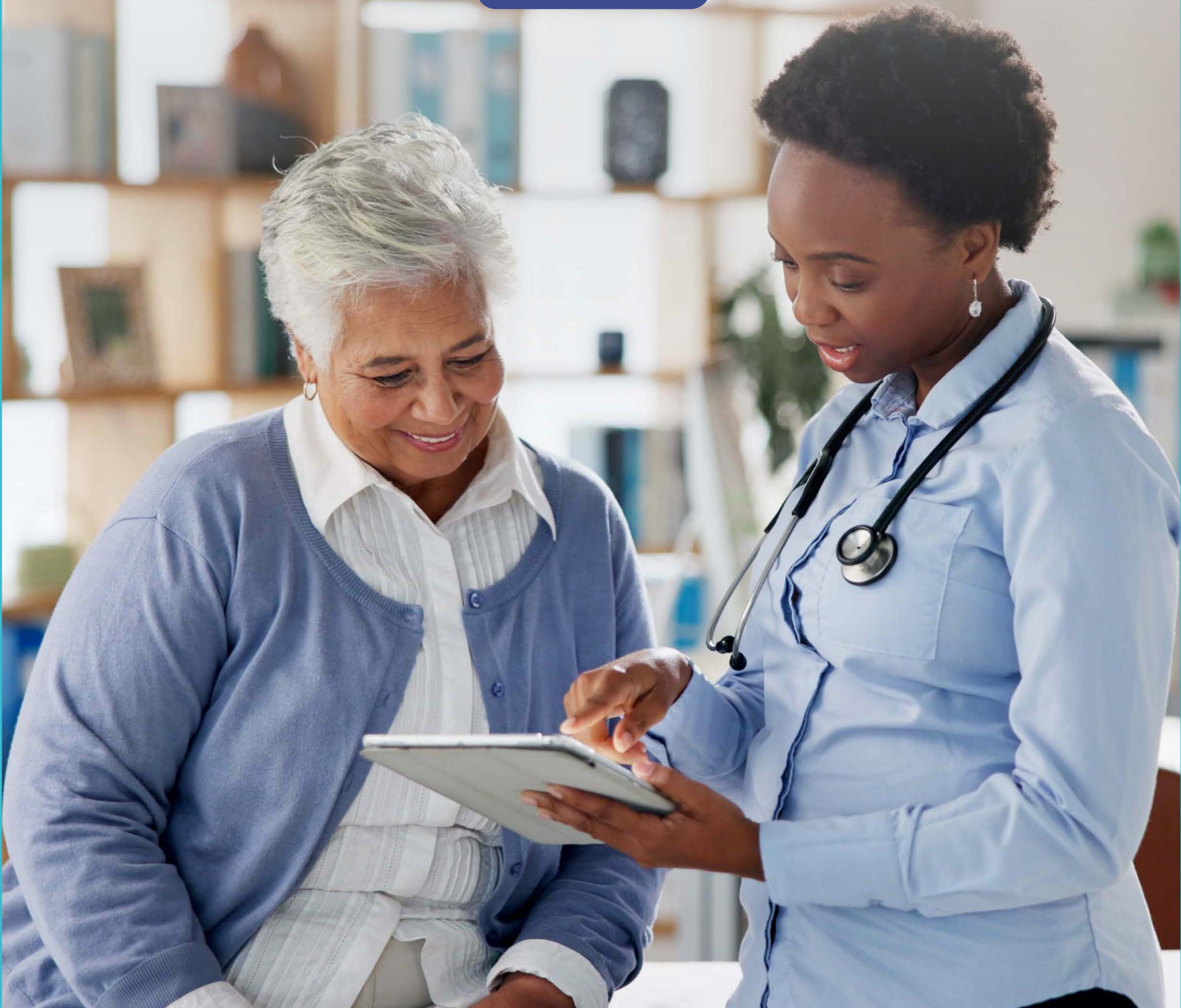


2025



# Annual Report



Society for  
Women's Health  
Research



## Letter From the President and CEO

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As I reflect on the past year, one word comes immediately to mind: *uncertainty*. From the opening weeks of the year, we found ourselves navigating a shifting federal landscape, with sweeping changes to our nation's federal research and public health agencies. The challenges were compounded by a prolonged government shutdown this fall that disrupted research, slowed decision-making, and created additional ambiguity around future funding for our federal research enterprise.

Yet, even amid this uncertainty, the Society for Women's Health Research did not sit idly by.

Instead, we adapted. We listened closely, stayed informed, and remained steady in our commitment to evidence-based research and effective advocacy. When decisions weren't transparent and rumors ran rampant, we did our due diligence to determine the validity of reports and respond accordingly. While the external environment was unpredictable, our purpose was not. Together, we found ways to advance our priorities, support our stakeholders, and position ourselves to respond quickly and thoughtfully as situations evolved.

We engaged when we saw changes that could directly affect our mission and the women and families we serve. In addition to meeting with lawmakers, we banded together the women's health community to collectively speak out on the importance of women's health research. We partnered with different coalitions; led sign-on letters, including a [letter with more than 100 signatories to the House and Senate Appropriations Committee](#) expressing concerns about threats to the biomedical research infrastructure and longitudinal women's

health research studies like The Study of Women's Health Across the Nation (SWAN); and [sent a letter to Senate Appropriations Committee leadership](#) in advance of the hearing "Biomedical Research: Keeping America's Edge in Innovation."

I am especially proud of the successes we achieved during this demanding year. Perhaps most importantly, we laid a strong foundation for effective advocacy moving into 2026. This groundwork will enable us to engage with confidence, clarity, and credibility in the year ahead.

None of this would have been possible without the extraordinary dedication of our staff. Their professionalism, adaptability, and perseverance carried the organization through moments of disruption and uncertainty. I am deeply grateful for their commitment and for the care they bring to this work every day.

I also extend my sincere thanks to our Board of Directors for their steady guidance and strategic insight throughout the year. Their leadership helped ensure that we remained focused on our long-term goals while navigating immediate challenges.

And to our partners, thank you for lending your powerful voices, for collaborating generously, and for standing alongside us when collective action mattered most.

