Dear Impact100 DC Community,

With our third annual Impact Makers Breakfast just around the corner, I have been thinking about what it means to be an "impact maker" in our region today. On September 9, we are honored to feature Ruth Marcus and Erin Harkless Moore, whose careers demonstrate how voice, leadership, and capital are shaping community progress. That progress is also driven by visionary nonprofit partners and powered by flexible funding from donors and collective giving organizations like Impact100 DC. We all play a vital role in the philanthropic ecosystem that is so critical to creating lasting change.

We saw the power of our giving model in action this summer when Impact100 DC awarded three $100,000 grants and reached a momentous milestone: **over $1 million awarded** in grants to local nonprofit organizations since our founding. It is a powerful reminder of what can happen when women pool their resources, vision, and passion to serve our Greater Washington DC community.

Current regional economic data underscores why our collective, high-impact backing is so vital:

- **Growing Financial Strain:** The cost-of-living gap continues to widen across the DMV, leaving more than a third of regional households struggling to afford basic necessities like housing and childcare.
- **Rising Community Demand:** A majority of community organizations report a continued surge in demand for critical services, even as they navigate unpredictable shifts in traditional funding.
- **Persistent Regional Disparities:** Deep systemic inequities endure across geographic and racial lines in our region, making flexible, hyper-local funding indispensable.

The Impact Makers Breakfast also marks the unofficial kick-off of our fall membership campaign. Growing our membership base is the single most effective way we can expand our reach – allowing us to award more transformational grants to outstanding community organizations on the front lines of serving our region.

So as this next grant cycle begins, know that we too are impact makers. Thank you for your generosity, your commitment, and your belief in our shared purpose. I look forward to connecting with you as we launch a wonderful fall season together!

Warmly,

Francine

Francine Lamoriello
President, Impact100 DC

## Help Us Expand Our Fall Meet & Greet Schedule

Fall membership season is just around the corner! Meet & Greets are an important part of our recruitment efforts – and for many of our newer members, a Meet & Greet was their first introduction to Impact100 DC.

Plans are underway for Meet & Greets at members' homes in DC, Maryland, and Virginia. We'll share the full schedule and open registration in September.

**Would you like to host or co-host a Meet & Greet?** Co-hosting is easy: invite women in your network to a gathering another member is hosting and join us for the event. Or host a casual gathering of your own, large or small. We provide planning support, invitation language and materials, and a board member to lead the conversation.

Interested? Please **email Heather Johnson** to learn more.

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# Our Grantees at Work

## Edu-Futuro

Over the past year, 2025 Impact Grantee **Edu-Futuro** used their $100,000 to support their Emerging Leaders Program (ELP), guiding students on the path from high school, to college, to career success. With Impact100 DC's funds, Edu-Futuro empowered underserved youth and their families through mentorship and leadership training for **more than 1,0000 students** – exceeding their original goal by 116%! Students are more confident, resilient, and prepared to realize their potential and become leaders, creating a brighter future for themselves and their communities.

ELP graduates were accepted to a wide range of colleges and universities, including American, Catholic, Fordham, George Mason, Howard, James Madison, Lewis & Clark, Marymount, Northern Virginia Community College, Pennsylvania State, Radford, Swarthmore, the University of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth, Virginia State, and Virginia Tech. Collectively, students received offers **totaling over $9.7 million in scholarships and financial aid**, significantly reducing financial barriers to higher education and expanding access to college opportunities.

Edu-Futuro's impact stretched beyond the classroom:

- **Parents** received guidance on understanding and accessing financial aid resources, as well as information on how to support their children throughout their college journey.
- **Volunteers** contributed their expertise through presentations, mentoring, and workshops, providing students with valuable insights and practical advice for academic and professional success.
- **Students** benefited from opportunities to expand their networks, build leadership skills, and gain exposure to professional environments, including:
    - Individualized mentoring
    - Opportunities to volunteer at community events
    - Participation in local conferences and professional meetings
    - Public speaking engagements
    - Specialized financial aid workshops

## DC Greens

For the second year in a row, 2026 Impact Grantee **DC Greens** is partnering with Diaspora Honey to bring bee education to Southeast D.C. Diaspora Honey's founder, Moe the Beekeeper, shared **why this education is so important, especially in urban landscapes**.

In a major advocacy win, DC Greens and their health equity partners successfully advocated to fully restore funding for the **DC Food Policy Council (FPC)** in the District's FY27 budget. The Council had been **slated for elimination** in the Mayor's proposed budget. eNow, the Food Policy Council can continue its work to advance food security, health, and equity across the District.

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