



**POWERHOUSE
MONTANA**
of the Women's Foundation of Montana

We've always known that Montana women were one of our greatest untapped resources. We're tapping in.

Leaves are Falling, PowerHouse!

A Snapshot from a Year Ago: The Athena Conference

Happy Fall, PowerHouse! Whether it's back to school, or back into your seasonal routine - I hope you're taking advantage of the quickly changing environment around us!

I was recently reflecting on the Athena Conference - which happened almost a year ago today in Bozeman. I had just found my feet after a summer of embracing the post-graduate vagabond lifestyle, when I began volunteering at the Women's Foundation of Montana. As luck would have it, I was offered the opportunity to volunteer at the Conference, and assist with our *Pipeline to Leadership* event at the Baxter Hotel.



There was something unspeakably empowering about being near the women in attendance - emitting their strength, elegance, and wisdom. I wrote a reflection piece on my initial takeaway from Athena - and boiled down, it was this: **It is up to you to know and define your value in life.** I've carried this with me for some time and have always come back to it as a motivational mantra. 'Knowing your worth' can be applied to virtually all areas in life, from asking for that raise you've been hoping for - all the way down to relationships, and how we hold ourselves in conversation.

On that note, I implore you to challenge yourself this season to discover your own value - as well as the value you hold within your community. An easy way to do this is by taking advantage of our PowerHouse Montana gatherings, which meet statewide on a monthly to quarterly basis, and provide a safe and engaging platform in which women can gather to share their life experiences and ideas.

We are also trying something new next month through our local PowerHouse groups - on October 29th, instead of our classic meeting format, we will be hosting a statewide Women's Innovation Call to engage a collective consciousness of thought on diverse innovation from women across Montana. This should be an exciting event we hope you can participate in - more information to follow!

Until next month,
Maggie

Connect, Inspire, Grow - with PowerHouse Montana Events Across the State!

More Meetings to Follow in October. Stay tuned!

**Monday, September 24 @
5:30pm**

[PowerHouse Great Falls](#)

Jakers
1500 10th Ave S,
Great Falls

[PowerHouse Wolf Point](#)

The Sherman Inn
200 E. Main St,
Wolf Point

**Monday, September 24 @
6:00pm**

[PowerHouse Billings](#)

4570 Iron Horse Trl,



PowerHouse Billings - July 31, 2018

Billings

September 26 @ 6:00pm

[PowerHouse Helena](#)

"Downstairs" at Brewhouse Pub and Grille
939 Getchell St,
Helena

September 27 @ 12:00 (MDT)

[PowerHouse Helena - PowerLunch](#)

Special Speaker: Shalon Hastings
Hub Coffee
314 N. Last Chance Gulch,
Helena

Other PowerHouse Leadership Events to Attend:

September 28, 2018 @ 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM (MDT)

[Brave Leadership: Women's Leadership Network Annual Conference](#)

Delta Hotel Helena Colonial (formerly the Radisson)

October 15 - 16, 2018

[Women Leading Montana 2018 Convening](#)

Great Falls Civic Center

Interested in hosting your own PowerHouse Gathering? Contact Maggie Sullivan at Maggie@mtcf.org

[More Details about our Monthly PowerHouse: Montana Gatherings, here!](#)

Pipeline to Leadership Featured Opportunities and Events

Let us know if you apply for any of these positions - we'd love to highlight your success, and connect others with potential opportunities!

Board of Clinical Laboratory Science Practitioners

Description: Board is charged with licensing and regulating persons and businesses engaged in clinical laboratory science professions and occupations.

Position: Licensed Clinical Lab Science Practitioner

Commitment: 2.5 years left of a 4-year term. Meets about every other month or as needed, often by conference call.

Compensation: All travel reimbursed, \$50/day worked.

Take Away: Member will serve their profession by being part of the Board that makes determinations of licensure, rule making, discipline and engages with the Legislature.

[Website](#)

Family Education Savings Oversight Committee

Description: Oversight Committee of the state-sponsored 529 Savings Plan.

Position: Person with skill, knowledge and experience in accounting, risk management or investment management or as an actuary.

Commitment: 2.5 years left of a 4-year term. Meets twice a year.

Compensation: All travel reimbursed, \$50/day worked.

Take Away: Learn the ins and outs of financial management for a savings program, network with institutions of higher education.

[Website](#)

Flathead Basin Commission

Description: Commission protects water quality, natural resources and economic integrity in the Flathead Basin. Commission includes additional appointees from different entities.

Position: Person from the Flathead Basin area, involved in industrial, environmental or other similar interests.

Commitment: Less than one year left of a four-year term. Meets once or twice a year as needed.

Compensation: Travel reimbursed

Take Away: Get involved in the myriad of issues addressing the protection and conservation of the Flathead Basin. Network with entities across a variety of state, local and federal agencies and Canadian providences.

[Website](#)

Get Outdoors Montana (GO-MT) Advisory Council

Description: Guide the efforts of the Governor's Office of Outdoor Recreation as it enhances the state's outdoor recreation economy.

Positions: Outdoor Recreation Industry, Recreation User and Interest Groups, Conservation and Stewardship Organizations and Local, State, Tribal and Federally employed land stewards

Commitment: Two year term, meets quarterly, largely by phone.

Compensation: None available

Take Away: Work with a variety of stakeholders and help guide the establishment and advancement of the Governor's Office of Outdoor Recreation as it promotes Montana's outdoor economy.