As we look toward 2026, we do so with positivity and resolve. The past year was trying, but it also reaffirmed the strength of our community and the importance of our mission. Because of the challenges we navigated this year—together—we are well positioned to continue advancing research and advocating for policies that support our mission to improve women's health.

Thank you for being part of this journey. I look forward to what we will accomplish together next year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathryn G. Schubert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Kathryn G. Schubert, MPP, CAE**

President and CEO

Society for Women's Health Research



## Letter From the Chair of the Board of Directors

As we close out this year—the first in my role as Board Chair of the Society for Women’s Health Research—I feel both honored and energized to serve the organization at such a pivotal moment.

The past year presented a complex and uncertain environment, but it was during this period of uncertainty that I gained an even deeper appreciation for the Society’s steady leadership, disciplined approach, and unwavering commitment to its mission. While I had observed each of these principles previously during my time on the Board, beginning my tenure as Board Chair amidst these challenges has reinforced my confidence in the strength and resilience of this organization.

Beyond the Society’s advocacy work, which maintained a focused, thoughtful approach throughout the year, SWHR also introduced several important new resources that aligned with our mission to improve women’s health through science, policy, and education. Among the resources that were released this year were the patient empowerment guide “[Journey to Motherhood](#),” a set of [fact sheets](#) on women’s health and obesity; a [roadmap](#) to help guide employers on creating menopause-friendly workplaces; a [Call to Action](#) to align research, policy, and practice to transform care around polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS); and more. The Society also made its first foray into the Medicare space, releasing—in partnership with [HealthyWomen](#)—“[Savvy and 65: A Woman’s Guide to Understanding Medicare](#),” which aims to equip women with the knowledge they need to understand and navigate Medicare and the services it offers to support women’s health.

SWHR was also highly visible this year. This September, SWHR and the [Global Health Connector](#) convened a women’s health program, “[Transforming Women’s Health Through Science and Sustainable Partnerships](#),” during the Science Summit at the United Nations 80th General Assembly. Also in September, SWHR and Perelel Health brought together actresses and women’s health advocates Mandy Moore and Lupita Nyong’o, members of Congress, and women’s health advocates for a [Women’s Health Research Congressional Roundtable and Advocacy Day](#) to elevate the need for funding women’s health research.

And this is just a snapshot of SWHR’s work. Taken together, the Society’s efforts over the past year reflect a forward-looking mindset and a clear understanding of what is required to remain impactful in a complex and ever-evolving policy environment.

Moving into the new year, SWHR is well-positioned to not only sustain its core work, but to expand its reach and relevance in the coming year. The Board and SWHR leadership are actively exploring opportunities to grow our portfolio and ensure the long-term resilience of the organization.

On behalf of the Board, I extend my sincere thanks to the staff for their dedication and clarity of purpose throughout the year. I am also grateful to my fellow Board members for their engagement and stewardship, and to our collaborators and partners for their support.

I am more optimistic than ever about what we can accomplish in 2026. With a strong foundation and a clear focus on the horizon, SWHR is poised to continue making meaningful contributions to research, policy, and public understanding of women’s health.

Sincerely,

**Erika Miller, JD**

Chair, SWHR Board of Directors  
Managing Partner, CRD Associates

# SWHR Celebrates 35 Years

In 2025, the Society for Women's Health Research (SWHR) celebrated its 35th anniversary, reflecting on 35 years of transforming women's health research, from advocacy to action. The year-long celebration allowed the SWHR team to gather women's health champions, reflect on the progress made in women's health, and thank the Society's many partners and champions over the years.

In 1990, SWHR was founded by a group of physicians, medical researchers, and health advocates who sought to change the culture of medical research and advocate for the inclusion of women in clinical research at a time when they were being actively and intentionally excluded. Since that time, the Society has played a critical role in identifying clinical and research gaps; raising awareness of diseases, conditions, and life stages that differently, disproportionately, or exclusively affect women; and promoting policies that could positively shape health outcomes for women. Explore more of SWHR's history here: <https://swhr.org/about/1990-1999-timeline/>.

While the Society's logos and the specific topic areas of SWHR's work may have shifted across the years, its vision is steadfast: **Make women's health mainstream.**



As part of its 35th anniversary, SWHR created a video series featuring interviews with key partners, including Janine Austin Clayton, MD, FARVO, National Institutes of Health (NIH) Associate Director for Research on Women's Health, Director of the Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH); Laura Cohen, JD, Vice President of Alzheimer's Corporate Affairs at Lilly Neuroscience; Celina Gorre, MPH, MPA, CEO of WomenHeart; Gretta Stone, Chair of SWHR's Board of Directors, 2023-2025; Kathryn G. Schubert, MPP, CAE, President and CEO of SWHR; and Florence Haseltine, PhD, MD, Founder of SWHR. Explore the series here: <https://www.youtube.com/>

## SWHR Logos Through the Years



1990

This early logo was used alongside the Society's original name, the Society for the Advancement of Women's Health Research



SOCIETY FOR  
WOMEN'S HEALTH RESEARCH

1998

Using the original logo, the Society changed its name from the Society for the Advancement of Women's Health Research to the Society for Women's Health Research.



2015

Inspired by its original logo, SWHR used a woman looking forward with DNA strands as hair as its logo for many years in the mid 2010s.



2017

SWHR's current logo, created in 2017, is still in use today.



Society for  
Women's Health  
Research

2020

This logo was created for SWHR's 30th Anniversary.



Society for  
Women's Health  
Research

2025

SWHR created a new logo for its 35th anniversary.

# 2025 Annual Awards Gala Spotlight

SWHR hosted its sold out 35th Annual Awards Gala on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, in Washington, D.C. As part of the 2025 event, SWHR honored leaders who are advancing women's health and celebrated the Society's anniversary, along with its contributions over the last 35 years.



**Anita Ravi, MD, MPH, MSHP, FAAFP** (fourth from right), CEO and Co-Founder of PurpLE Health Foundation, served as the evening's keynote speaker.

The 2025 SWHR honorees were **Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)**, **Representative Lauren Underwood (D-IL)**, **Kim Love**, and **Teresa Woodruff, PhD**.

