

Ashton

Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation

# 2025 Annual Impact Report

BUILDING FUTURES THROUGH HOPE



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## Inspiring Hope

### BUILDING A FUTURE IN SURGICAL CARE

Raised by her grandmother, Jessica learned the values of resilience, discipline, and compassion early in life. Now living independently in Athens, she balances work and school while pursuing a healthcare career.

Jessica completed her Associate's Degree in Surgical Technology and graduated in December. Her passion for surgery centers on helping patients feel safe and supported during challenging moments. While at Piedmont Healthcare, she was recently nominated for a Tulip Award for her compassionate patient care.

With the support of three scholarships from the Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation, Jessica finished her degree with confidence. She plans to continue her education and ultimately provide skilled, compassionate surgical care to patients worldwide.





## *A Letter From Leadership*

AS WE REFLECT ON THE PAST YEAR, WE ARE FILLED WITH GRATITUDE, PRIDE, AND HOPE.

2025 was a remarkable year for the Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation. Thanks to the steadfast support of our donors, partners, volunteers, and community, we broke down barriers, created opportunities, and made a meaningful difference. Our mission, founded on hope and action, continues to drive significant impact.

This year, we expanded access to education and career opportunities through scholarships, certifications, and workforce support. We strengthened community partnerships, welcomed new supporters, and reinforced our commitment to helping individuals achieve brighter, more stable futures.

Every milestone in 2025 was achieved through the dedication of those who believe in our mission. Donors, volunteers, partners, and participants all contributed to the lives we touched. Together, we transformed compassion into action and hope into opportunity.

Looking ahead, we are inspired by the possibilities. The need is still significant, but our momentum is strong. With your continued support, the Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation will reach more individuals, expand our programs, and create lasting change.

Thank you for standing with us, believing in this work, and helping us build a future filled with hope.  
With gratitude,

  
Kim Keegan, CEO & Ashton's mom

# Key Highlights of 2025

THIS YEAR HAS BEEN ONE OF GROWTH, INNOVATION, AND IMPACT FOR THE ASHTON HOPE KEEGAN FOUNDATION.

Some key highlights include:

- **Hope Gala Fundraising:** Our 2025 Hope Gala, A Starry, Starry Night, raised just under \$90,000, representing a significant share of the \$199,280 we raised in 2025.
- **Foundation Impact:** In 2025, the Foundation provided direct scholarships and material support to 101 women, empowering them to move closer to their educational and career goals. For the third year in a row, we supported more than 100 women directly. Alongside the hundreds served each year through the Ashton Hope Keegan Learning Lab, this collective impact reaches over 800 women in just three years.
- **Access to Education:** The Ashton Hope Keegan Learning Lab continued to provide GED programs in 2025, providing women with a supportive environment to build foundational skills and take critical steps toward long-term stability and opportunity.
- **Business Community Leadership:** The business community once again rose to the challenge in 2025, providing essential financial support, sponsorships, and in-kind contributions that help power the Foundation's mission and expand its impact.
- **Collaborative Community Partnerships:** Through continued partnerships and referrals with local nonprofits, including Divas Who Win, Lydia's Place, The Salvation Army, and Acceptance Recovery Center, we ensured that women received comprehensive support to address the full range of barriers on their path to success.

These achievements would not have been possible without our incredible community of donors, sponsors, volunteers, and partners. Your generosity and belief in our mission fuel every milestone we reach. We are deeply grateful for your continued support, and we look forward to building on these successes together in the years ahead.



The mission of the Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation is to break the cycle of generational poverty for women in the Athens, Georgia area and surrounding counties by providing skills-based training scholarships, grants for material support, and aligning with strategic partners. Our vision is a community where all women and their children can prosper.

