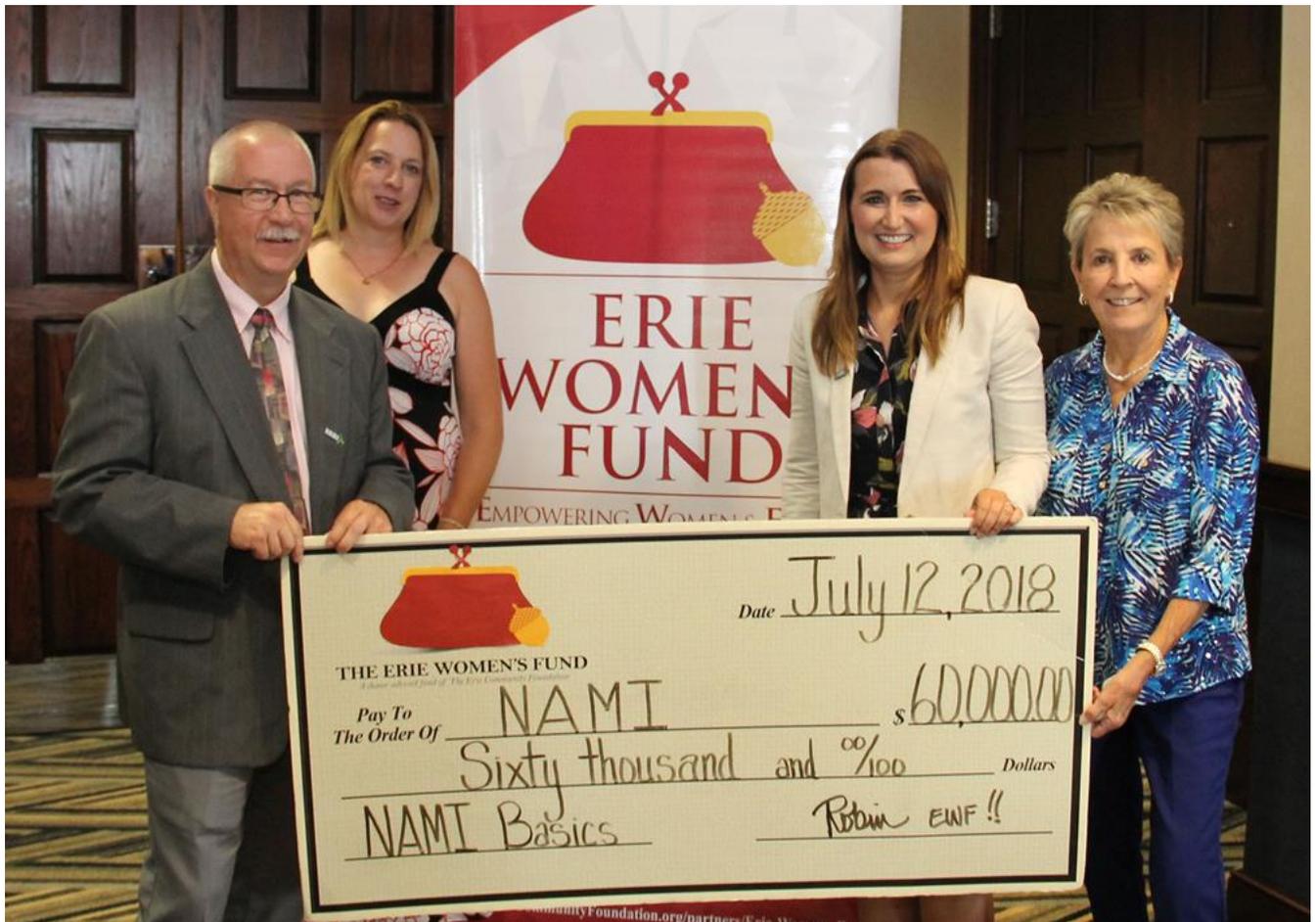


July 2018  
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## \$60,000 Awarded at 2018 EWF Summer Gathering



Pictured L to R: Guy Sheldon, NAMI Board President; Janet Peters, Erie Women's Fund Grants Committee Chair; Denise L. Kolivoski, MBA, NAMI Executive Director; Robin Scheppner, Erie Women's Fund Board Chair.

