



WINGS FOR WIDOWS

Clearing the Path Forward.™

Ambassador Notes – Good things to know and repeat about W4W

- Wings for Widows is the only 501(c)3 public charity in the U.S. providing pro bono financial and legal counseling to widows. We are an all-volunteer organization.
- We help new widows embrace their financial future with confidence.
- Losing a beloved spouse is one of life's most difficult experiences, regardless of your financial circumstances. But for some, it can be financially devastating. Widows work with a financial advisor to address all the practical matters and they receive personalized care from a widow-volunteer who has been down the same path.
- After losing a loved one, widows and widowers have to deal with the practical things in their lives. The financial and legal things. We guide widows through the financial and legal complexities of early widowhood. There is no fee for our services.
- The loss of a spouse, perhaps the only source of household income, puts many widows at financial risk. We empower new widows to gain control over their finances. We help them avoid making big mistakes.
- Emotional healing is tied to financial well-being. The sooner a widow can gain control of her finances, the sooner she is likely to take control of the other parts of her life. We believe this is an important part of the grieving process.
- We focus on widows over widowers, because there are 4x as many widows as widowers, and research shows widows are more likely to need our help than widowers...about 1,000 each year in the Twin Cities alone. (That being said, we would never turn away a widower who needed our help.)
- Medicare insurance does a nice job of taking care of caregivers while loved ones are in hospice, but once the loved ones are gone, there isn't much support for the surviving spouse. That's where Wings for Widows comes in.
- It takes about a year for many widows to get back on their financial feet and we're engaged for their entire journey.