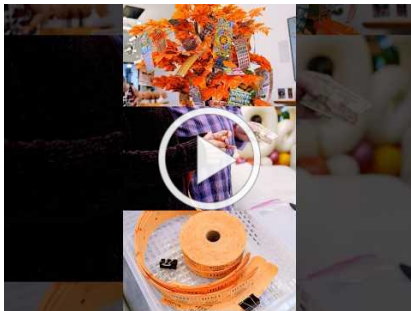
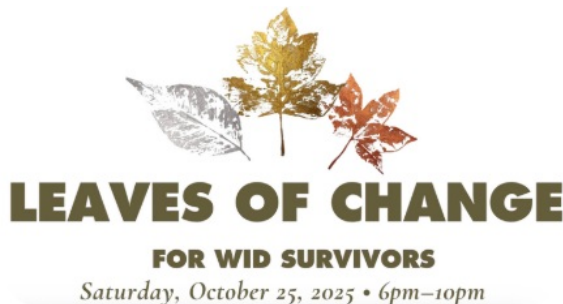




Upcoming Event: Leaves of Change

Saturday, October 25, 2025 | 6:00-10:00 PM

Private Residence | Hosted by Angela Kelsey, Chair of the WID Board of Directors



Join us for an unforgettable night of music, fun, and fundraising at **Leaves of Change, Women In Distress' newest annual event**, hosted at the home of our **Board Chair, Angela Kelsey**. This one-of-a-kind fall celebration features live music from the Gypsy Lane Band, lawn games, a BBQ dinner, open bar, and more.

All proceeds from this exclusive evening support Women In Distress and our lifesaving programs for survivors of domestic violence. **Last year's debut was a hit, and this year's is going to be even better!**

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Event Recap: Starfish Gala 2025

Saturday, May 3, 2025 | 6:30-11:30 PM

A Record-Breaking Night!

On **May 3, 2025**, Women In Distress of Broward County proudly hosted the **50th Anniversary Starfish Gala** at the Margaritaville Hollywood Beach Resort. This signature event, with **presenting sponsor Legacy Healing Center**, marked five decades of dedication to ending domestic violence and honoring the strength and



resilience of survivors and their families.

We are thrilled to announce that this year's Gala was a **record-breaking success**, raising over \$500,000 thanks to the overwhelming generosity of our sponsors, donors, and attendees!

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Donation Drive Recap: Joanne DeLizza Memorial Back to School Drive

June 1, 2025 - July 31, 2025

A Community-Wide Impact



Our annual **Joanne DeLizza Memorial Back to School Drive** has officially wrapped, and thanks to your generosity, hundreds of children in our emergency shelter and outreach programs are heading into the school year feeling confident, supported, and ready to learn!

The drive is held **in honor of Joanne DeLizza**, a compassionate advocate whose legacy continues to uplift survivors and their families. Thank you for helping us carry her spirit forward by ensuring every child we serve has the tools they need to succeed.

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Big Announcement: Capital Campaign: Building a Safer Tomorrow Because Healing Cannot Begin Without A Safe Home



In May 2025, WID publicly **launched a \$15 million capital campaign** to create transitional housing for survivors of domestic violence. This new facility will offer safe, affordable apartments where **survivors can live for up to two years** while accessing on-site therapy, job training, and financial education.

Unlike emergency shelter, this next step provides the time and support survivors need to rebuild their lives with autonomy and



stability. Residents will pay reduced rent, care for their households, and work toward long-term independence.

100% of our Board of Directors has already committed, and early donations & pledges **have exceeded half of the goal**. Now, we invite you to join us in building a safer tomorrow for survivors in our community.

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Changes at WID: Welcoming New Members to Our Board

Celebrating a New Board Chair & Five Members

We're thrilled to **welcome several new members** to the **WID Board of Directors**. These accomplished leaders, along with our **President and CEO, Linda L. Parker, PH.D.**, bring deep expertise across law, healthcare, philanthropy, education, and nonprofit advocacy, each with a shared commitment to our mission to end domestic violence.

We also celebrate the appointment of **Angela Kelsey** (The Kelsey Group) as our new Board Chair. A longtime supporter of WID, Angela's leadership and passion for our work will help guide us through an exciting new chapter.

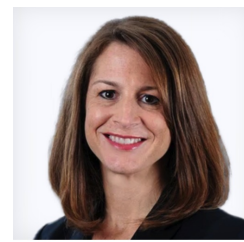
Newly appointed Board Members include: **Laurie Kelley** (JM& A Group), **Ashley Kozich** (Community Foundation of Broward), **Stefanie Lamanna, Ph.D.** (Nova Southeastern University), and **Carmen Ramirez, MD**.

To view the **full list of our 2025 Board of Directors**, click the button below.

[Read More](#)



Angela Kelsey
Chair, The Kelsey Group



Laurie Kelley
JM&A Group



Ashley Kozich
Community Foundation of Broward



Stefanie Lamanna, Ph.D.
Nova Southeastern University

Planning for Your Future: FreeWill Services

Create a Legacy That Lasts—Protect What Matters Most

F R E E W I L L



August is National Make-A-Will Month!

One generous woman made the extraordinary decision to include WID in her estate plans. Now, even after her passing, she continues to help hundreds of survivors each year begin new, safer chapters.

August is **Make A Will Month**, and creating your own legacy gift is easier than ever. We've partnered with **FreeWill**, a secure and user-friendly tool that lets you write a legally valid will in 20 minutes or less—**completely free**. You can also use it to plan gifts through an IRA, life insurance policy, or other non-probate assets.

A legacy gift costs nothing today but creates a lasting impact for years to come. If you've already included WID in your plans, let us know so we can thank you and welcome you into our Legacy Society.

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Women in Distress of Broward County | P.O Box 50187 | Lighthouse Point, FL 33074 US

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