



2025 Impact Report



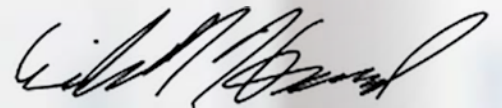
CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY
Flora Stone Mather
Center for Women

It's been a year of big changes for The Flora Stone Mather Center for Women at Case Western Reserve University; changes in leadership, changes at CWRU, and changes in the landscape of higher education. However, one thing that hasn't changed is the Mather Center's commitment to our mission and serving the CWRU community. We are proud to present our impact report for the years 2024-2025, showcasing our initiatives, programs, and events that work to advance gender equity and serve to create an even more inclusive CWRU.

Throughout this report, we have provided information on the Mather Center's impact, including the number of students, staff, and faculty reached, the success of various programs, and the outcomes of key initiatives. Behind the numbers, though, are people; the people we've reached, served, taught, built relationships with, and more. Truly, at the heart of the Mather Center, is the idea that we're always working to build a deeper sense of community at CWRU. We hope our work contributes to developing a community that treats each other with respect, and builds systems that help everyone have access to the opportunities CWRU has to offer.

We continually look to the origins of the Mather Center and the goals its founders had to help guide the center; we are meeting—and even exceeding—those goals in myriad ways, but there is continually more work to be done. We are, as always, excited to continue this work to support and empower the entirety of Case Western Reserve University to be a more inclusive and equitable place. Thank you to all of our supporters, partners, and allies for helping us continue to advance our mission.

Thank you,



Erika Howard
Interim Executive Director
June 2024–April 2025





In 2023, we observed our 20th anniversary, and in honor of it, we returned to the original proposal for the center to evaluate how we are living up to that vision. For our impact report this year, we wanted to take the opportunity to reintroduce ourselves, and share how we have not only achieved that vision but expanded far beyond what we planned.

The vision of the women's center in the original 2003 proposal was "a prominent, central hub of communication, education, research, and programming by and for women, men, and gender-oriented groups on campus. Through its programs, services, and advocacy for gender equity, the center will foster the full and active participation of women students, faculty, staff, and alumnae in their personal, professional, and educational pursuits. The Center will stand for CWRU's commitment to gender equity and will represent our values of fairness, mutual respect, and diversity. Its guiding principle will be inclusiveness and diversity, so that women and men will initiate programs related to concerns of race, class, gender, and sexual orientation."

Today, the mission of the Mather Center is to be "a community space and a social innovator empowering women and advancing gender equity through research-informed action. The Mather Center serves the entire Case Western Reserve University community; all are welcome in our office and at our events."

The 2003 proposal represents our past—the history on which we have been building for more than twenty years. In the following pages, you will see quotes from the proposal at the beginning of each section followed by pages that represent our present—how we are not only achieving, but expanding beyond the proposal to take a modern approach to what our campus needs. As you read this report, I invite you to be part of the Mather Center's future, supporting us in any way you can as we continue to grow and develop a new generation of leaders at CWRU.

Hannah Regan, Ph.D.
Interim Executive Director

By the numbers

1,500+ visits to the Center between
Sept. 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025

15 students in Program Rewarding Innovation
in STEM Entrepreneurship (PRISE)

18 mentor-
mentee pairs

Over \$30,000 in grant support provided to
more than 30 individuals/groups

60+ students, faculty and staff served
by the confidential advocates

6 Women Staff Leadership Development Institute
grads from 6 different areas of the university

19 workshops training more than 300 members of our community
in bystander intervention, consent, and healthy relationships

99% completion rate of our violence prevention
program for first-year students





Education

“Priority will be given to provide education and supportive services to women students in the important areas of sexual health, harassment, and assault. The Center will also interface with CWRU’s Women’s Studies Program by exploring opportunities to mount joint programs and build curriculum. The outcomes will be a richer curriculum in gender/women studies and wider array of educational opportunities, including extracurricular activities and mentoring for students, leadership training for faculty and staff, and continuing education for alumnae.” – 2003 Proposal



PHED 222 Sexuality Education

Over the years, students have frequently requested a sexuality education class. In Spring of 2024, we worked with with the Physical Education program to provide a course that fulfills CWRU students’ wellness requirement, and we offered the course for a second time in Spring 2025. This three-credit hour course covers the basics of sexuality, such as anatomy, reproduction and sexually transmitted infections, but also moves beyond these topics to consider pleasure, the intersection of sexuality and society, and more. Students receive a holistic approach to comprehensive sexuality education, and express in course evaluations how much the class opened their eyes to the many ways people experience sexuality.

Peer Educators

Through the “It’s On CWRU” campaign, we have developed a team of peer educators who support the community in violence prevention. These students receive education and training on power-based violence, and engage in many educational efforts to promote awareness on campus. This year, they planned “Know Ya Boo” to promote healthy relationships during Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month and a self-care event/craft night for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. They also develop educational content for the @itsoncwrU Instagram account and provide workshops throughout the year to various groups on campus.



