RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION TOWARD CLOSING THE OPPORTUNITY GAP
For Women & Girls in Fairfield County

**INFLUENCE POLICIES AFFECTING TARGET POPULATIONS:**
- Host forums to educate local and state policymakers on issues impacting women and girls
- Understand women’s responsibilities, stressors, and barriers across their lifecycle as a context for developing informed policies and supports

**BUILD ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY & EFFECTIVENESS:**
- Create a network of women-serving organizations to share best practices
  - Facilitate collaborative initiatives
  - Create a continuum of support that fosters girls’ interest in non-traditional career paths from elementary school to career
- Collect and analyze data that is disaggregated by sex, gender, race, and ethnicity in all measurement and evaluation efforts
- Fund more nonprofit capacity building grants
  - Build financial resiliency of organizations
  - Provide trauma-informed training for nonprofit frontline staff, healthcare providers, and educators
  - Focus on self-care for nonprofit staff
- Invest in hiring multilingual staff and cultural competency training to meet the needs of our ever-growing diverse population
- Create more spaces that are emotionally and physically safe in places where women and girls can meet
- Invest in multi-generational strategies to better serve families and communities comprised of non-traditional households

**AGGREGATE & AMPLIFY COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE & VOICE:**
- Leverage the relationship and trust that our region’s faith-based institutions have with our immigrant communities to provide culturally competent services and support
- Ensure that the female beneficiaries served have a voice in services, program design, and solutions
- Invite men and boys to be allies, moving them from bystanders to "upstanders"
- Tell positive "her-stories" about women of all ages and life circumstances through a dedicated section of print or online news posts
- Invest in civic engagement and advocacy trainings that prepare high school age girls and young women to self-advocate and run for elected office
- Engage women from across socioeconomic backgrounds in supporting success of women and girls across the county

Download the full reports at: FCCFoundation.org/FWG2019