## How 2025 Aligned with Our Mission

In 2025, the Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation made tremendous progress in advancing its mission to empower women through education and support services:

- **Empowering Through Scholarships:** We awarded scholarships to 101 women this year, ensuring access to skills-based training programs that prepare them for middle-class careers in nursing, phlebotomy, and early childhood education. 2025 marks our third consecutive year of directly assisting over 100 women.
- **Breaking Barriers to Success:** By funding secondary and tertiary expenses, such as application fees, licensing costs, and bulk purchases of professional gear, we removed financial roadblocks that often prevent women from transitioning from their educational successes directly into their first professional role.
- **Expanding Reach:** Almost one-quarter of 2025 fundraising support came from beyond Athens, expanding our reach, strengthening sustainability, and introducing new investment into the community.
- **Strategic Collaboration:** Local businesses continue to play a vital role in advancing the Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation's mission. When called upon, the business community consistently rises to the challenge, offering financial support, sponsorships, and in-kind contributions that strengthen programs, expand opportunity, and help ensure long-term sustainability for the women and families we serve.
- **Continued Partnerships:** Ongoing collaboration and referrals with local nonprofits, including Divas Who Win, Lydia's Place, and Acceptance Recovery Center, help ensure that women receive comprehensive support that addresses all barriers to success.

Together, these efforts reflect a year defined by purpose and progress. In 2025, the Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation remained focused on meeting women where they are, investing in meaningful support, and building partnerships that extend impact beyond any single program or moment. By aligning resources, collaboration, and community leadership, we continued to advance a mission rooted in opportunity, dignity, and lasting change for women and their families.



# 2025 Accomplishments

## SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED:

Scholarships Awarded: In 2025, we supported 101 women with scholarships and material support. Since our inception, we have directly empowered 546 women to pursue education and career opportunities.

## TOTAL FUNDING DISTRIBUTED:

This year, we provided \$142,195 in direct financial support to women in need.

## EVENTS ORGANIZED:

- 2025 *Hope Gala*: Held under the theme A Starry, Starry Night, the Gala raised \$87,410.
- 2025 *Stiletto Stampede 5k*: Our third annual Stiletto Stampede was primarily intended to raise awareness for Ashton's Foundation, but ended up raising more than \$3,500 as a bonus!
- 33 for 33 Campaign: Launched in December 2025, the 33 for 33 Campaign gained early momentum, raising nearly \$1,200 in the first weeks.

## PARTNERSHIPS ESTABLISHED:

We expanded our collaboration with four new educational institutions, increasing our total to seven. These partnerships allow us to connect more women with the resources and training programs they need to succeed.

## TESTIMONIALS AND SUCCESS STORIES:

Amauri Baltimore-Easter, one of our scholarship recipients, shared:

“This opportunity didn't just change my life. It changed my children's future.”

One of our incredible donors stated:

“This is an amazing organization that makes a real positive difference in the world, and you should be very proud of all you've accomplished.”

### **33 FOR 33: EARLY MOMENTUM, LASTING IMPACT:**

In December 2025, the Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation launched the 33 for 33 Campaign, a year-long initiative rooted in meaning and hope. Ashton's life was cut short at just 23, and 2026 would have marked her 33rd birthday. Rather than focusing on the years lost, the Foundation chose to celebrate what Ashton continues to accomplish through the lives she has changed in her name.

The campaign honors Ashton's legacy by inviting supporters to be part of something enduring. Even in its earliest days, 33 for 33 gained strong momentum, raising nearly \$1,200 during its December kickoff as donors from near and far stepped forward to celebrate her birthday and invest in the future of women and families pursuing stability and opportunity.

As the campaign continues, 33 for 33 represents more than a fundraising effort. It is a celebration of impact, community, and the belief that hope grows when people come together. This early momentum marks the beginning of a powerful year ahead, fueled by purpose and the enduring legacy of a life that continues to inspire. We invite you to be part of this celebration by honoring Ashton's 33rd birthday and supporting the mission at <https://ashtonhopekeegansfoundation.org/33-for-33/>

### **BUILDING ANTICIPATION FOR 2026:**

The success of our 2025 Hope Gala sets the stage for an inspiring 2026 Hope Gala, coming August 8th. As we celebrate 250 years of a nation's story, this year's event will honor the women who are shaping its future. 250 Years of a Nation's Story. A Future Written by Women of Hope. Plans are already underway, and early sponsorship opportunities are now available. We invite you to join us for an unforgettable evening celebrating resilience, opportunity, and the enduring power of community.



