



RISE

Threads

Dream Believe Succeed

The Women's Fund | Spring 2019

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Damascus Road

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Since opening its doors in August 2018, TRIO Academy has filled a void in the Oshkosh community for families and individuals on the autism spectrum. The brainchild of cofounders Angela Wade and Lesley Laluzerne, TRIO is the only local company that provides Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) to children, teen services, adult programs and community support all under the same roof. It was created with a passion and a purpose to educate and nurture the individual and community throughout the lifespan.



A grant from the Women's Fund in 2018 provided the funds needed to ensure success during the first few months of business. The funding was used to purchase sensory items, a trampoline, safety equipment and to help bridge the gap between the time therapy services were provided and being reimbursed by insurance companies. TRIO Academy was able to continue servicing existing clients, enrolling new clients and expanding its autism programs thanks to the grant from the Women's Fund.

"Our goal with the women owned business grant was to empower women who are making a difference in the community. We wanted to be able to give them the necessary funds they needed to start a business and be successful. TRIO Academy was the obvious choice - not only are they providing a much needed service, they are also providing jobs and contributing to the economic impact in our community. It is proven that when you invest in women, you are investing in the whole community and amazing things happen," says Karlene Grabner, Executive Director of the Women's Fund.



"Women invest 90 percent of their earnings back into their families and communities - which means that women shape our collective economy" - The Economist

This unique grant was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the Women's Fund, Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation, the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, and the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce.

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TRIO ACADEMY STORY CONTINUED

TRIO Academy has continued to improve and expand their services by providing diagnostic services to offer thorough evaluations for the diagnoses of autism and other disorders. This service is invaluable as parents would typically have to wait six to eighteen months for an appointment with another provider.

In order to deliver one-on-one therapy to clients, TRIO must maintain a large number of staff. The majority of staff are young adults in college going to school for psychology, sociology, education and special education. This opportunity offers students real life, hands-on job training to gain valuable experiences before entering the career world.

TRIO's work is crucial, as the need for their services will only increase. Currently, the autism rate in the US is around 1 in 50. If this rate continues, 1 in 3 children will be on the autism spectrum.

The Women's Fund is proud to support the amazing work of TRIO Academy and look forward to watching them continue to thrive.

Learn more about TRIO Academy at www.trioacademywi.com

EDUCATE
NURTURE
INDIVIDUAL
COMMUNITY



Celebrate Mom and Women in your Life!

Share your Mom's wisdom and wit by posting on our Facebook page (Facebook.com/WomensFundOshkosh). Or email your favorite "Momism" to Katie@OshkoshAreaCF.org and we will post it for you!

As we approach Mother's Day, we invite you to honor a special woman in your life with a tax-deductible gift to the Women's Fund. We'll be sure to let them know that the gift made in their name will improve another woman's life in our community. Visit Women.OshkoshAreaCF.org today to make your gift!

"Do what I say, not what I do!"