The 2018 EWF Spring Gathering at the Sheraton Hotel was a smashing success. Over 80 members and prospective members socialized and celebrated one another. We were all there to witness the Power of the Purse and recognize just how significant

women philanthropists in our community have become. By joining together, we have raised over \$500,000 to benefit women, children and families in Erie County!

Congratulations to the National Alliance of Mental Health (NAMI) local chapter for receiving the major grant of \$60,000 from the Erie Women's Fund. After an extensive grant process, the EWF Grants Committee whittled down the applications to four local non-profits. Members of the Grants Committee did site visits to each of the four organizations, then met again with their representatives for further questions and clarification. We wish we could have granted money to all of them, but after exhaustive discussions, NAMI was selected as the 2018 recipient. The NAMI Basics program will impact women, children and families from across Erie County. NAMI Executive Director Denise Kolivoski provided the following statistics, which are impressive. Please take the time to read through these and know that the money your Erie Women's Fund is providing will ultimately help thousands of individuals in our community.

### **NAMI of Erie County Statistics**

#### **Organization**

- NAMI of Erie County will celebrate its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Erie County in 2019. The organization was established in 1984.
- NAMI of Erie County serves over 6,000 unduplicated individuals per year through its evidence-based programming, community education programs, and other services.
- NAMI of Erie County's school-based presentations positively impact over 1,000 area high school and college students each year.

#### **Mental Health Stats**

- Nationally, about one in five children will face a mental health challenge in any given year.
- Locally, Erie County mirrors the national averages, meaning that over 6,600 children, age nine and under, will face a mental health challenge this year.
  - Only 20 percent of these children will receive treatment, leaving an unmet need of over 5,300 children in Erie County.
- Similarly, one in five adults face a mental health challenge in any given year.
- Locally, Erie County has approximately 55,000 residents who will face a mental health challenge in any given year.
- Mental health treatment can be very effective! For example, treatment for depression can have effectiveness rates approaching 90 percent, contrasted with treatment for heart disease, which typically has effectiveness rates around 50 percent.

~ Janet Peters, Grants Chair

*To learn more about NAMI, [click here.](#)*

## Spotlight on Members

Kathy Dammeyer has spent the majority of her life dedicated to family (her husband, Jim; 3 children and 3 grandchildren), friends, education and the Erie community. As a Founding Member of the Erie Women's Fund, she has devoted her time and treasure to the organization, most recently volunteering with the Grants Committee.



In addition to EWF Kathy stays active by volunteering with the refugees at St. Benedict Education Center, serving as president of an investment club, playing duplicate bridge as a Life Master, studying Spanish, golfing and playing tennis. She has also served on the board and currently serves on various committees at Mercyhurst Prep.

She is a native of Buffalo, graduated from Nazareth College of Rochester, and received a Masters of Teaching Mathematics degree from the University of Illinois. She taught high school mathematics in Chicago before moving to Erie in 1972.

### **What does philanthropy mean to you?**

I realize how fortunate I have been with many blessings including family, friends, health, church and education. I feel I have a moral obligation to give back.

### **Why do you participate in EWF?**

Erie has been home to me for more than 45 years and I've grown very attached to the Erie community. EWF has enabled me to meet and respect many women in the organization and join with them to make a collective impact on women and families. EWF has provided an opportunity to learn so much about the many organizations and nonprofits which serve Erie.

### **What makes Erie so great?**

Erie is a small enough city to get connected, but large enough to conveniently take advantage of a wealth of cultural activities, sports, educational and health facilities and a beautiful waterfront.

~ Courtney Steding, Membership Chair

**Here we GROW again!**

**WELCOME** to our newest EWF members (since January 2018):

Dana Zaphiris  
Dylanna Grasinger  
Gwendolyn White  
Sallie Capotis  
Jennifer Stewart  
Katie Ruffa  
Ashley Ross  
Ashley Manino

Anita Kuchcinski  
Jennifer Hausmann  
Vanessa Fremer  
Carol Dabrowski  
Christine Bowen  
Rachel Artise  
Abby Sorensen  
Marybeth Smialek

Lisa NeCastro  
Sandra Smialek  
Marci Honard  
Elise Dahlstrand  
Dorine Ciotti  
Katherine Peters  
Lorianne Feltz

**Save the Date!**

**August 27<sup>th</sup> ~ Women Driving Philanthropy Golf Outing**

Lawrence Park Golf Club - women only scramble  
3700 E. Lake Road  
Erie, PA 16511

**Day of Event**

Registration: Starts at 11:00 a.m.  
Shotgun: Start at 12:00 p.m.