# Featured Story

## A MOTHER'S STRENGTH AND A NEW BEGINNING

At 22, Amauri is already the proud mother of two young boys. Living in a confidential shelter supported by Project Safe, Amauri is working toward stability, independence, and a future built on purpose for herself and her children.

Motherhood has been the defining force in Amauri's life. She became a mom at 19 while pursuing her lifelong dream of becoming a nurse. Balancing college coursework with childcare and limited support eventually led her to make the difficult decision to pause her education. "Being a mom comes first," she says. "Every choice I've made since then has been guided by that responsibility."

Amauri's journey has not been easy. She has faced job loss, housing insecurity, and moments of deep uncertainty. Yet her determination never wavered. With reliable childcare and a flexible job finally in place, she knew it was time to return to school and invest in her future. "Now that I've got my motivation back," she says, "nothing can stop me."

Education has always carried deep meaning for Amauri. Graduating high school was a milestone she achieved despite personal loss, family challenges, and limited resources. Encouraged by mentors and teachers who believed in her, she finished strong. "I graduated for myself," she says, "but I walked that stage for my cousin, whose life was taken too soon."

With financial support from the Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation, Amauri reached a significant milestone in October 2025. She graduated from Innovative Health Care Institute, passed her exam to become a Certified Nursing Assistant, and received a job offer from Pruitt Health. Today, she is one step closer to her ultimate dream of becoming a traveling pediatrician, bringing compassionate care to children around the world.



*"This opportunity didn't just change my life. It changed my children's future."*



# Statistics & Impact

**\$200,000**

**TOTAL FUNDS  
RAISED IN 2025**

In 2025, the Foundation raised \$200,000, a slight decrease from 2024, reflecting broader economic uncertainty nationwide. Despite this temporary dip, our three-year moving average continues to trend upward, and we remain optimistic that improving economic conditions will support renewed growth.

## BREAKDOWN OF DONOR SOURCES

- **Individual Contributions:** 6% of total funds, with virtually all of the donations being \$250 or less. This highlights the broad support from members of our community.
- **Corporate Sponsors:** 5%, including a recurring naming sponsor for the Hope Gala that contributed \$30,000.
- **Fundraising Events:** 71%, driven by the Hope Gala and Stiletto Stampede 5K, as well as a few other small fundraising activities.
- **Grants and Foundations:** 18%, reflecting the largest fall-off in revenue percentage as the economic uncertainty slowed philanthropy.
- **Miscellaneous Revenue:** <1%, including interest, dividends, etc.

**101** WOMEN DIRECTLY  
SUPPORTED IN 2025

**546** WOMEN SUPPORTED  
SINCE INCEPTION

- Third consecutive year of support for over 100 women.
- ~ \$150,000 in financial support provided.

## SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH:

- Increased followers by 16% across platforms.
- Posts showcasing our outstanding scholarship recipients and Hope Gala success generated over 100,763 impressions (up 38.71%).
- Engagement rates on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram increased by nearly 50%.

## VOLUNTEERS

- **8 Board Members:** All volunteers, contributing countless hours alongside their full-time jobs. Two of our Board Members are Fellows as we partner with UGA's MBA class.
- **54 Volunteers:** Actively involved in executing our Foundation events.
- **Total Volunteer Hours:** Volunteers contributed 900+ hours to the Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation, primarily through the Hope Gala and the Stiletto Stampede 5K. This impact was made possible by a diverse and dedicated group, including honor students, Athens Technical College Interior Design students, ARAMARK community volunteers, University of Georgia MBA students, Rotarians, and individuals united by a shared commitment to improving the community.

# Financial Summary

## HIGH-LEVEL BREAKDOWN OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES

### REVENUE STREAMS:

- **Individual Donations: ~\$12,000 (~6%)**  
Individual contributions were made by ~45 people, demonstrating the generosity and commitment of members of our community. Note that these donations came from 13 states, and one donation came from Bavaria, Germany!
- **Corporate Sponsorships: ~\$10,000 (~5%)**  
Includes donations from companies ranging from Fortune 50 companies to local area businesses.
- **Grant Revenue: ~\$35,000 (~18%)**  
Includes 6 grants ranging from large Foundations to local Family Foundations.
- **Event Revenue: ~\$141,000 (~71%)**  
Proceeds from our two signature events, the 2025 Hope Gala and the 2025 Stiletto Stampede 5K, played a vital role in funding our programs.

**\$200,000**  
TOTAL REVENUE

### EXPENSE CATEGORIES:

- **Program Expenditures: \$141,195**  
Direct financial support for scholarships, material assistance, bulk purchases, and operational costs for the Ashton Hope Keegan Learning Lab.
- **Operational Expenses: \$20,009**  
Indirect program costs, such as Chamber of Commerce dues, web services, software licenses, etc.
- **Non-Program Expenses: \$4,900**  
Administrative costs, such as office supplies and our annual audit.

**\$166,104**  
TOTAL EXPENSES

The Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation is proud to maintain an exceptional level of financial accountability. In 2024, 98.7% of our funds directly supported our mission, with only 1.3% allocated to general and administrative expenses. We will submit our 2025 materials to the auditors at the end of January, and expect to get our final 2025 G&A rate sometime this summer.

As an all-volunteer organization with no brick-and-mortar facilities, we maximize the impact of every dollar raised, ensuring that the women we serve receive the support they need to break the cycle of generational poverty. Our financials are reviewed annually through a rigorous audit process to ensure transparency and adherence to best practices in non-profit management, and those audits are posted on our website to ensure that transparency.



# Programs in Focus

## KEY PROGRAMS FUNDED BY SCHOLARSHIPS

The Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation provides scholarships to empower women through skills-based training programs. We funded tuition, books, supplies, and material assistance for women enrolled in 41 program areas, such as:



**Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA)**



**Phlebotomy Technician**



**Early Childhood Education Specialist**



**PC Repair Technician**



**Interior Design Specialist**



**Industrial Welder**

These scholarships ensure that women can access the education and training needed to secure stable, well-paying careers, lifting themselves and their families out of poverty. Additionally, we addressed critical secondary and tertiary expenses, such as application fees, background checks, and certification costs, eliminating financial barriers that often prevent women from completing their education.

# Programs in Focus

## WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING PROGRAMS SUPPORTED

In collaboration with educational institutions and community partners, the foundation supported the following training programs in 2025:



### Ashton Hope Keegan Learning Lab:

Equipped with 17 networked computers, this lab provides a technology-driven environment for GED education and career preparation. Women gain critical computer skills, build resumes, and access job-search tools, significantly improving their educational outcomes. The lab also enhances the English as a Second Language program, and programs that bring English-speaking women up to a level of proficiency that ensures they can complete their GEDs.



### Professional Development Workshops:

Hosted in partnership with local organizations, these workshops cover topics such as interview preparation, resume writing, and workplace communication, equipping women with the tools they need to succeed in their chosen careers.



### Angel Tree Program:

Addressing the unique challenges faced by impoverished women during the holiday season, this program supported students by ensuring their children received holiday gifts. This initiative reduced dropout rates during a critical period and reinforced our mission to lift women and their children out of generational poverty.

In 2025, we were able to help provide gifts for 133 children. We supported 49 moms with gift cards for food, Amazon, or Walmart.



# Programs in Focus

## OUTCOMES

The impact of our programs is reflected in the meaningful progress made by the women we serve.

### Certificates and Training Progress

Women supported by the Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation continue to earn certifications in high-demand fields such as healthcare, education, and skilled trades. Others remain actively enrolled in training programs that span multiple semesters and are progressing toward completion.