- **Sen. Shelley Moore Capito**

(bottom photo, second from left)

Sen. Capito received a **Women's Health Visionary Award** for her leadership on menopause and healthy aging for women.



- **Rep. Lauren Underwood**

(above photo, fifth from right)

Rep. Underwood received a **Women's Health Visionary Award** for her significant contributions in maternal health, including her work on the Black Maternal Health Caucus and her efforts on the Black Maternal Health Momnibus.

- **Kim Love**

(above photo, second from left)

Love received a **Women's Health Visionary Award** for her commitment to improving women's health in her role as an industry leader at Amgen.

- **Dr. Teresa Woodruff**

(above photo, fifth from left)

Dr. Woodruff received a **Women's Health Visionary Award** for her contributions to women's health research in endocrinology, ovarian biology, and reproductive science, including her leadership surrounding the sex as a biological variable policy within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and integration of women's health research across the NIH.

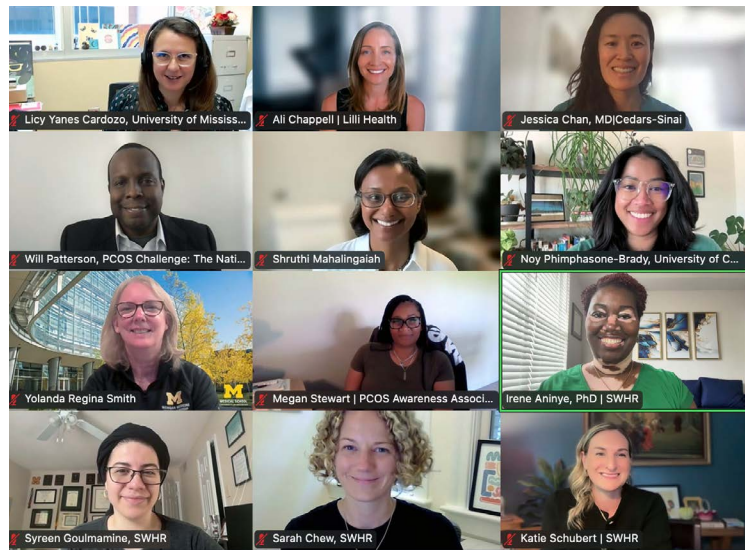
# Science and Policy Programming Activities

Rooted in science and focused on improving women's health, SWHR's programs aim to increase awareness of how sex, gender, and hormones affect health and champion policies that promote health for all women. Through building and working with interdisciplinary networks, SWHR gathers insight on key women's health topics, helping to identify research gaps, policy priorities, and unmet needs in women's health. SWHR's activities and deliverables build on these insights to address women's health needs across science, policy, and education.

## Discovering Gaps and Opportunities in Women's Health through Interdisciplinary Convenings

In 2025, SWHR hosted four interdisciplinary roundtables, which comprised of research, health care, public health, patient advocacy, and policy stakeholders discussing various topics in women's health. As part of these conversations, these subject-matter experts shared their insights on strategies to address key gaps and unmet needs in women's health. Roundtables held in 2025 included:

- Exploring PCOS: Advancing Solutions through Interdisciplinary Research, Clinical, and Patient Perspectives
- Inclusive Motherhood: Empowering Maternal Health for All Women
- Navigating the Biological and Health Care Complexities of Obesity in Women
- The Impact of Menopause on Women's Health: A Work-Life-Health Initiative



## Developing Evidence-Based Resources for Women, Their Families, and Their Communities

Over the last 35 years, SWHR has produced educational materials for patients, providers, caregivers, and policymakers to address the women's health care and research gap. Informed by scientific literature and knowledge from diverse stakeholders, SWHR produces resources on the implications of sex and gender differences in health and how best to address persistent gaps in women's health. In 2025, SWHR continued this work and published an array of resources for women, health care providers, and policymakers. All SWHR resources are publicly available and free to download on our website.

### 2025 SWHR Resources by the Numbers

5 Interdisciplinary Convenings

7 Webinars

2 Congressional Briefings

2 Journal Publications

5 Toolkits

6 Fact Sheets

78 Blog Posts

60+ Hours of Expert Meetings

3 Calls to Action

28+ Conference Presentations

3 SWHR "All About" Emails

## Fact Sheets

To communicate its science and policy programming insights, SWHR creates fact sheets on a wide range of critical women's health topics. In 2025, SWHR produced the following fact sheets, providing essential information on obesity, midlife health, menopause, sex differences research, preeclampsia, and Medicare for patients, clinicians, researchers, and policymakers:

- [Did You Know: Understanding Women's Health and Obesity](#)
- [Empowering the Health of Women in Midlife](#)
- [Roadmap to Menopause-Friendly Workplaces](#)
- [Understanding Sex Differences in Medical Research](#)
- [Value of Diagnostics within Women's Health: Preeclampsia](#)
- [Welcome to Medicare Bone Health Letter](#)

## Calls to Action

Through its Calls to Action, SWHR identifies women's health priority areas and provides recommendations to address gaps in women's health research, treatment, care, and funding. In 2025, SWHR identified needs in women's cognitive health and Alzheimer's disease diagnosis, treatment, and care for women and their caregivers through a call to action titled, [Transforming Alzheimer's Disease Diagnosis and Care Through Policy](#). Following a convening on polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS), SWHR created a call to action, [Aligning Research, Policy, and Practice to Transform PCOS Care](#), to address persistent gaps in PCOS research, education, and advocacy. Based on data from its Women's Health Dashboard, a platform that highlighted the latest public health data on diseases and health conditions that have significant impact on women's health across the lifespan, SWHR produced a call to action related to sex differences in chronic depressive disorders; the call to action, [Illuminating the Disease Burden of Chronic Forms of Depression in Women](#), aims to highlight and address gaps related to persistent depressive disorder in women.

## Toolkits

Utilizing the expertise and guidance of SWHR's Working Groups, SWHR creates evidence-based guides and toolkits to provide helpful information to women and their communities. In 2025, SWHR produced five toolkits, including three patient empowerment guides, one social media toolkit, and one advocacy guide. Covering a diverse range of women's health topics, these toolkits support women in making informed health care decisions, empower women to be advocates for their health, and encourage women and their support communities to share health information.

