



Brave Women Project

2025 Pillar Awards Nominees

EDUCATE

Kim Adley
Founder
Passport to Pittsburgh, LLC

Becca Carl
Owner
Vintage Grace Boutique

Melanie Colusci
Founder and President
Bridger Financial Group

Dr. Alicia Harvey-Smith
Founder / President / CEO
Sapientia One Global Solutions

Maria Holtz
Director of Training and Development
Bookminders

Dr. Susan Medley
Music Director
Pittsburgh Concert Chorale

Jan Receski
Founder + CEO
OnPar Now

Trish Romano
Executive Director
Leadership Washington County

EMPOWER

Heather Abraham
Talk Show Host,
KDKA-TV, PTL, and Talk Pittsburgh
President, SAG-Aftra

Christine Brookins
Owner & Financial Advisor
Oakbridge Advisor Group

Kelly Cain
Founder / Executive Director
Autism Caring Center

Yvonne Campos
Founder
Campos Inc., Next Act Fund +

Erica Cochran
Director of Development
Girls Inc.

Kelley DeFilippis
Nurse Practitioner - Menopause Specialist
Cornerstone Wellness

Takiyah Durham
Director
First Steps & Beyond - Allegheny Health Network

Dale Gold
Career Coach and Advocate for the
Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Resources of Gold

Stephanie Herring
Founder & Chief Empowerment Officer (CEO)
PeopleFirst Coaching & Consulting Solutions

Sheila Hyland
Principal & Co-Founder
Foster Hyland

Jennifer Krebs
Project Manager
Bookminders

Cynthia LaGuardia
Co-Founder
The Corey Michael LaGuardia Foundation

Marion Lewis
Founder and President
Daisylew Productions

Lindsey Lippencott
Owner & CEO
Events by Lindsey LLC

Sharise Nance, LCSW, CCTP
Co-Owner / Founder / CEO
Vitamin C Healing, LLC/SWAG Alliance
Foundation, HandinHand Counseling
Services, LLC

Morgan Rutan
Specialty Territory Sales Representative
EcoLab

Arlie Urso
Founder / Owner, Registered Nurse
Arlie Aesthetics



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ENCOURAGE

Kylee Baker
Branch Manager
Key Bank

Nella Eismann
Owner & Massage Therapist
Salt & Sound Wellness

Sunnie Fenk
Operations Supervisor
solutions4networks

Kym Gable
Media Personality, Actress, and Chapter Director
of the charity organization Inspired Women Paying It Forward

Merilee Smith
Founder of Spark With Merilee
Mindset and Leadership Speaker | Coach | Facilitator

Rebecca Zaccard
Founder, Co-founder, and Host
Radiance Astrology, Penn's Choice and Cosmic Candies,
and the Green Bay Packers & the NFL

ENGAGE

Carole DeAngelo
Director of Multi-Market Advertising
and Events
Observer-Reporter, Herald-Standard,
and Dominion Post

Jennifer DiLucia
Podcast Host
Spill With Me Jenny D

Rebecca Gazda
Founder
Fractional Female Solutions

Meesha Gerhart
CEO
Red Tree Web Design

Arlea Hoffman
Owner & Chief Business Advocate
True Fit Marketing

Shelby Mastovich-Gruber
Relationship Development Officer
Clearview Federal Credit Union

Carrie Nolan Robson
Executive Director
North Side/Shore Chamber of Commerce

Cynthia (Cindi) Oliver
Business Consultant
Small Business Development Center
Duquesne University

Susan Orr
Director of Communications and Media
University of Pittsburgh School of
Computing and Information

Marsha Posset
Chief Marketing Officer
Fragasso Financial Advisors

Mandi Pryor
Executive Director
South West Regional Chamber of Commerce

Susan Roop
Licensed Professional Counselor,
Co-Owner, and Wellness Architect
Inspiring Wellness LLC

Ginny Rothschild
CEO / Principal
Workscape, Inc.

Natalie Wagner
Business Development Executive
The Motherhood

Rachel Winner
Senior Account Executive
Audacy



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E V O L V E

Lynn Banaszak
Founder, President & CEO
The Caileigh Lynn McDowell
Foundation

Tanya Chaney
The Lifestyle Curator
Chaney's Natural
Massage. Bodywork. Wellness.

Jennifer Davis
Sr. Director, Donor Recruitment
Vitalant

Kathi Elliott
CEO
Gwen's Girls

Melissa Ghelarducci Hancock
Founder & CEO
I Do. I Did. I'm Done!™ Divorce
Coaching and Divorced & Ready
to Travel™

Dana Gold
Chief Operating Officer
Jewish Family & Community Services
of Pittsburgh

Lynzy Groves, CFRE
Senior Development Manager
Alzheimer's Association
Greater Pennsylvania Chapter

Ki Ki B Jones
Media Personality (WAMO 107.3 & KDKA TV),
Founder of Nice 2 Media Marketing &
Promotions, LLC

Tracy Montarti
Founder / CEO
Villa Montarti LLC

Gabrielle Morella
Managing Partner
Morella & Associates

Melissa Six
Founder & CEO
Compassionate Care Unlimited of PA

Jackie Slaughaupt
Co-Founder and President
Teetotal Initiative

Carley Taslov
Shareholder
Schneider Downs

Melanie Taylor
Bubba Show Co Host
Audacy 100.7 Star