### Employment and Opportunity

Many participants receive job offers during or shortly after completing their training, often securing positions that provide greater stability, growth potential, and a path toward long-term economic independence.

### Career Advancement

Women supported through our programs are advancing toward life-changing professional milestones, building confidence, credentials, and momentum that extend well beyond their initial training.

### How Do We Know We're Succeeding?

Excluding the COVID years when schools were closed, only two students have ever been at risk of not completing their programs. In one case, a student was disenrolled by the school due to challenges adapting to the learning environment, and scholarship funds were promptly redirected to support another woman. In the other, a non-academic barrier threatened enrollment. By connecting the student with a partner nonprofit, the issue was resolved and she successfully completed her training.

Together, these outcomes demonstrate the transformative power of education and the importance of individualized support in helping women overcome barriers and build sustainable futures.



# Donors & Sponsor Recognition

## A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

The success of the Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation in 2025 would not have been possible without the incredible generosity and commitment of our donors, sponsors, volunteers, and community partners. Together, you have helped us transform lives and empower women to achieve economic independence through education and support.

### MAJOR DONORS AND CORPORATE SPONSORS

We are deeply grateful to our major donors and corporate sponsors whose contributions have been instrumental in advancing our mission. These major donors contributed at least \$1,000 to Ashton's Foundation in 2025:

Zoetic Global, LLC	Kristin & Sean Hess	Communications Test Design, Inc.
The Frances Wood Wilson Foundation	David & Rachel Swartz	GA Power
Ed & Kim Keegan	The Thomas McKey Tillman Foundation	Mark Martin
Rich & Linda Crooks	Tish Rumsey	Oconee State Bank
Athens Seed	North Oconee Rotary	Peach State FCU
James Whitley	Cole Shackleford	Robins Financial Credit Union
Jackson EMC Foundation	Dr. Mel & Val Cown	The Irving Family Fund at Athens Area
AmFund	Richard Boone, Sr	Community Foundation
Raytheon Charitable Gifts Program	Linda Groarke	The Middlebrooks Family Foundation
Stanton Law LLC	Sheats Structural Consulting (Holly & Reed Sheats)	The Winthrop Foundation
Dr. Steven Hines	Chick-fil-A @ Epps Bridge	Walmart Facility #1400
Parker Plastic Surgery	c/o John Collette	
Cheri & Pat Cherry		

Your financial support has enabled us to provide scholarships, fund programs, and remove barriers for women striving to achieve their dreams. We celebrate your commitment to making a difference.

We would also like to thank all our individual donors, who chose to give their hard-earned money to a cause dedicated to helping others. We know there are almost 500 nonprofit organizations in the Athens area, and your choosing us is very meaningful to us!

For a complete list of sponsors and grantors who have made 2025 such a success, please visit <https://ashtonhopekeeganfoundation.org/2024-hope-gala/> (And we understand the URL says 2024, but it does link to the 2025 Hope Gala - Ed will strive to be more detail-oriented in 2026!)

2025 Hope Gala Donors

# Volunteer and Community Partners

## A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

The tireless efforts of our volunteers and the support of our community partners have been essential to our success in 2025.

### **VOLUNTEERS:**

Our events, such as the 2025 Hope Gala, the Stiletto Stampede 5K, and the Angel Tree initiative, were executed seamlessly thanks to the dedication of our volunteer team. With 54 volunteers and eight board members, your contributions of time, energy, and expertise brought our vision to life.

We would also like to thank all of the event volunteers who worked tirelessly on our events and fundraising efforts. This includes a diverse set of groups such as Honor Students, Athens Tech Interior Design Students, ARAMARK community volunteers, UGA MBA students, Rotarians, and individuals who want to make the community a better place.