- [From Awareness to Action: A Guide to Women's Health Advocacy](#)
- [Journey to Motherhood: A Patient Empowerment Guide](#)
- [Journey to Motherhood: A Social Media Toolkit](#)
- [Navigating Menopause Care Resource Guide](#)
- [Savvy and 65: A Woman's Guide to Understanding Medicare](#)

## Collaborating to Understand Women's Health and Medicare

In 2025, SWHR partnered with HealthyWomen to develop a Medicare resource to equip women with the knowledge they need to understand and navigate Medicare enrollment. The resource, [Savvy and 65: A Woman's Guide to Understanding Medicare](#), features chapters on Medicare 101, bone health, and heart health, with more chapters scheduled for release in 2026. The content of the guide was informed by experts from the healthy aging, bone, and heart health spaces, and was tested with focus groups to get input from potential future users of the guide.



## SWHR Women's Health Research Agenda

In honor of SWHR's 35th anniversary, SWHR released its first Women's Health Research Agenda. Published in the *Journal of Women's Health*, the [2025 SWHR Women's Health Research Agenda: Prioritizing Uterine Fibroids, Lupus, and Metabolism](#) highlights persistent areas of need in women's health and serves as a roadmap for stakeholders looking to initiate engagement or increase current efforts in women's health research.



## Scientific and Public Engagement

SWHR values opportunities to engage with communities and promote women's health through virtual and in-person platforms. In 2025, SWHR hosted symposia and presented at regional and national meetings to disseminate work from the Society's current and past programs and engage in conversations about women's health. Conference presentations included:

- [Emerging Topics in Women's Health: Minding the Depression Gap](#), Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Health of Women Conference
- [Science that Speaks: Advancing Research Priorities in Women's Obesity Care](#), Organization for the Study of Sex Differences (OSSD) Pre-conference Meeting
- [Harmonizing Menopause: Redefining the Work-Life-Health Culture for Women](#), American Society on Aging Annual Meeting

SWHR also participated in several events addressing broader topics in women's health – including caregiving, patient advocacy, data and artificial intelligence, and menopause in the workplace.

Additionally, SWHR exhibited at several national conferences, including the Endocrine Society's Annual Meeting (ENDO 2025), the National Association of Nurse Practitioner's in Women's Health (NPWH) Annual Women's Healthcare Conference, and the Organization for the Study of Sex Differences (OSSD) Annual Meeting. At these events, SWHR highlighted resources and materials from various programs, including its bone health, heart health, menopause, maternal health, obesity, and uterine health programs.

### Honoring Emerging Scholars in Women's Health Research

In June 2025, SWHR presented the Emerging Scholars in Women's Health Research Awards at the Organization for the Study of Sex Differences (OSSD) Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, NM. This award recognizes graduate students and postdoctoral trainees whose submitted abstracts demonstrate research excellence in addressing knowledge gaps in health and disease areas that disproportionately, differently, or exclusively affect women. The 2025 award topic was Brain Health and Women, and the three awardees presented their work during the SWHR Emerging Scholars in Women's Health Research Award Symposium:

- **Elizabeth Andrews** (University of California, Irvine School of Medicine): Estrogen Receptor  $\alpha$  Expression is Associated with Alzheimer's Disease Pathology in People with Down Syndrome (second from right)
- **Kathryn Bates** (Dartmouth College): Traumatic Brain Injury in Women: Avenues for Novel Treatment (second from left)
- **Nora Wolcott** (University of California, Santa Barbara): Chronic Recording of Hippocampus across Pregnancy and Postpartum Reveals Long-term Structural Changes (third from left)



### SWHR and Women's Health on the Global Stage

Committed to facilitating connections amongst women's health stakeholders nationally and internationally, SWHR and the Global Health Connector (GHC) convened a women's health event as part of the 2025 Science Summit during the United Nations 80th General Assembly. The full-day event, Transforming Women's Health through Science and Sustainable Partnerships, included presentations, panels, and fireside chats on global women's health. Outputs from the program can be found in a blog published on *Springer Nature*, UNGA80, SDGS, and the Future of Women's Health Research; an event photo gallery; and a summary blog on the SWHR website. This year, SWHR also published a meeting report from the Science Summit at the United Nations 79th General Assembly in the *Journal of Women's Health* entitled, Women's Unique Health Needs and the Sustainable Development Goals: A Meeting Report from the 79th United Nations General Assembly Science Summit.

# SWHR 2025 Programs

SWHR's programs bring together expert researchers, health care providers, patients and patient advocates, policy professionals, and other health care leaders to identify knowledge gaps and address unmet needs in diseases and conditions that disproportionately, differently, or exclusively affect women. SWHR's 2025 programs focused on the following topics:



## Alzheimer's Disease

This program explores barriers to access, disparities, and policy challenges in Alzheimer's disease screening and diagnosis in women to identify solutions that enhance the quality of life of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.



## Bone Health

This program builds on SWHR's previous work in bone health policy, awareness, and education, with a special emphasis on bone health across the lifespan for women.



## Heart Health

This program explores public health and policy strategies to eliminate barriers to access and coverage for the health care of women with or at risk for heart disease, with a focus on understanding the impact of high cholesterol and lipids on heart health.



## Maternal Health

This program elevates discussion about maternal health disparities, focusing on empowering pregnant women with the knowledge, tools, and strategies to engage in care that honors their unique needs and values.



## Medicare

This program aims to provide pertinent information for women as they prepare for and transition into Medicare beneficiaries and/or for those who serve as caregivers for someone who is making the transition to Medicare.

NEW in  
2025



## Menopause

This program addresses gaps in education surrounding menopause treatment options, accommodations in the workplace, and legislation at the federal and state level, with the aim of addressing the short- and long-term impacts of menopause.



## Midlife Health

This program expands upon SWHR's Healthy Aging programs, with a focus on supporting awareness, education, and advocacy surrounding the specific needs of women during midlife to reduce health disparities and enhance overall well-being.



## Obesity

This program explores the impact of obesity on women's health with a focus on health care disparities, cultural influences and stigma, comorbidities, and barriers to prevention and treatment interventions for women across the lifespan.



## Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS)

This program builds on previous work around women living with PCOS, focusing on strategies to address knowledge gaps and unmet needs in the research, diagnosis, and treatment of PCOS.



## Women's Health Diagnostics

This program highlights the importance and value of innovative diagnostics to improve health outcomes for women across disease states and conditions, with a special focus on maternal health.

## Government Affairs and Advocacy

SWHR is committed to leading the way in advancing policies that support women's health across the lifespan. By working throughout the year to translate evidence into action, the Society connects research, policy, and real-world practice to close gaps and unmet needs in women's health, spanning research needs to clinical care and education and awareness. The organization continues to prioritize its reputation as an independent, trusted voice in women's health.

### Collective Action for Lasting Impact

Throughout its work—whether it be on a program or efforts to enact policy change—SWHR recognizes and relies on the power of partnership. In 2025, the Society leaned on its colleagues more than ever before to champion women's health research with members of Congress and with the administration. And its work paid off, resulting in some notable victories and recognition over the course of the year.

- **Women's Health Initiative Decision Reversal**

When the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced in April that it was terminating funding for the landmark Women's Health Initiative (WHI) study, SWHR responded immediately by [issuing a statement](#) and alerting members of the women's health community. Within days, the administration reversed its decision, demonstrating the power of media attention and coordinated advocacy.

- **FDA Decision on Hormone Replacement Therapy**

In November, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced a historic decision to remove the black box warnings from hormone therapy products for menopause, a move that members of the menopause and women's health advocacy communities have sought for decades. Prior to the decision, SWHR [submitted comments](#) to FDA that advocated for women's access to safe and effective treatments for menopause symptoms and shared concerns that the outdated warnings create barriers to care.

- **Cultivation of Bipartisan Women's Health Champions**

On September 16, SWHR joined Perelel Health to host a [women's health research congressional roundtable](#), where industry partners, research advocates, and award-winning actresses Mandy Moore and Lupita Nyong'o highlighted the importance of increasing federal funding in women's health research. Notably, the event brought together both Democrats and Republicans from the House and Senate, who shared their personal experiences and reflections related to women's health and laid important groundwork for future advocacy.



### Elevating Women's Health During the Federal Appropriations Process

Among SWHR's priorities each year is ensuring robust funding for federal entities that fund women's health research, including the NIH Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH) and the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD). In addition to making the case for these entities with lawmakers during Hill visits, SWHR also engages in the federal appropriations process to support these agencies. SWHR's appropriations activities in 2025 included leading a [sign-on letter](#) to the Senate Appropriations Committee in advance of its hearing "Biomedical Research: Keeping America's Edge in Innovation;" submitting [fiscal year 2026 outside witness testimony](#) to the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) Appropriations Subcommittee; and sending a [letter](#) to congressional appropriations leaders in the fall urging them to finalize fiscal year 2026 spending legislation and prioritize funding for women's health research.

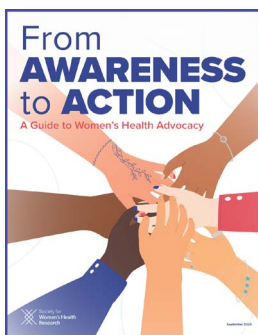
## Ensuring Women’s Representation in Federal Rules and Regulations

SWHR monitors federal agencies’ Requests for Information (RFI) as well as other public comment opportunities to ensure that women’s unique health needs and considerations are accounted for as agencies release new policies. In 2025, SWHR provided comments on the following:

- [FDA Expert Panel on Menopause and Hormone Replacement Therapy for Women](#)
- [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services \(CMS\) Request for Information on Prevention and Management of Chronic Disease](#)
- [NIH Request for Information on the NIH Artificial Intelligence Strategy](#)
- [Office of Personnel Management \(OPM\) Proposed Rule on Improving Performance, Accountability, and Responsiveness in the Civil Service](#)
- [FDA Draft Guidance, “Study of Sex Differences in the Clinical Evaluation of Medical Products”](#)
- [CMS Request for Input: Contract Year 2026 Policy and Technical Changes to the Medicare Advantage Program, Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program, Medicare Cost Plan Program, and Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly](#)

## SWHR Releases Women’s Health Advocacy Toolkit

New in 2025, SWHR released the toolkit “[From Awareness to Action: A Guide to Women’s Health Advocacy](#)” to empower advocates with the tools, strategies, and information needed to effectively champion women’s health. While the primary focus of the guide is on advocacy at the federal level, much of the guidance included is equally relevant and applicable to efforts at the local and state level, so that people—no matter how they are choosing to engage in advocacy—can find insights and advice to support their efforts.



## Championing Heart Health on Capitol Hill

On, February 26, SWHR, alongside key partners from the American Heart Association, the Association of Black Cardiologists, Inc., and WomenHeart, took to Capitol Hill to advocate for women’s heart health. Happening during appropriations season, the Hill Day sought to encourage lawmakers to provide sufficient investments for women’s heart health research in fiscal year 2025 and 2026 spending legislation. Additionally, SWHR was proud to present Senator Gary Peters (D-MI) with his 2024 Heart Health Champion Award in recognition of his efforts to designate September 2024 as National Cholesterol Education Month.





### Coalition Spotlight: Coalition to Advance Maternal Therapeutics

SWHR has served as the administrative home of the Coalition to Advance Maternal Therapeutics (CAMT) since 2022. The CAMT engages in advocacy to increase the inclusion of pregnant and lactating populations in research to better understand the safety and efficacy of prescription drugs, therapeutics, and vaccines used during pregnancy and breastfeeding. Among its activities in 2025, the Coalition:

- Submitted fiscal year 2026 outside witness testimony to the House Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee
- Met with more than 20 congressional offices to discuss *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development's (NICHD) leadership in supporting the inclusion of pregnant and lactating populations in research
- Released a statement in response to a White House Press Conference linking acetaminophen to autism
- Began efforts on reintroduction of the *Advancing Safe Medications for Moms and Babies Act*
- Released the fact sheet SSRIs & Pregnancy: Myth-Busting and Making the Case for an Evidence-Based Approach

## FRIENDS OF ORWH

NIH Office of Research  
on Women's Health

### Coalition Spotlight: Friends of ORWH

The Friends of the Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH), launched by SWHR in 2021, supports the work of the National Institutes of Health ORWH. The goal of the coalition is to advocate for federal support of ORWH's mission as well as raise awareness of ORWH's ongoing programs and successes.

In 2025, the Friends of ORWH led two sign-on letters advocating for increased funding for ORWH in fiscal year 2026 spending legislation and submitted fiscal year 2026 outside witness testimony to the House Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee. View the letters and testimony here.

## Education and Awareness

SWHR drives and amplifies the national conversation on women's health and sex differences research by serving as a trusted source for information on women's health and sex differences research; raising awareness of disparities and unmet needs in women's health; and creating engaging, scientifically driven content for diverse audiences on women's health and sex differences research.

### Women's Health Perspectives Showcase the Power of Women's Voices

**Your voice is powerful, and your story is important.** In 2025, SWHR continued to collect and publish stories within its Women's Health Perspectives portal—featuring firsthand accounts from women and caregivers across the health care system, navigating endometriosis and uterine fibroids, autoimmune conditions, fertility challenges, menopause, cancer, and more. SWHR is grateful to have shared more than 15 new stories this year. Sharing these individual journeys not only shows other women they are not alone, but it also helps in the Society's work to educate health care providers and policymakers about how they can better support women across the lifespan.



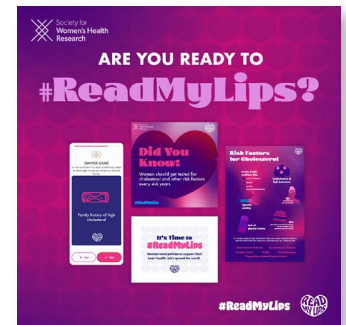
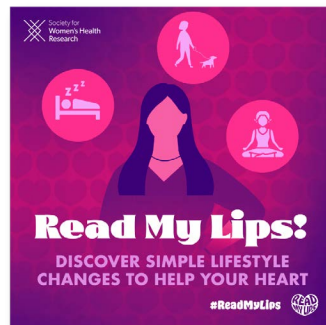
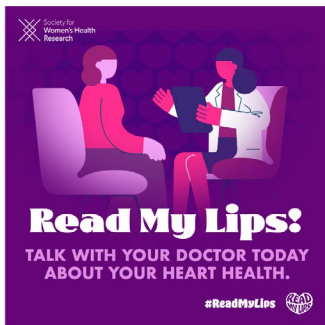
**Do you have a health care story to share?**

SWHR wants to hear from you. Complete this submission form online:  
<https://swhr.org/womens-health-perspectives/>

## Now is the Time to Read My Lips

SWHR made the call again to #ReadMyLips in 2025. For the third year, SWHR led the Read My Lips social media campaign, a campaign that aims to emphasize the importance of women knowing their risk factors for heart disease and understanding and the critical role cholesterol screening – and specifically, lipid panel testing – for women’s heart health. Did you know that lipid panel testing is the most comprehensive way to determine high cholesterol?

Highlights of the 2025 campaign, which ran in February for American Heart Month and September for National Cholesterol Education Month, included an online cholesterol risk game, a February Hill Day with heart health partners, and new social media graphics to spotlight women’s heart health. Explore the Read My Lips campaign at <https://swhr.org/resources/read-my-lips/>.



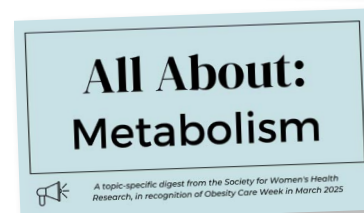
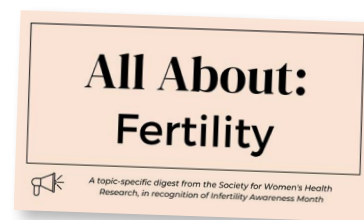
## On The Blog

SWHR published more than 78 blogs, sharing relevant information for women and their families. Blog post highlights in 2025 included:

- [A Call to Action to Highlight the Disease Burden of Depressive Disorders in Women, Informed by Data Dashboard](#)
- [A January 2025 Policy Recap from SWHR](#)
- [A Research and Policy Approach to Addressing the Black Maternal Health Crisis](#)
- [Examining the Government Shutdown’s Impact on Women’s Health Research](#)
- [How to Advocate for Women’s Health](#)
- [Impacts of the Primary Care Provider Shortage on Health Care](#)
- [Reflections for Women’s Health Research Day](#)
- [Role of Federal Landscape in Shaping the Future of Public Health and Medical Research](#)
- [SWHR Reaffirms Commitment to Evidence-Based Conclusions on Acetaminophen Use in Pregnancy](#)
- [Women’s Health Advocacy in Motion: From 2024 Success to 2025 Action](#)

## SWHR Shares “All About” Women’s Health

In addition to the 90+ emails SWHR sent this year sharing news of women’s health events, resources, and other notable health activities, the Society continued its “All About” email series, featuring topic-specific email digests. SWHR released All About emails on metabolism, fertility, and sleep this year.



THE 19th\*

POLITICO

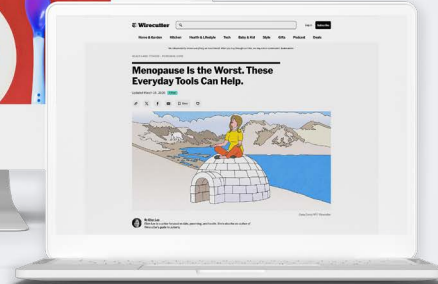
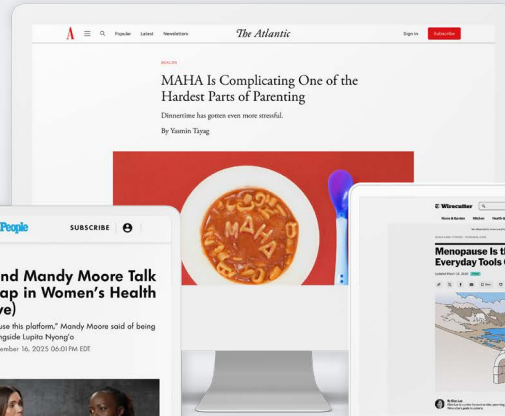
SPRINGER NATURE

FP

The New York Times

The Washington Post

The Atlantic



THE HILL

abc NEWS

Roll Call

Wirecutter

People

Forbes

## Women's Health is Front Page News

SWHR leadership and resources were featured as expert sources in women's health across many media outlets this year. Media highlights from 2025 year include:

- The 19th: [What happens to health research when 'women' is a banned word?](#)
- ABC News: [Lupita Nyong'o, Mandy Moore take women's health advocacy to Congress](#)
- The Atlantic: [MAHA Is Complicating One of the Hardest Parts of Parenting](#)
- Champions of Active Women Podcast: [Sarah Chew, Science Programs Manager, Society for Women's Health Research](#)
- Forbes: [Unlocking The Potential Of Women's Healthcare In 2025](#)
- Foreign Policy Podcast: [The Hidden Economics of Menopause](#)
- Global Health Affairs Podcast: [Dr. Irene Aninye, Chief Science Officer for the Society for Women's Health Research](#)
- The Hill: [FDA removing warnings from hormone replacement therapy products](#)
- National Association of Benefits & Insurance Professionals BIP Magazine: [Hot Flashes and Cold Shoulders](#)
- New York Times Wire Cutter: [Menopause Is the Worst. These Everyday Tools Can Help.](#)
- New York Times: [The Living Room Where History Still Happens](#)
- People Magazine: [Lupita Nyong'o and Mandy Moore Talk 'Unacceptable' Gap in Women's Health Research \(Exclusive\)](#)
- POLITICO: [How DOGE Cuts Will Change Women's Health](#)
- Roll Call: [Actors Moore, Nyong'o push for women's health on Hill](#)
- Springer Nature: [Systemic Silence: Addressing Racial Inequity in Black Maternal Mental Health](#)
- The Washington Post: [Fertility and maternal health programs slashed, alarming experts](#)

## Plugging into Partnerships

SWHR relies on the support of all types of partners to ensure the Society's focus areas are relevant, engagement is wide, and resources are science-based. Check out some of SWHR's 2025 partners here:



**AMERICAN  
PSYCHOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION**

The **American Psychological Association (APA)** is a scientific and professional organization that represents psychologists in the United States, promoting psychological science and knowledge to benefit society and improve lives. SWHR joined APA in 2025 to host "Understanding Menopause: Empowering Women with Knowledge Before 40" on Capitol Hill, which brought together researchers, clinicians, health advocates, congressional staff, and others interested in this topic to discuss menopause policy and research and the impact of menopause on health, wellness, families, and work. Read more about the event here: [APA and SWHR Host "Understanding Menopause" Discussion on Capitol Hill](#)



The **EveryBODY Covered** campaign is working to ensure that everybody has access to evidence-based obesity care options. Comprehensive obesity care should be covered just as care for other chronic diseases is covered—it's only fair. SWHR is a campaign partner.



The **Global Health Connector (GHC)**, formally known as the ECH Alliance, is a strategic partner group with a mission to connect brilliant minds across the world and foster learning and collaboration to accelerate global improvements in health, well-being and longevity. For the second year in a row, SWHR partnered with GHC to host an all-day event at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA80) Science Summit in September in New York City, titled "Transforming Women's Health through Science and Sustainable Partnerships." Read more about the event here: [Collaborating for Women's Health at the UNGA80 Science Summit](#).





The **Obesity Care Advocacy Network** (OCAN) works to increase access to evidence-based obesity treatments by uniting key stakeholders and the broader obesity community around significant education, policy and legislative efforts. SWHR officially joined as a member of OCAN in 2025, amplifying its commitment to improving the lives of individual living with obesity. SWHR joined other OCAN members in championing the Treat and Reduce Obesity Act (TROA) throughout the year, calling on and thanking lawmakers who are using policy to increase access to tools for the prevention and treatment of obesity.

# Perelel

**Perelel Health** is an OB/GYN-founded, research-backed vitamins company for every stage of women's health. Perelel Health and SWHR have partnered on many advocacy initiatives. Of note, in 2025, the two organizations hosted a women's health research congressional roundtable and advocacy day for a timely conversation about the urgent need to fund women's health research. Read more about the event here: [Advocates Join SWHR on Capitol Hill to Prioritize Women's Health Research](#)



# SWHR Staff Recognitions

The Society is made up of a small but mighty team of dedicated women's health advocates, science experts, and policy specialists who help elevate the needs of women's health and sex differences research across local and national stages. Check out some of the incredible accolades of our team from 2025!

## Kathryn Schubert Named 2025 WomenHeart Wenger Awardee and One of Washington, D.C.'s 500 Most Influential People of 2025

SWHR President and CEO Kathryn Schubert received a 2025 Wenger Award for Excellence in Public Service from WomenHeart, a leading organization for women living with or at risk of heart disease. Schubert was recognized for her steadfast advocacy in women's heart health.



Schubert was also named one of Washington D.C.'s 500 Most Influential People of 2025 by the Washingtonian Magazine for the second year in a row. Schubert was honored for her work in women's health and advocacy. Check out the full list [here](#).

## WASHINGTONIAN

### Kathryn Schubert Celebrates Five Years with SWHR

In 2025, SWHR proudly celebrated SWHR President and CEO Kathryn Schubert's 5-year anniversary with the Society. Over this time, Schubert has furthered the organization's legacy as a thought leader in women's health and has brought dedication and a collaborative approach to her leadership. SWHR thanks Schubert for her enduring contributions.

## Madelyn Adams Selected as 2025 Women in Government Relations Fellow

Public Policy and Advocacy Manager Madelyn Adams, MPH, was selected as a 2025 Women in Government Relations Judy Schneider Fellow. The Fellowship provides real-life opportunities to build skills as an emerging government relations professional, aimed at creating the next generation of talented, ethical, savvy, and passionate advocates.