[Website](#)

Women on the Web

PowerHouse Articles and Resources:

Annual ATHENA Award recipients selected for Gallatin County:

Chantel Schieffer, president and CEO of Leadership Montana, will receive the ATHENA Women's Leadership Award for Gallatin Valley. This award follows rigorous guidelines to honor women who meet three criteria: professional leadership, community leadership and personal leadership/mentorship. Elixiter, a Bozeman-based marketing firm, will be presented the ATHENA Organizational Leadership Award. This award recognizes organizations that create a culture of encouraging women employees to achieve their full leadership potential. [More on Elixiter, here.](#)

Bozeman Teachers Reminded Education Changes Lives:

Classes begin Monday for more than 6,800 students in the Bozeman School District, and their teachers are starting the new year filled with inspirational stories about the power of education to transform lives. Hundreds of Bozeman teachers and school staff members gathered Friday in Willson Auditorium for a welcome-back assembly, where they heard from Renee Reijo Pera. Reijo Pera, a nationally recognized scientist and Montana State University's vice president for research and economic development, talked about her unlikely journey. [More about Reijo Pera's journey, here.](#)

Missoula Group Offers \$10,000 Grant For Women, Children's Nonprofits:

A Missoula women's group formed in June is offering a \$10,000 grant to Missoula non-profits that focus on improving the lives of women and children. The grant is funded by almost 70 women who are members of the Women's Giving Circle. It's a partnership of the Missoula Community Foundation and Women's Foundation of Montana focused on bringing women together to make charitable donations to local organizations. [Discover the Women's Giving Circle, here.](#)

Hundreds of 'Fly Gals' join Women's Fishing Group in Montana:

When they put the word out on social media, the founding members of Last Chance Fly Gals didn't know what to expect ahead of their first meeting in January. "We were hoping for 70, but there were 140 women that showed up, and it's only grown from there," said Shalon Hastings. "We've gotten tremendous support." From that winter meeting [Last Chance Fly Gals](#) has become a place to network on fishing trips, talk gear and organize seminars on angling skills. The 140 women have grown to more than 270 members on Facebook. [Learn more about 'Fly Gals', here.](#)

Massachusetts Just Passed the Most Generous Paid Family Leave Law in the Country:

Expectant moms in Massachusetts just notched a major win, after Gov. Charlie Baker signed a law giving the state the most generous paid family leave plan in the country. In many aspects, Massachusetts' new program, which goes into effect in 2021, is even better for moms than the one [recently signed into law in Washington state](#), which launches in 2020. That law had snagged the title of most generous because it allows moms who suffer pregnancy-related medical complications to take up to 18 weeks of paid leave. Now, in Massachusetts, that same mother will be entitled to a whopping 26 weeks of paid leave. [Read more about the law, here.](#)

Women's Foundation of Montana Celebrates \$40,000+ in New Grants:

"We are thrilled to invest in smart leaders, working for the benefit of women and girls in Montana," said Jen Euell, Women's Foundation of Montana Program Director. "We believe these grants not only advance economic independence for women and girls, but also invest in the future of Montana communities." [Check-out our 2018 grantees, here.](#)

Change is Here this September!



Seasonal change is upon us, PowerHouses! That means it's time to announce September's featured profile - Wolf Point PowerHouse, [Shandy Hanks!](#)

Shandy, in addition to being the main PowerHouse organizer for the local Wolf Point community - she currently works as the SBDC (small business development center) Regional Director for the Great Northern Development Corporation, which assists entrepreneurs from (7) northeastern Montana counties.

Who is Shandy's Female Role-Model?:

"My mom for so many reasons. She managed UPS for many years which is not a 9-5 job - more like a 9-9 while juggling 3 kids and helping my dad farm. She is the type of person who can do anything she sets her mind to."

Connect and share your experiences with Shandy via PowerHouse Montana today!

Know someone who would be a great Featured Profile for 2018? Email your suggestions to Maggie at Maggie@mtcf.org

Become a PowerHouse: Montana Blog or Instagram Contributor!

Do you enjoy writing, blogging, and/or sharing your thoughts and experiences via social media? Are you looking to engage your community through education, mentorship and leadership - but not sure how? Do you want to create a brighter future for Montana's women and girls?

Well, we have some good news - our PowerHouse Sign-Ups are specifically designed with you in mind! Paired with monthly discussion topics predetermined by our newest survey data - becoming a guest contributor is an easy, and effective way to get yourself out there.

Want to be involved? Become a part of the PowerHouse Montana movement today by signing-up below!

Sign-Ups Below:

[Blog Contributor Sign-Up](#) | [Instagram Takeover Sign-Up](#)



Questions?

If you have any questions about [PowerHouse Montana](#), the [Women's Foundation of Montana](#), or would like to make an edit to your profile, please email Maggie Sullivan at Maggie@mtcf.org or call (406) 541-7409.

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About [PowerHouse Montana](#)

PowerHouse Montana is an initiative of the **Women's Foundation of Montana** with two goals in mind: (1) connecting Montana women with the resources, mentors, and opportunities they need to create thriving businesses and thriving lives, (2) increasing the number of Montana women in leadership by providing a go-to source for organizations and companies looking for their next CEO or board chair.

The Women's Foundation of Montana advances economic independence for Montana women and creates a brighter future for our girls. Learn more at www.wfmontana.org.



STAY CONNECTED:

