



community impact

By Kim Tarnopolski

100+ Women Who Care Donates \$9,500 to Positive Paths

Women are the epitome of strength, love, sacrifice, and courage. They are adorned with patience and perseverance. Women are the primary caretakers of children and elders. They take the lead in helping the family adjust to new realities and challenges.

While the role of women in today's world has changed significantly over the last few decades, there are many women who struggle to sustain financial independence even though they are employed full-time. These women are working hard in entry-level jobs, supporting their families, and falling short of their dreams.



Ellen Tadman, mentor for Positive Paths and 100+ Women Who Care member; Dr. Maria Hesse, Board Member for Positive Paths

Fortunately, there are organizations in our community that assist and encourage women to stay the course and keep pursuing their goals. Positive Paths is a local nonprofit whose mission is to support East Valley women in need by providing a life bridge to economic stability, personal growth, and professional achievement. The organization achieves this through mentorship programs, scholarships, and supportive services.

Ellen Tadman is a Positive Path's mentor who has been working with Sarah for the past year. Sarah's story is one of heartbreak and grit. She had a rough entry into adulthood. When Sarah was 19, her mother killed herself, and she had no father to turn to for help. Her life slipped into a cycle of addiction and abuse.

Thanks to a scholarship from Positive Paths, Sarah was able to complete her Associate's Degree at Scottsdale Community College. Today, she attends ASU and aspires to be a veterinarian. She loves animals, fosters dogs and cats, and volunteers at an animal shelter.

Positive Paths understands that education is an important key to the success of women like Sarah. Educating women has multi-generational benefits and strengthens the family unit. Fifty percent of the women they help are single mothers, many have experienced poverty, death or illness of family member, and domestic violence.

Ellen is also a member of 100+ Women Who Care Valley of the Sun and shared Sarah's story with the group in April. As a result of her association with these two charitable organizations, Ellen secured a \$9,500 donation for Positive Paths. These funds were allocated to the Positive Paths' scholarship fund and provided \$1,000 scholarships for nine women in need. To learn more about Positive Paths visit PositivePathsAZ.org.

100+ Women Who Care is all about sharing a simple concept of coming together as a collective community to make an immediate, direct, and positive impact in giving locally. To learn more, or to register for one of their August giving circles, visit 100wvvalleyofthesun.org.



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