

# The Washington Post

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## REGIONAL BRIEFING

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### **WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMS**

#### **Fundraising Drive Raises Almost \$100 Million**

A fundraising campaign to support programs that empower women and girls worldwide has accrued almost \$100 million since it began last fall, the Women's Funding Network plans to announce today at its annual conference in Arlington County.

The Women Moving Millions campaign will fund women's programs in the Washington region, including the Stepping Stones initiative, which helps low-income single mothers find jobs and buy homes.

Other initiatives the money will support include a program in the Gulf Coast region that trains women affected by Hurricane Katrina for construction jobs and a program in Zimbabwe that helps thousands of young girls go to school.

The Women's Funding Network is an alliance of more than 125 women's foundations around the world, including the Washington Area Women's Foundation.

The Women Moving Millions fundraising drive collected gifts of \$1 million or larger. Two area philanthropists participated in the campaign: Laurie Emrich, an international health specialist and founder of a documentary production company, and Julie Jensen, a tax law specialist.

— Philip Rucker