Workshop Series

With the support of a grant from the Department of Justice’s Office for Violence Against Women, we developed a workshop series centered on Bystander Intervention, Healthy Relationships, and Consent, and we also offer a general workshop on gender equity. All of our offerings are open to any student, faculty or staff member. Through these workshops, we educate the campus community on vital issues around gender and violence prevention, and work to shift the culture on our campus to be one that includes every individual.



Research

“The Women’s Center will serve as an institutional umbrella for ongoing disciplinary and interdisciplinary research focusing on women and gender.” – 2003 Proposal

Grants

This past year, we awarded more than \$30,000 in grant funding to people and programs promoting gender equity at the university. This support covered everything from supporting a PhD. student in anthropology studying generational sexual and reproductive health information seeking, to helping the staff and student employees of the LGBT Center attend the TransOhio symposium, to supporting the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers women’s group SHPEtinias attend their national conference. We also support eight students completing their research during the summer with the Office for Undergraduate Research.



Undergraduate Research

In Spring 2025, we launched the Undergraduate Gender and Sexuality Research Group. These students learned research skills, studied current research being published, and conducted interviews with CWRU students about gender and finances.

Briefs and Journal

We continue our efforts to disseminate research about gender and gender centers beyond CWRU. In Summer 2025, we will publish the second issue of the *Journal for Women and Gender Centers in Higher Education*, featuring two new articles from our community about their important work. We also are adding to our research brief series, with publications from our graduate assistant and predoctoral scholar about engaging men in women’s centers and how women’s centers advocate for maternal health and parents on college campuses.



Services

“The center will deliver services that emphasize women’s safety and health issues, including rape and sexual assault counseling, and advocacy on campus for women’s health issues.” – 2003 Proposal



The Advocates

Our confidential advocates provide support to anyone in the campus community experiencing any form of power-based violence. They offer guidance through the Title IX process, as well support for those filing police reports and pursuing medical care. Thanks to effective efforts to make the campus community more aware of advocacy services, the demand grew enough that we were able to add a second part-time advocate to our staff with the support of our grant funding. Together, the advocates have served over 60 members of our campus community this year.

Bathroom Posters

One of the major projects from the It’s on CWRU campaign was placing resource posters in every bathroom on campus. These posters share support services both on CWRU’s campus and in the broader Cleveland community, and by placing them in bathroom stalls, those who are experiencing violence are more likely to be able to find information they need in private. During focus groups with the Greek Life community, many students shared with our violence prevention team how helpful the posters were and how glad they are that they are there.



Advocacy

“The center will advocate for gender equity on campus and in society and help facilitate solutions to achieve equity. The outcome will be more effective recruitment and retention of women students, faculty, and staff.” – 2003 Proposal

Women’s Coalition

The Women’s Coalition brings together student groups who focus on gender and feminism in a variety of ways on our campus. Among their many activities, in March they work together to put on events for Women’s History Month that engage our community around their many areas of passion. This year, they sponsored everything from an event educating on endometriosis to an “escape room” themed around the story of the women from *Hidden Figures*.



Gender Equity Report

The Mather Center writes the CWRU Gender Equity Report every other year, reviewing the state of gender representation across the CWRU campus. We present this report at the bi-annual Flora Awards (a rebrand of our Women of Achievement Awards) when we recognize the incredible individuals leading across our community. Staying aware of who is representing the university allows us to identify the places we have made progress, and make changes in areas where there is more work yet to be done.





Outreach

“The Center will reach out to the Cleveland community as well as to people on campus.” – 2003 Proposal

Period

Period@CWRU is a student organization that fights period poverty by providing menstrual supplies to those who may not have access to these vital health products themselves. They regularly hold “packing parties” where they put together bundles of supplies which support various organizations in the Cleveland area such as the Norma Herr Women’s Center and the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Detention Center. They also hold educational events on menstruation and beyond.



STEM Allyship

We are so pleased to have educated our second cohort of STEM allyship trainees this spring. This program prepares STEM faculty to better support their students and colleagues. These faculty are also prepared to spread what they’ve learned to other members of their field, to expand the reach and encourage better support in STEM fields.



Baldwin Wallace Pop-Up Women’s Center

Our interim executive director Erika Howard joined advocates from the staff and students at Baldwin Wallace University in opening a pop-up Women’s Center throughout the month of March. As they prepared to create this pop-up, Erika brought her many years of experiences with gender spaces to discuss such spaces at CWRU, Northeast Ohio, and beyond, as well as bring in ideas on how to rally additional supporters. Connecting with other women’s centers—not only at BW but also at Ursuline, Cleveland State, Kent State, and others throughout Ohio—allows us to learn about the incredible programming being done for college students and to share all the excellent work being conducted in our own space.



Your support drives our future

For more than 20 years, Case Western Reserve University's Flora Stone Mather Center for Women has worked to empower women and advance gender equity through research-informed action.

As we continue to expand our offerings to provide the entire Case Western Reserve community—and beyond—with programming and education, advocacy services, leadership development, and research, we need your support.



Make a gift online by scanning the QR code or visiting giving.case.edu/fsm.

Want to get involved?

Visit case.edu/centerforwomen to see our upcoming events and opportunities.



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Gifts to the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women are tax-deductible.