## Monica Lefton Participates in Developing Association Leaders Program

Communicators Director Monica Lefton became a member of the year-long Developing Association Leaders Program in 2025, which was assembled by the HALL (Healthcare Association Leadership League) Group to support the career development of individuals working at HALL Group organizations. SWHR is a HALL Group member. Participants of the program have been identified as strong contributors and emerging leaders.

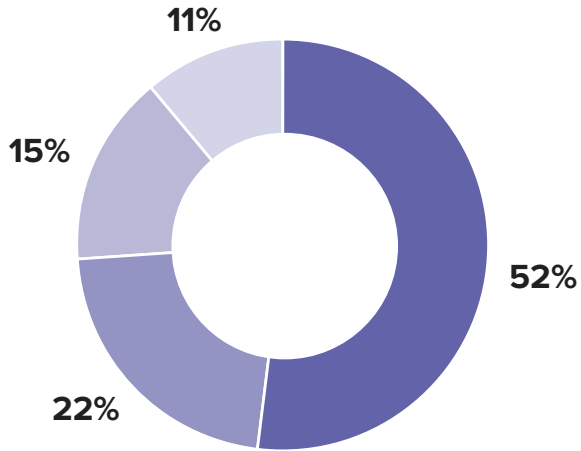
## SWHR Gives Back

Team members from SWHR were glad this year to give back to the community by participating in a community service day with Aaliyah in Action. Aaliyah in Action provides care and resources to support individuals and families navigating perinatal, neonatal, or infant loss. SWHR team members helped the Aaliyah in Action team assemble self-care packages. Learn more about Aaliyah in Action and its work at [aaliyahinaction.org](http://aaliyahinaction.org).



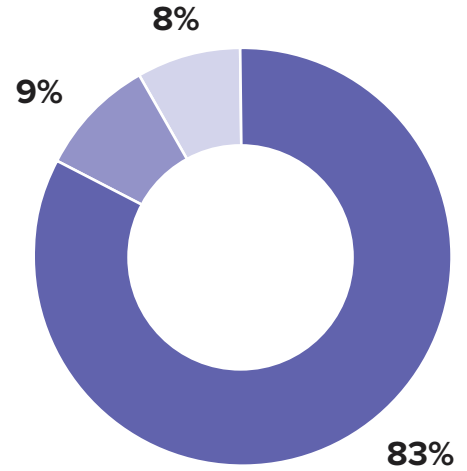
# 2025 Operational Highlights

## SWHR's 2025 Revenue

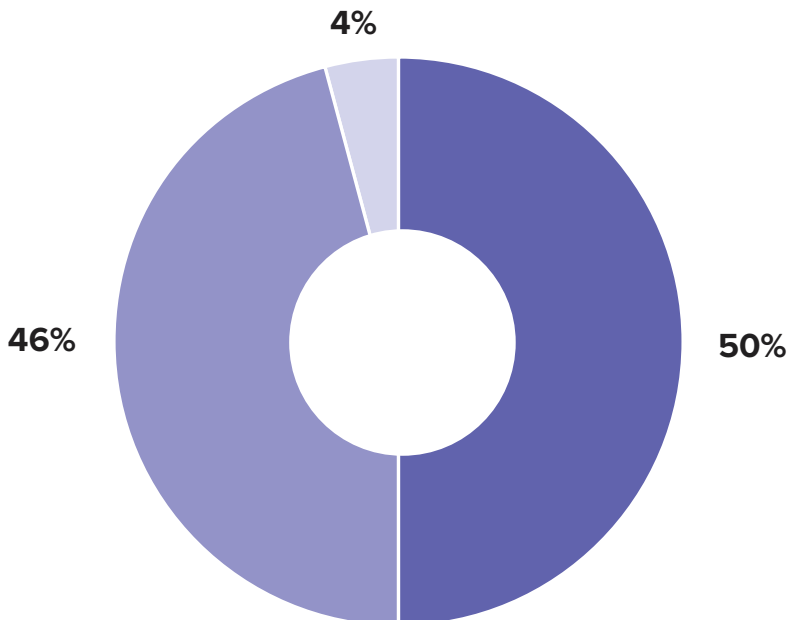


- Program Revenue \$1.1M
- Awards Dinner \$456K
- Membership Dues \$330K
- Contributions-General \$282K

## SWHR's 2025 Expenses



- Professional Expenses \$1.99M
- Overhead \$227K
- Program Implementation Costs \$199K



## SWHR's 2025 Balance Sheet

- Asset \$3.68M
- Capital \$3.41M
- Liability \$270K

## SWHR Leadership

### Executive Committee

- **Kathryn G. Schubert, MPP, CAE**  
SWHR President and CEO | Ex Officio
- **Gretta Stone**  
Board Chair
- **Erika Miller, JD**  
Board Chair-Elect
- **Jenelle Krishnamoorthy, PhD**  
Secretary-Treasurer
- **Shontelle Dodson, PharmD**  
Immediate Past Chair
- **Patti Compton, MS**  
Executive Committee Member

### Board Members

- **Jim Carey**
- **Christine Harhaj**
- **Florence Haseltine, PhD, MD**
- **Shyamasundaran Kottilil, MD, PhD**
- **Kim Love, MPP**
- **Tamara Day Shriver**
- **Marianne Slight**
- **Catherine Spong, MD**

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## SWHR Staff

- **Kathryn G. Schubert, MPP, CAE**  
President and CEO
- **Yonas G. Fsayaye**  
Chief Financial Officer
- **Irene O. Aninye, PhD**  
Chief Science Officer
- **Lindsey Miltenberger, MA**  
Chief Advocacy Officer
- **Julie Miller**  
Development Director
- **Monica Lefton**  
Communications Director
- **Emma Bixler**  
Development Coordinator
- **Syreen Goulmamine, MPH, CHES**  
Science Programs Manager
- **Sarah Chew, MPH**  
Science Programs Manager
- **Madelyn Adams, MPA**  
Public Policy and Advocacy Manager

### 2025 Fellows

- **Nitzan Gabel Eyal, MD**
- **Fatima Koroma**
- **Jochebed Mensah**

### 2025 Interns

- **Mary Clymer**
- **Julia DeLuca**



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