images of violence and inhumanity contrasted with millions of peaceful protestors taking to the streets swirling all around us, what more evidence do we need of how urgently the human family is crying out for healing and leadership?

As an alliance of many of Michigan's most influential leaders, IWF is challenged to act.

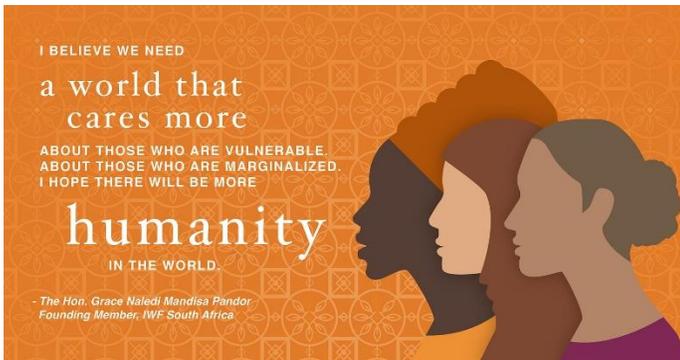
As a FIRST step, we are working to schedule a Virtual Member Meeting that will provide an opportunity to listen to one another, to share the

grief and anger many of us are feeling, and to explore ways we can use our influence to change a status quo that demeans us all.

IWF Global, in the message below, told its 7,000 members in 33 nations, “We must be part of the change the world needs now.”

I challenge myself and my IWF-MI Sisters to commit to rise to this moment that calls on leaders to act. Silence would be assent.

Anne



A Message from IWF Global:

A core element of IWF’s mission and purpose is to champion equality worldwide. As such, the murder of George Floyd and the images of anguished protests and violence over the past week have been disheartening and distressing for all of us. As leaders, we know it is our responsibility to speak out and act – it is the only way change can happen.

*Across the globe, disparities exist because of race. The tragic events in Minneapolis, Atlanta, Louisville, New York and elsewhere have reverberated globally and created a sense of urgency in the United States. Additionally, the pandemic has laid bare the stark reality that who we are and where we live can determine whether we actually **do** live.*

IWF members have the power to influence and change the status quo, and the events of the past week require a call to action.

Our collective efforts can help create a world in which the bonds of trust replace the impulse to fear.

Your actions locally can become the basis for this global transformation.

So, listen carefully, seek to understand and stand firm in your efforts to champion equality – for everyone, everywhere. Support black-owned businesses and marginalized communities in every way you can.

We hope you will take inspiration from the words of IWF South Africa founding member The Hon. Grace Naledi Mandisa Pandor, who recently spoke to us: “I believe we need a world that cares more about those who are vulnerable. About those who are

marginalized. I hope there will be more humanity in the world.”

We must be part of the change the world needs now.

Deborah Shannon Trudeau
IWF President

Toni Randolph
Leadership Foundation President



Dear IWF-MI Members/Friends:

We have good news! IWF has committed to holding a global conference in Detroit in 2023!

The exact date is TBD, but it likely will be in early October, two years from now. As you know, we had feared that with the cancellation of a live event in 2020, we may have “lost our place” in line.

We thank the board and the co-chairs of all the standing committees for Detroit’s global conference for all the hard work so far. It’s a vote of confidence by Stephanie O’Keefe, the CEO, and the Executive Committee of the IWF board that we’re firmly in place after Seattle (2021) and Las Vegas (2022). (It’s also a testament to Anne Doyle’s strong relationships with her peers in other chapters who advocated for Detroit!)

Meanwhile, the IWF conference for 2020 will go on as a global but virtual conference. And there are some issues to resolve, including:

- How will Michigan sponsors be handled in 2020 and in 2023? We have 3 that have already paid. **Next step:** A discussion with fundraising co-chairs Sandy Pierce and Denise Ilitch – who have done a BRILLIANT job of surpassing our fundraising targets -- to make sure our sponsors are treated fairly.
- How should we continue to plan for 2023? Carolyn Cassin, our IWF vice-president, has

recommended a “Strategic Task Force” for the future. More to come on this.

We’re sure there will be other questions and issues as this moves forward. But we wanted to share the good news now and come up with a plan for moving ahead to a successful conference in 2023

Our next Conference Planning Zoom Conf Call is Friday, June 19 at 8:00 am.

Warmest Regards and Stay Safe,

Mary Kramer
mkramer@crain.com

Faye Nelson
fnelson611@gmail.com

Late Summer Survey!

Toward the end of the summer, we will be asking you to participate in a member survey to gauge interest in different events, venues, engagement opportunities and a new member experience.

This online survey will have approximately 20 questions that will take 10 to 15 minutes, at most, to complete. We are hoping everyone will take the time to provide us feedback to improve the overall IWF experience as we start planning 2021. Thank you in advance for your input!



Michele Honomichl and Kim Pittel
Program Committee Co-Chairs

News & Member Sharing:

Roz Cooperman reports, “I am delighted and proud to share that I have joined the BlueCross/Blue Shield of Michigan Board as announced at the May 21 Annual Meeting. My meaningful, three-year term has begun, as this incredible health care provider works on behalf of its members.”



