

Happy Holidays
from



100 RURAL WOMEN

Issue 4 2020

Letter From Our Founder

Looking Back At 2020

Thank You to Our Supporters

Letter From Our Founder

2020–It has been quite the year for all of us. We had planned a formal organizational and fundraising launch of 100 Rural Women in March and, needless to say, that was thwarted by COVID-19. But thankfully we have persevered, and our organization has truly blossomed—with thanks to the efforts of many. I have met the most incredible women and can see all of the possibilities and the importance of connection.

We accomplished much in 2020 despite tight financial resources, with funders staying with their status quo or redirecting all funding to COVID-19. However, we were fortunate to have received contributions of pro bono, in-kind, individual giving, and student intern resources which allowed us to prosper and serve rural women. We have also been collaborating with a variety of organizations that share our mission to seek collaborative funding and initiatives to support women.

When I first envisioned 100 Rural Women, it was really about how rural women can better support each other by building networks and leadership together. In rural America, there is a significant and critical shortage of women serving in decision-making leadership roles – and that needs to change. This has proven even more important this year as we see the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 on rural Women. So here's to sharing and celebrating all of the wonderful things that we were able to accomplish this year!

Much of our success this year is due to an incredible and engaged Board, professional pro bono support, and the opportunity to be people-powered by young women. A big shout out to Winona State University, St. Olaf College, and the University of Minnesota, for providing us with interns and graduate students to support our work. I am a believer in young people and know that for rural Minnesota to thrive and prosper, we need to engage and encourage young women to stay, come back, or relocate to rural areas to build our communities for the future.

This year we have been building out our Board and launching new programs in mentorship with the Leadership Exchange, Breakfast Club webinar series, Get Out the Vote (GOTV), and the Reading Room Book Club. We've also expanded our website and social media presence.

Here's a sneak preview for 2021 work—with a goal of 100 convenings across the state of Minnesota; launching a new podcast series, a video series, civic engagement resources; building out the Reading Room; and designing social enterprise approaches to financially support our work.

Please join us as we celebrate a year in review and we hope you can consider contributing to our future by donating to support our organization. Thank you to family, friends, communities, colleagues, and collaborators.

I wish you the best of the holiday season and look towards a bright future of better health, understanding of each other, happiness, and a stronger rural America.

Teresa Kitteridge

Looking Back At 2020

As an emerging non-profit organization, we've largely relied on pro-bono support to grow and build out our programs. We need your support to ensure that we can continue running quality programming to improve the lives of rural women. Will you donate to help us continue to engage and empower rural women?



Our Board of Directors

We've welcomed four amazing women from different walks of life onto our board to represent rural women and their interests, and also help to advise and grow our organizational programs.

Learn More

Our Interns

We brought eleven incredible young women on-board to intern with us this past summer and fall. They've helped to create new initiatives and organize our programs as well as improve our social media presence and outreach.

Learn More

2020 Accomplishments

100 in 100: We developed a pilot for our signature program the "100 in 100 learning tour": Starting with virtual gatherings in communities across the Northwest part of Minnesota this winter to identify opportunities and connect rural women to each other. Learn more to get involved [here](#).

Breakfast Club Webinar Series: We launched a monthly series where we connect participants with amazing rural women to share their experiences, inspiring ideas, tools, and resources during this time of COVID-19. We hosted seven sessions in 2020 and are planning a full slate for 2021. Learn more [here](#).

Leadership Exchange: We launched a circular mentorship program where we aim to empower women to better support, learn from, and explore leadership in rural Minnesota. Learn more [here](#).

The Reading Room: Check out our new book club where we read the works of rural women authors and come together to discuss themes and ideas. Learn more and join [here](#).

Get Out The Vote (GOTV): We launched resources, webinars, and discussions to encourage voting and civic engagement. Learn more about our work [here](#).

Spotlight Profiles: In our effort to lift up rural women leaders, we're profiling 100 rural Minnesotan women to share their leadership journeys. You can read the first of the profiles [here](#).

Thank You to Our Supporters



...And a Happy Holidays From These Cuties



From Foster Fluharty Farms



Follow us on
social media!



DONATE NOW
PAYPAL® SECURE CREDIT CARD PROCESSING

