

2020–21 IMPACT REPORT

Leading | Empowering | Innovating





Message from the Director

In 2020, when the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women wrote its newest strategic plan, *Leading, Empowering, Innovating*, none of us anticipated the forthcoming worldwide pandemic.

Living in a virtual and somewhat isolated way became our new normal. Women who came to count on us for programs and services needed them more than ever before. It was imperative to deliver our programs and services creatively and effectively.

The pandemic has not been an easy time for anyone. It not only exposed but exacerbated societal inequities caused by race, poverty and gender. Through technology, innovation, sheer will and a lot of heart, the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women built community and continued taking social action, brought women together, and impacted the lives of participants in its highest numbers to date.

The highlights of our work in this report affirm why the mission of the Mather Center remains crucial and relevant. We know that 3,470 students, staff, faculty, alumni and community partners attended our events, workshops, panels and programs virtually in the 2020–21 academic year. Among the moments of impact, we launched our virtual Mather Network and nearly doubled the participation in our Women’s Staff Leadership Development Institute and mentoring programs for undergraduate women in STEM and doctoral students. Participation more than quadrupled in our Women’s Faculty Leadership Development Institute. We launched a new university-wide education and advocacy initiative, “It’s on CWRU,” to help end power-based violence on campus.

Technology enabled the Mather Center to efficiently create and connect a coalition of Case Western Reserve University women’s student groups across campus. We translated 18 years of in-person community building into a virtual environment and shared these practices with women’s center colleagues nationally—producing “Inspire” webinars for women in higher education across the country.

It has been a busy year—and, despite many challenges, we persevered.

As we prepare to re-open our doors to students, staff, faculty, alumni and community partners this fall, I know the spirit of the Mather

Center is vibrant, its community is thriving and its footprint is growing both on the CWRU campus and nationally. We are inspired as we march into the second year of our strategic plan. Building on new strengths will foster growth and broaden participation in our Program Rewarding Innovation in STEM Entrepreneurship, and engage new audiences through our Mather Mentoring program for women in the arts, humanities, and social sciences. We plan to set in motion our Women’s Educational Learning Lab this year, provide research grants, hire a postdoctoral fellow, and launch a new journal on women’s center research.

Your many ways of supporting the Mather Center made serving women in this difficult time not only feasible, but exponentially possible—empowering them to thrive, innovate and lead.

Thank you.

Angela Clark-Taylor, PhD

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Who We Are

Mission

The Flora Stone Mather Center for Women is a community space and a social innovator empowering women and advancing gender equity through research-informed action.

Values

A Community Space

The Mather Center is a space to gather, build community and raise consciousness. Center activities help members of our community foster critical consciousness, a deeper understanding of self, a broader perspective of others, an awareness of social issues, and a desire to advocate for change.

A Social Innovator

The Mather Center supports the development of programs that are guided by the principle that higher education should ultimately serve the public good. Initiatives we support are centered in the belief that universities and individuals work not only for individual advancement but larger social needs.

Empowering Women and Advancing Gender Equity

The Mather Center works to advance women and gender equity through an intersectional feminist lens which

maintains that: sex and gender inequities exist; these inequities are not inherent but socially constructed; these inequities can be eradicated through social change; and fighting to eliminate these inequities should occur while simultaneously dismantling other forms of oppression, including but not limited to racism, classism, xenophobia, transphobia, homophobia and ableism.

Research-Informed Action

The Mather Center utilizes a critical constructivist research-informed action to avoid practices that reproduce inequalities and seeks out new ways of thinking about existing research and include the voices of marginalized knowledge communities. We maintain that knowledge is constructed through historical, cultural, political, economic and social contexts and that research-informed action should be transformational, encourage mutual understanding and inspire critical self-reflection.





FLORA STONE MATHER
CENTER FOR WOMEN

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2020–21 by the Numbers

3,470 unique interactions with the Mather Center this year.

40/60/300

Women in Science and Engineering Roundtable and the Women in Sciences and Humanities Earning Doctorates student organizations paired more than 40 professional volunteer mentors with over 60 undergraduate and graduate students, totaling over 300 hours of mentorship.

26

Awarded 26 grants for a total of \$32,000 to faculty, staff and students to fund professional development opportunities, research and gender equity projects.

1,300+

Facilitated the Informed U Sexual Violence Prevention training to more than 1,300 incoming first-year students at CWRU.

58 students engaged in the Women in Science and Engineering Roundtable student group programming.

250+

Engaged over 250 women nationwide through the Inspire Webinar Series and Higher Women’s Leadership Conference.

80/49/14

Women’s Staff Leadership Development Institute provided over 80 hours of training and 49 hours of coaching to 14 staff members at CWRU.

12/72/24

Women’s Faculty Leadership Development Institute provided over 12 hours of training and 72 hours of coaching to 24 faculty members at CWRU.

66 students took the “It’s on CWRU” pledge to disrupt the culture of violence at CWRU.

144

Facilitated the Disrupting the Culture of Violence: How to be a Prosocial Bystander Training to 144 CWRU students, staff and faculty.

Learn more about the Mather Center’s 2020–21 advocacy, education, research and community engagement efforts at case.edu/centerforwomen.



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For a list of our academic 2020–21 supporters, please visit case.edu/centerforwomen.