Mary Lynn Foster is excited to report, “My husband, Art, and I are proud new members of the “Grandparents Club”!! On May 4, 2020, our daughter and son-in-law, Allison and Joey Etling, welcomed their first child, a baby girl, Taylor Rose Etling,

born at 9:09am, 6lbs 12oz., 18.75 in. Taylor is

absolutely beautiful and all three of them are doing well!!”



As a follow-up to the May 6 IWF MI virtual discussion on Fair & Timely Elections, **Jocelyn Benson** states, “Democracy is a team sport, and elections workers are the most valuable players. Now more than ever, as the seniors who often serve

are more vulnerable to the coronavirus, election workers are needed to assist during the August and November elections. All will receive training, payment for their time, and be required to practice social distancing and strong hygiene. To volunteer to serve, please fill out an interest form with the Michigan Department of State at

www.Michigan.gov/DemocracyMVP”

Safe & Timely Elections Virtual Conversation. If you missed the excellent discussion, hosted by **Secretary of State Benson** and **Congresswoman Brenda**



Lawrence, you can listen & watch the Zoom recording.

<https://zoom.us/rec/share/7-VQFart215LQLfmuGvhBog7E77dX6a8hyEXqKdczxy53ickcq5sea7mm-hov5I>

Access Password: 7Y*2k7q6



Leslie Murphy was elected Chair of the Board of Directors of Ascension Michigan Health System effective July 1, 2020. Ascension Michigan has 13 hospitals throughout Michigan and an extensive ambulatory network throughout the State.

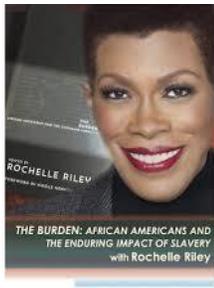
“Sadly, I need to report that my Dad died on April 28 from the COVID-19 virus. His obituary is on the [Lynch & Sons website](#). He lived a long and very full life, and I was so blessed that he was my Dad. I hope you and your families are doing as well as possible. Stay safe and well,” **Nancy Schlichting**.



Oakland University president **Ora Pescovitz** op-ed: This is No Time for a Gap Year. [click here](#) to read the full article.



Rochelle Riley's book "The Burden: African Americans and the Enduring Impact of Slavery" comes out in paperback on August 4! [Click here to pre-order](#). She thanks IWF and her wonderful fellow members for supporting the book and will be hosting a virtual book launch in August. Stay tuned for details in July!



IWF-Michigan 2020 Board Members:



Anne Doyle
President



Carolyn Cassin
Vice President



Beth Chappell
Treasurer



Pam Reid
Secretary



Vernice Davis Anthony



Elaine Didier



Beth Gotthelf



Laurie Horiszny



Donna Inch



Saunteel Jenkins



Linda Solomon

Suzanne Shank, CEO of Siebert Williams Shank & Co., LLC was recently featured in *Crain's Detroit* Notable Women in Finance report, published April 27, 2020. The article noted, "... as a founder of the firm in 1996, merger and acquisition activity under her tenure as CEO has propelled the growth of the firm." Henry Cisneros, vice chair of the Board of Directors and equity owner of Siebert Williams, noted in the article, "Suzanne Shank is technically expert, tirelessly hard-working, impressively astute in judgment, considerate in human relations and sharply focused on goals and outcomes. It is no accident that she has taken the firm to the pinnacle of its field in performance and reputation."

Upcoming IWF Global Conferences:

There are two global conferences each year with *outstanding content and women leaders from all over the world* in attendance. Each Fall IWF global members have gathered in North American (US or Canada), and each spring on another continent.

We encourage all our members to attend a global conference. The experience will open incomparable

- **Seattle – Sept. 29 - Oct 1, 2021**
- **Santiago, Chile – May 18-20, 2022**
- **Detroit, MI – Fall 2023**

IWF Global Member Portal

We encourage you to use this platform to reach out to IWF members. members.iwforum.org.

To take part, begin by logging into the portal and creating your profile. For any assistance with logging in or any questions, please contact iwf@iwforum.org. If you have not done so, please update your member profile on the [IWF Michigan Website -- www.iwfmichigan.org](http://www.iwfmichigan.org)

2020 Global Conference Committees:

Co-Chairs are listed below and the complete list of volunteers serving on each committee can be found on our [IWF Michigan](http://www.iwfmichigan.org) website.

- Behind the Scenes, co-chairs **Vivian Pickard & Anne Mervenne**
- Communications/Marketing, co-chairs **Marla Drutz & Rochelle Riley**
- Dine-Around co-chairs **Saunteel Jenkins & Donna Inch**
- Entertainment/Music, co-chair **Tonya Allen & Lisbeth Ardisana**
- Fundraising, co-chairs **Sandy Pierce & Denise Ilitch**
- Faith-Based Opportunity, Co-Chairs: **Carol Goss & Kathleen McCann**
- Gift Bag Co-Chairs: **Alex Miziolek & Beth Gotthelf**
- Opening Reception, co-chairs **Patricia Mooradian & Lisa Payne**
- Pop Up Shops, Co-chairs: **Carolyn Cassin & Barbara Allushuski**
- Closing Gala – Co-Chair: **Mary Lynn Foster & Denise Lewis**
- Program Advisor – **Beth Chappell**

For a complete list of 2020 Committee Volunteers go to our website: iwfmichigan.org

Reminders:

Newsletter items are due by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Please keep submissions to no more than two *short* paragraphs. Email:

pdalrick@comcast.net