



Empowering  
Women  
Since 1997

## Women in Housing & Finance and Foundation

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Women in Housing & Finance Announces New Leadership

**Alexandria, VA**—Women in Housing & Finance (WHF) is pleased to announce its new president and board of directors for 2018-2019 and the leadership for its foundation.

WHF was formed in 1979 to serve as a forum for advancing women in the areas of housing and finance. Today, its membership includes more than 400 professionals, both women and men, from financial institutions, trade associations, federal and state regulatory agencies, GSEs, nonprofit organizations, law and accounting firms, congressional committees, the national press, and financial services companies. The organization’s purpose is to provide an open forum on national financial, economic and political matters affecting the fields of financial services and housing.

Lindsey Johnson, U.S. Mortgage Insurers, began her term on June 28th. Johnson has held several leadership roles within WHF including president-elect, vice-president, secretary and chair of the 2018 Annual Symposium.

“I am honored to serve as Women in Housing & Finance’s 40th President,” said Johnson. “Recognizing this is the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this wonderful organization, I am excited to build on the incredible mission, values and member programs and offerings that we and those before us have established and grown over the last four decades. WHF is truly unique among organizations as a premier non-partisan organization focused on promoting WHF members—particularly women—in the areas of housing and finance. WHF has become recognized as a leading non-profit organization that seeks to enrich members through educational and networking programming. I look forward to working with the new WHF Board and our membership, not only to grow our organization but also to continue to provide the quality programming our members have come to expect.”

Johnson leads a 14-person board of directors comprised of financial services professionals in the Washington, D.C. area. The WHF Board of Directors for 2018 – 2019 includes:

**President:** Lindsey Johnson, U.S. Mortgage Insurers

**President-Elect:** Kris Kully, Mayer Brown

**Vice President:** Sam Ozeck, FDIC

**Treasurer:** Lori Santamorena

**Secretary:** Kate Rock, Navigant

**General Counsel:** Kara Ward, Venable

**Immediate Past President:** Joanna Shapiro, BNY Mellon

**WHFF Board Liaison:** Dionne Joemah, D.C. Government

### **Directors:**

Barbara Keller, BIKConsulting LLC

Lawrence Kaplan, Paul Hastings

Dina Ellis Rochkind, Paul Hastings

Kate Larson Prochaska, US Chamber of Commerce

Press Release

Mary Pat Denney, The Oakleaf Group  
Ibijoke Akinbowale, NCRC

Created by WHF in 1997, the WHF Foundation focuses on promoting financial empowerment and commits volunteer and financial resources to help women and families in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area through charitable and educational services. The WHF Foundation is pleased to announce its 2018-2019 board of directors:

Mary Martha Fortney, *The Fortney Group, LLC*  
Rebecca Laird, *K&L Gates, LLP*  
Jane DeMarines, *SIGTARP*  
Suzanne Garwood, *JPMorgan Chase*  
Debbie Matz, *Mutual of Omaha Bank*  
Brandy Schantz, *Wylder Brothers Real Estate*  
Leslie Woolley  
Beth Solomon, *CARE USA*  
Chastity Abrom, *Ginnie Mae*  
Debbie Ames Naylor, *PenFed Credit Union*  
Bobbi Montoya, *Federal Housing Finance Agency*  
**WHF Board Liaison:** Dionne Joemah, *DC Government*

Mary Martha Fortney and Suzanne Garwood were reelected by the WHF membership to serve on the WHF Foundation Board of Directors for two year terms. Chastity Abrom, Deborah Ames Naylor, Bobby Montoya and Brandy Shantz were all appointed to the board by WHF President Lindsey Johnson. They will join current WHF Foundation Directors Jane DeMarines, Debbie Matz, Beth Solomon and Leslie Woolley on the WHF Foundation Board.

The WHF Foundation's core mission is to partner with local non-profit organizations dedicated to helping low-income women and children with basic financial literacy skills, housing assistance, transition services and economic empowerment. The foundation provided \$30,000 in grants to its community non-profit partners in 2017-2018 and has provided nearly \$600,000 in grants since its creation in 1997. The foundation has also awarded a total of \$24,000 in grants to the Trinity Washington University scholarship. It also arranges volunteer opportunities for WHF members to teach financial empowerment in schools and to persons in need. "The Foundation directors are pleased to begin another year providing volunteer opportunities to WHF members and to assist our non-profit partners," noted Foundation President Mary Martha Fortney. "We also look forward to continuing to work with the WHF Board," she added.

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***About the WHF Foundation:*** A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to:  
(1) Develop personal finance counseling programs to enhance the financial empowerment of low-income women or other at-risk individuals; (2) Provide partnership grants to organizations that provide services to women and their families in the Washington, D.C. area; (3) Coordinate volunteer activities of Women in Housing and Finance members benefiting community groups, especially in the areas of housing and women's concerns; and (4) Create an internship or scholarship program for women students interested in the fields of housing and finance. For more information, please visit the WHF Foundation's Web-site at <http://www.whfdc.org/foundation>.