Dinner will be held after play.

To sign up to golf, sponsor the event, or join us for dinner, [click here](#).

Please complete and return your form to Lisa Fischer at [lisa@unitedwayerie.org](mailto:lisa@unitedwayerie.org) by August 10<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out via email or phone at (814) 456-2937.



## September Educational Forum



ERIE WOMEN'S FUND  
EMPOWERING WOMEN & FAMILIES

### SAVE THE DATE

FOR THE ERIE WOMEN'S FUND'S NEXT EDUCATIONAL FORUM

# OUR ERIE NEIGHBORHOODS REVITALIZED

September 13, 2018

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Erie Insurance Auditorium

Join the Erie Women's Fund and a panel of local speakers as they discuss building stronger families and neighborhoods in the Erie community.

Light refreshments will be provided during social networking following the program.

Panelists include:

**Heather May Caspar**, Executive Director, Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network;

**Anna Frantz**, Executive Director, Our West Bayfront;

**Sr. Michele Schroeck**, Core Team member, Eastside Grassroots Coalition;

**Jeremy Bloeser**, Executive Director, Bayfront East Side Taskforce; and

**Kathy Wyrosdick**, Planning Director, City of Erie.

The discussion will be moderated by **Kim Thomas**, Regional Director,  
PA Department of Community and Economic Development.

For all EWF events, RSVP to Breanna Watts at [bwatts@eriecommunityfoundation.org](mailto:bwatts@eriecommunityfoundation.org)

## Women Driving Philanthropy: **ATTENTION MEMBERS**

We are looking for monetary and/or basket donations for this year's WDP golf outing. Our goal this year is to raise \$35,000 for Arts in Education! And, happily this will be matched by a State grant, providing up to \$70,000 to bring arts to our schools. All donations may be dropped off at The Erie Community Foundation.

**Don't miss out on the premier auction item that was graciously donated by Breakiron Jewelers and American Tinning and Galvanizing:**

14 Karat custom-made pendant with a Lapis center stone accented with Cuprian Tourmalines and a Citrine. The chain is a 16" diamond cut cable link. This piece is valued at \$2,800 and designed by Linda Breakiron.

This year, we also have a beautiful French Country Sideboard valued at \$875, generously donated by Maria Minnaugh at Traditions Unlimited.

**Help us bring arts and culture to the classrooms of children throughout Erie County!**



Join us in this year's Women Driving Philanthropy Golf Tournament (scramble format) on Monday, August 27th at Lawrence Park Golf Club. All proceeds will benefit Arts in Education (AIE) to fund residency programs in schools throughout Erie County.

AIE Residencies enhance learning and develop the skills needed for success in school, work and life. Residencies are developed collaboratively between the artist and the host school to embellish the core curriculum.

We invite you to support your community's children by registering to play!

**Make sure you put this date on your calendar; you won't regret joining in on all of the fun, sun and philanthropic success!**

**Finally, Don't Forget Erie Gives!**



**Tuesday, August 14, 2018  
8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
[www.ErieGives.org](http://www.ErieGives.org)**

On Erie Gives, you can renew your  
Erie Women's Fund membership for 2019  
Platinum (\$2,500 annually)  
Gold (\$1,000 annually)  
Silver (\$500 annually)  
Bronze (\$250 annually)  
Group (\$1,000 annually for up to 10 Women)

Any gift of \$25 or more to the Erie Women's  
Fund on Erie Gives will receive a portion of the  
\$300,000 prorated match.



**ERIE WOMEN'S FUND**

EMPOWERING WOMEN & FAMILIES

**On Erie Gives YOU can make a difference!**

The Erie Community Foundation | 814-454-0843 | [wwwErieGives.org](http://wwwErieGives.org)

**Visit the EWF Website by [clicking here.](#)**