

Nurturing Our Local Community

AAUW-Birmingham Branch volunteers enthusiastically contribute more than 500 hours each year to help many local charities.

Member participation in education-related activities at Bound Together is notable and, in addition, volunteers often assist with the preparation of the nutritious meals that are served each afternoon and help with community parties. Our members' gracious in-kind donations to Bound Together's Holiday gift shop are the bedrock of an event that impacts more than 120 individuals, bringing joy to kids as they select gifts to give to the special adults in their lives. At Big Family of Michigan, our members donate and wrap holiday gifts to be distributed to more than 1800 foster children throughout the state.

Beyond onsite volunteering, each year our members generously donate requested materials and supplies, valued at over \$5,000, to support the outreach efforts of local charities. More than 600 toiletry articles, arts and crafts items, children's items, and presents are collected and delivered to local charities annually.

This year we will be helping A Courageous Voice, Arc of Oakland County, Big Family of Michigan, Bound Together, HAVEN of Oakland County, Hope Against Trafficking, and Sanctum House.

Foundation Proposed Budget 2025-2026

Income:

Donations for Scholarships	\$27,750
Memorials, eBay, Kroger, other	\$6,200
AAUW Research & Support	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$38,950

Expenses:

High School & College Scholarships	\$25,000
Leadership Conference	\$3,800
AAUW Research & Support	\$5,000
Mission-based Projects	\$4,250
Operations	\$900
TOTAL	\$38,950

Foundation Board of Directors

Katie WiesePresident
Cindi HopkinsTreasurer
Julie BlairRecording Secretary
Christine DagenaisCorresponding Secretary

Ex-officio Directors

Cindi Hopkins Branch President
Laura Schartman..... Branch Treasurer
Sally Doty..... AAUW Funds

Appointed Directors

Jody Kuhn.....Director
Joan HanpeterDirector
Michele Wogaman.....Director



Impact Report Fall 2025

**AAUW Birmingham Branch
Foundation
is a 501(c)3 organization
supporting the education
of women and girls.**

Mission Based Programs

This year we are continuing our community work with programs that highlight enrichment activities and supportive mentoring in critical areas of the communities with which we are engaged. We recognize that just providing scholarship money is not enough; the monetary contribution needs to be enhanced with direct coaching opportunities that provide support and encouragement for students.



At Bound Together, members gave over 80 volunteer hours supporting Pontiac children in grades 1-8 with hands-on activities in art, science, and technology at Funday Mondays, as well as providing one-to-one tutoring sessions in reading and math on Tuesday-Thursday afternoons.



In collaboration with the Pontiac Promise Zone, we have launched a program at Oakland University and

Oakland Community College to coach young women from Pontiac who are the first in their families to attend college. Students have the benefit of a non-judgmental safety net of problem-solving, advice, and social time as they navigate new academic expectations and their transition to the college setting. 17 AAUW members are participating in this innovative venture, with over 30 eligible student participants.

Scholarships - High School

For over 100 years, AAUW-Birmingham has provided college scholarships to local high school students. Starting with just a single-year scholarship for one girl, the reach of our Branch commitment has now expanded to provide renewable scholarships to qualifying students in the Pontiac, Birmingham, and Bloomfield Hills High Schools.

AAUW-Birmingham also is proud to have co-founded the Birmingham SCHOLAR program, dedicated to easing the financial burden of college for graduates from within the Birmingham School District.

"I didn't think I had a chance to attend college. I am so grateful. This scholarship...empowers me to complete my degree and ultimately contribute to a more equitable future for women and girls."

~ 2025 Pontiac HS Scholarship Recipient

In 2025, scholarship donations of \$18,000 are funding six graduates who are currently attending U of M, MSU, Oakland University, and Ferris State – three for the first time and three for their second year. We are making the future brighter for deserving young students.



PONTIAC HIGH SCHOOL



College Liaisons

We continually reach out to all our scholarship recipients to provide support, encouragement, and access to AAUW guidance and resources as they navigate the demands of the college experience.

Scholarships - College & University

For more than 5 years, AAUW-Birmingham has provided scholarships to qualifying students at Lawrence Technological University, Walsh College, and Oakland Community College, impacting the lives of more than 90 students. Many of our college scholarship recipients are struggling to enter or return to school as they deal with a variety of difficult circumstances in their personal lives.

"Many hardships have found their way in between me and my education, but my tenacity and grit has prevented me from backing down. This scholarship serves as a testament to opportunities and second chances for people who have struggled like me."

~ OCC Scholarship Recipient



In 2025, scholarship donations of \$7000 are funding programs at these three institutions, helping up to nine deserving students look forward to a brighter future.

Future Leadership Training

For ten years, in partnership with local colleges and Cranbrook Schools, the Branch has sent more than 21 students to an annual leadership training program that focuses on academic, professional, and personal skills, while exposing the students to national women's issues and encouraging these young women to make a commitment to work toward the betterment of all women and girls. In 2025, donations of \$3,800 are enabling us to continue this worthy effort.