

Cut Funds, Not Our Spirit



As many of you read on our different platforms, the closure of our Family Reunification Programs is a devastating loss—countless migrant children are now left to navigate a cruel system alone, and 37.5% of our staff, nine compañeras, have been cut due to federal funding slashes. This isn't just about budgets; it's about lives. But we refuse to surrender. Solidarity isn't just words—it's daily action. For over 50 years, TWB has been a safe harbor, standing firm against every attack meant to weaken us. As Women's History Month ends, we remember: our fight is long, but our power is stronger.

More about our work at <u>womensbuilding.org</u>
Take Action <u>here!</u>

Building Power, One Workshop at a Time

On March 10, we gathered at TWB for our *Know Your Rights at Work* workshop, where 18 attendees—many from our partner organizations—came together to transform workplace knowledge into collective strength. Participants learned about worker protections, strategies for responding to harassment, and ways to build networks of solidarity.

Initiatives like this are only possible through collective support and extended solidarity. If you believe in fostering opportunities for all, consider supporting our work at womensbuilding.org!





Writing Our Stories, Honoring Our Journeys

On March 19, our space was filled with powerful stories as we gathered for the *Migrant Writing Workshop* led by Peruvian writer <u>Gabriela Wiener</u>. Fifteen participants—spanning generations, backgrounds, and experiences—came together, some traveling across the Bay Area for hours to be part of this moment. Through writing, laughter, and shared reflection, we built community and honored our collective resilience. Echoing Audre Lorde's *Litany for Survival*, we who were "not meant to survive" continue to persist, resist, and rewrite our narratives. A heartfelt thank you to our organizers, <u>Maria Arteaga</u> and <u>Kristen Acosta</u>, for making this gathering possible, and to <u>Natalia Brizuela</u> from <u>UC Berkeley's Center for Latin American Studies</u> for her collaboration.







Community Tech Empowerment

On March 25 we hosted a transformative Beginner's iPhone Workshop, led by Karina Martinez and DreamSF Fellow Anamaria Alfaro. This initiative underscores our commitment to digital literacy and community skill-building.

Our workshop focused on essential digital skills, including WiFi connectivity fundamentals, secure password management, app ecosystem navigation, and practical map usage. By providing accessible technology education, we continue to break down digital barriers and empower our community.





Women in Business: Panel & Marketplace at TWB with the Renaissance
Entrepreneurship Center. With around 150 attendees, the event featured an inspiring panel with Michelle Hernandez, Wafa
Bahloul, Vanessa Lee, and Eliana Lopez, moderated by Dr. Dene Starks. Guests also explored a vibrant marketplace showcasing women-owned businesses.

On March 26, we hosted Celebrating

Thank you to our Community Initiative Manager Kristen Acosta, Dev. Manager Maria Arteaga, the Rencenter team, and everyone who made this event possible. We also appreciate each attendee who showed up to support and celebrate women entrepreneurs in our community.



We're getting ready!

Signs are going up, partnerships are growing, and we've got some exciting surprises in store. With programs closing and budgets shrinking, your support means more than ever.

Unstoppable: The Power of Collective Strength

May 16, 2025 6-9 PM

The Women's Building

Join us for an unforgettable night—honoring our past, securing our future.

 $\ \ \, \Box \,\, \mathsf{Tix} \,\, \& \,\, \mathsf{sponsorships} \to \underline{\mathsf{womensbuilding.org}}$



Community Resilience in Action!

We're excited to launch this new section to introduce you to the women on our Board of Directors and share their stories about why they've chosen to be part of our community!

My name is <u>Gillie Tillson</u>, and, in my role as a **Berkeley Board Fellow**, I have the opportunity to serve on the board of TWB while completing my Master's in Business Administration at UC Berkeley's Haas School of Business.

I was born and raised in the Bay Area, and was fortunate to grow up with strong female role models who instilled in me an early appreciation for financial literacy, community involvement, and asking for help when needed. These values shaped my journey as I forged my own path, travelling across the country to college on the East Coast. During this time, I studied Arabic and Spanish, and worked with refugee and immigrant populations. That experience deepened my understanding of the privilege I have to be born an American citizen, and the challenges many face in accessing opportunities and resources once they arrive in the US.



After returning to the Bay Area this fall, I continued to seek ways to give back, leading me to TWB. The programs and support it offers to minority populations are essential in building a stronger, more united, and supportive community. As Board Fellows, we are working to help shape a long-term vision for board composition, ensuring the board

remains strong and impactful. Since our time as board fellows is short, we hope to make a lasting difference through this project.

Whether you need support or are looking to give back, I encourage you to get involved. Join us in strengthening our community by participating, donating, or volunteering with The Women's Building today.



Our 2024 Annual Report is here—a testament to what we've achieved together. It's a reflection of mutual care, community power, and the transformative impact of networks rooted in justice and empowerment. This report is more than numbers—it's a story of how we, as a community, take care of each other, create space for healing, and solidarity!

Explore the report by clicking here!

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