

SUMMER 2025

Leading Ladies

Connect. Create. Change. Celebrate!

Leading Ladies in the Lights

Both Leading Ladies through Clark and in the corporate world, Alex Crow and Kelly Springer have received awards worthy of highlighting and celebrating.



ALEX CROW

In 2023, Alex became an eager member of Leading Ladies where she quickly joined the Leading Ladies planning committee and is passionate about the philanthropic efforts of the group. As the 2nd Vice President for United Bank, Alex's leadership is prominent in Grand Rapids.

Due to her skillset and active leadership, Alex was the recipient of the 40-Under-40 community award in 2024. Most recently, she received the Research Pillar Award and was named runner-up for Visionary of the Year by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Thank you for your impact in the community and congratulations, Alex!



KELLY SPRINGER

In 2024, Kelly Springer joined Leading Ladies after decades of corporate leadership in the West Michigan community. As the President and CEO of Metal Flow, Kelly has become a role model for female leaders in our community. In April, Kelly was named one of Inforum's 2025 Inner Circle Guests of Honor, celebrated as one of the region's most accomplished women in business, civic, and community.

In May, Kelly was recognized as one of Crain's Grand Rapids Business' West Michigan Women of Influence. Thank you for your strong leadership and inspirational influence, Kelly. Congratulations!

Letter from JoAnn


Fellow Leading Ladies,

As the Clark Foundation celebrates its 30th anniversary this year, I often reflect on the gift of Leading Ladies in my life and in the community. I am continually inspired by the dynamic energy and heartfelt commitment of our Leading Ladies. This vibrant, multi-generational group of women exemplifies the power of philanthropy, education, and community partnership.

From fashion shows to spa days to exercises at the ballet, I am reminded that Leading Ladies is not your typical group. Instead, it's a social network where dynamos (like you!) of all ages come together to make a tangible difference. Their support of the Clark Promise ensures that our residents have peace of mind, knowing they will always have a home at Clark, regardless of unexpected financial challenges.

Celebrating nearly 90 members of Leading Ladies, I am deeply grateful for your unwavering support and the joy you bring to West Michigan. Together, we continue to build a future where compassion and connection thrive.

To the next 30 years,



JoAnn Abraham
Executive Director, Clark Foundation



The Pillars of Leading Ladies

Philanthropy: Leading Ladies supports the Clark Promise of benevolent care and donates to a chosen charity each year. 100% of membership funds and contributions go to the benevolent care endowment.

Education: We educate Leading Ladies on many topics including fashion, memory care, nutrition, and women's health, just to name a few.

Community Partnerships: We generously come alongside local non-profits with a financial gift and by supporting their events. We also work with local companies to host our events and promote what they do in our community.

Building our Social Network: Leading Ladies is a group of women that network together and collaborate with one another while having fun.

Leading Ladies Links



MEMBERSHIP
MATCH
NOMINATION



CHARITY
RECOGNITION
NOMINATION



CHARITY
RECOGNITION
QUESTIONNAIRE



Intro To Brooke and Stacie



Brooke is the new Legacy and Philanthropy Director at the Clark Foundation. Her years of experience in fundraising for both local and global nonprofits will bring new perspectives and energy to the foundation. She is looking forward to promoting the mission of Clark Foundation and with her vibrant, warm, and caring personality she will do just that!



Stacie Parker joins the Clark Foundation as Executive Assistant. Her organizational skills, experience with non-profits, events coordination and attention to detail will make her a perfect fit. She is looking forward to meeting the residents at Clark and helping the Foundation grow. Originally from Virginia, Stacie is no stranger to travel, including spending nine months teaching art and English in Japan.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fore the Ladies

June 11, 2025
5:30pm-7:30pm
Gimme's Par & Grill

Golf Fore Clark

September 15, 2025
Kent Country Club

Custer Trail Walk/Run/Roll

October 11, 2025
10am-12pm
Clark at Keller Lake



BIRTHDAY BEAUTIES

At Leading Ladies, we love to celebrate and that includes celebrating *YOU* on your birthday!

Please send your birthday to
foundation@clarkretirement.org
for a special surprise.

List of Leading Ladies

Andrea Abraham
JoAnn Abraham
Laurel Abraham
Jan Amato
Sue Bachelder
Beth Banta
Diane Barber*
Betsy Barton
Stacy Beene*
Natalie Bernecker
Dr. Diana Bitner
Michelle Bottrall
Carol Burgess
Suzanne Callahan
Heidi Campbell
Marty Campbell
Frances Carroll
Lee Clark
Alex Crow
Karen Custer
Kellie Custer
Kortne Custer
Lauren Davis
Alison DeKok
Lacey Dixon*
Madison Eldred
Nancy Everin
Betsy Ford
Bonnie Gilchrist †
Elizabeth Goede*
Lynne Goede
Katharina Häusler-Gross*
Elizabeth Haan

Joan Hansen
Brooke Helder*
Mary Lou Helderop
Mary Hendrickson
Abigail Heyde*
Jan Hilbrands
Kathy Holt
Melissa Hoodhood
Janelle Horvath
Debra Howell
Cynthia Kay
Deb Kay
Beth Kelly
Priscilla Kimboko
Rachael Kohn
Kathy Laidlaw
Maggie Lancaster
Jody Linkfield
Marylynn Lower
Michele McIsaac
Angela Muilenberg
Corinne Muilnberg
Peggy Murphy
Debbie Nol
Faith Novakoski
KT Novakoski
Liz Novakoski
Joan Panopoulos
Stacie Parker*
Cheryl Petrie
Deborah Phillips
Rachel Romeo
Kathryn Ratliff

Sherri Rimmelts
Norine Roach
Melinda Seufert
LouAnn Shawver
Patra Slot
Hyubin Song
Kelly Springer
Patty Stasiak
Elaine Stiefel
Diane Vallilee*
Jill VanWyk
Abha Gupta Varma
Maribeth Wardrop
Pat Waring
Heather Watkowski
Carole Weber
Judy Welch
Alex Wilson
Caitlyn Wood*

† in loving memory of

**denotes new members
of Leading Ladies as
of March event*