### **COMMUNITY, NONPROFIT, AND EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS:**

We extend special thanks to our partners who help us expand our reach and impact:

- **Athens Technical College:** For your continued collaboration in training and educating the next generation of skilled professionals.
- **AmFund:** For providing critical resources and expertise to enhance our fundraising efforts.
- **Women to the World**
- **Innovative Healthcare Institute**
- **Connect Care Medical Training Institute**
- **One Breath CNA**
- **Medical Institute of NE Georgia**

Your partnership ensures that no woman faces her challenges alone and that every “ask” for help receives a meaningful and comprehensive response.



# Goals for 2026

## EMPOWERING WOMEN, TRANSFORMING LIVES

At the Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation, our mission is to break the cycle of generational poverty for women in Northeast Georgia by empowering them through education, removing barriers to success, and supporting their transition into the professional workforce. Our goals for 2026 reflect a bold vision for growth and impact, and we invite you to join us in making these goals a reality.

### **GOAL #1: Expanding Access to GED Education**

We aim to increase GED completion by 25%, supporting at least 34 women through up to \$10,000 in scholarships and testing assistance. Strategic partnerships with Women to the World, Athens Technical College, and United Way of Northeast Georgia will help remove barriers and ensure access to this critical milestone.

### **GOAL #2: Supporting Skills-Based Training**

We aim to increase enrollment in technical and certification programs by 25%, awarding \$1,000 scholarships to at least 162 women. Partnerships with Innovative Healthcare Institute, Athens Technical College, and continued engagement with GED graduates will support smooth transitions into skills-based programs that lead to sustainable careers.

### **GOAL #3: Investing in High School Graduates**

We will award \$1,000 scholarships to at least 10 students transitioning directly from high school into technical training who do not qualify for the HOPE scholarship. In partnership with the Rotary Club of Athens and local high schools, we will help remove financial barriers and expand access to career-focused education.

### **GOAL #4: Removing Workforce Barriers**

We will invest at least \$10,000 to remove final financial barriers to employment by providing professional gear and covering certification exam costs. Through partnerships with training schools, we will ensure graduates can transition confidently and immediately into the workforce.

# Signature Events in 2026



## 33 FOR 33 CELEBRATION

**JANUARY 24, 2026**

Launched as a year-long giving effort, the 33 for 33 Campaign honors Ashton's birthday and legacy and will be celebrated with a community event at Smallcakes Athens.

Visit [ashtonhopekeeganfoundation.org/33-for-33](https://ashtonhopekeeganfoundation.org/33-for-33) for more information.



## THE 9TH ANNUAL HOPE GALA

**AUGUST 8, 2026**

Aligned with the celebration of America's 250th birthday, the 9th Annual Hope Gala will honor women's contributions across past, present, and future through an evening of elegance and purpose. The event will feature a buffet dinner, silent auction, raffle, and entertainment, with all proceeds directly supporting programs that help women overcome barriers and achieve their dreams.

The progress made in 2025 reinforces what is possible when opportunity meets determination and resources. Each woman supported, each barrier removed, and each partnership strengthened reflects our continued commitment to building pathways toward education, stability, and economic independence.

As we look ahead, we remain focused on investing in women, expanding access to life-changing training, and working alongside a community that believes in lasting impact. With your support through giving, sponsorship, or volunteering, we can continue to empower women, strengthen families, and create hope that extends far beyond today.

Ready to be part of what comes next? Visit <https://ashtonhopekeeganfoundation.org/> to learn how you can make a difference.

# Join Us

## GET INVOLVED AND HELP EMPOWER WOMEN FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Your support is vital in continuing our mission to break the cycle of generational poverty for women and their families. Here's how you can make a difference:

### DONATE TODAY:

Every contribution helps us fund scholarships, provide critical resources, and create lasting change in the lives of women striving for a better future.

- **Online Donations:** Visit our secure donation page at [www.AshtonSentUs.org/donate](http://www.AshtonSentUs.org/donate) or scan the QR code below.
- **Recurring Gifts:** Consider becoming a monthly donor to provide ongoing support and ensure sustainability for our programs.



### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Lend your time and talents to make an impact. Visit <https://ashtonhopekeeganfoundation.org/volunteer/> to learn more and sign up for upcoming opportunities.

### SPREAD THE WORD:

You can amplify our mission and inspire others to join our cause:

- **Follow Us on Social Media:** Stay updated on our programs and events on Facebook and Instagram.
- **Share Our Story:** Tell your friends, family, and colleagues about the Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation and the impact we're making together.
- **Host a Fundraiser:** Organize your own event to support our programs and increase awareness in your community.

Don't forget to tag us in your posts using #AshtonSentUs to help spread the word!

### TOGETHER, WE WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Your generosity and involvement drive our mission forward. Whether you donate, volunteer, or share our message, you are changing lives and creating opportunities for women to thrive. Thank you for being a part of our community and helping us build a brighter tomorrow.

# *The Hope Gala*

## *The American Story of Hope* *When Women Thrive, Families and Communities Grow Stronger*

Mark your calendars for the 2026 Hope Gala, returning on August 8, 2026, for an unforgettable evening celebrating resilience, opportunity, and the enduring power of community. Aligned with the nation's 250th birthday, this year's Gala will honor women's contributions to America's past, present, and future, and spotlight the role women continue to play in shaping stronger families and communities.

Building on the momentum of recent Galas, the 2026 Hope Gala will bring together supporters, partners, and community leaders for a night of inspiration and purpose. Funds raised during the event directly support scholarships, education, and support services that help women overcome barriers and pursue economic independence.

Our long-standing partnership with Athens Technical College continues, with talented interior design students leading the creation of this year's immersive event experience. Planning is already underway, and we look forward to seeing their interpretation of The American Story of Hope come to life through thoughtful design and storytelling.

### *Sponsorship and Tickets*

Sponsorship opportunities are now available and provide critical support for the Foundation's programs. Whether you are a business leader or an individual passionate about making a difference, there is a sponsorship level to match your commitment. For sponsorship information, please contact [Treasurer@AshtonSentUs.org](mailto:Treasurer@AshtonSentUs.org).

The Hope Gala website will launch in February, with tickets going on sale in May. Early ticket purchases are encouraged and include a discount, as this event continues to draw strong community interest.

### *How You Can Help*

- **Become a Sponsor:** Contact [Treasurer@ashtonsentus.org](mailto:Treasurer@ashtonsentus.org) to learn more about sponsorship opportunities.
- **Purchase Tickets:** Watch for ticket announcements in May.
- **Spread the Word:** Share event updates on social media and invite others to join us for this meaningful evening.

Join us for the 2026 Hope Gala as we celebrate The American Story of Hope and invest in a future where women thrive and communities grow stronger. Together, we will continue to create opportunity and transform lives.

# Join Us

EMPOWERING WOMEN. BUILDING FUTURES. TOGETHER.

As we reflect on the progress made in 2025, we are grateful for the community that continues to make the work of the Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation possible. Through your support as donors, sponsors, volunteers, and partners, women were empowered to overcome barriers, pursue education, and move closer to lives defined by stability and opportunity.

In 2026, we move forward with renewed purpose and momentum. The year begins with continued engagement through events and initiatives that bring our community together in meaningful ways, including the 33 for 33 Campaign, which honors Ashton's legacy and supports year-long impact. From scholarships and education to partnerships and community collaboration, each effort remains grounded in our mission to help women build sustainable futures for themselves and their families.

As the nation marks 250 years of history, we are reminded that progress is shaped not only by the past, but by those who invest in what comes next. With initiatives throughout the year and the 2026 Hope Gala on the horizon, there are many ways to stay involved and help expand opportunities for women in Athens and beyond.

Your continued support through giving, volunteering, and advocacy allows us to create lasting change. Together, we are building futures, strengthening families, and inspiring hope one woman at a time. Thank you!

# Contact Us

STAY CONNECTED AND JOIN US IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE



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Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING THIS WORK WITH YOU THROUGHOUT 2026!**