

Dear Community,

We here at WILDR - Women in Leadership for Diverse Representation - are building a network of empowered leaders!

We want to acknowledge the visionary leadership of our founder, Dorian Seamster. In September, WILDR announced that Dorian would be stepping away from her leadership role to continue her work in Placer County. As WILDR continues to grow, we will be moving deeper into action with founding members, Christina, Sarah, Lora Lee, Gail, and Bobbie - [our Executive Team](#) - to carry forward WILDR's vision.

As you read on, our hope is that you are inspired and feel drawn to our small but mighty group.



Here is our year in review:

WILDR successfully held our first [InspirHer Santa Cruz County](#) event in collaboration with the Democratic Women's Club. Throughout diverse sections of Santa Cruz County, this event honored ten outstanding and unsung women out of fifty nominees, and gathered the community to network and celebrate the hard work of these women in a variety of leadership positions.



WILDR's second Women's Circle officially began in 2024! These Women's Circles aim to motivate, inspire, and sustain diverse women who are running for public office positions - many for the very first time. We engaged **ten** women in Santa Cruz County and we are proud that **eight** women entered formal leadership seats. We acknowledge that support is needed beyond a campaign. We enter this year with renewed purpose to continue with new iterations of our Circles.

"It takes courage to run and crazy courage to serve!"

- Asm. Gail Pellerin



We celebrated significant milestones due to the energy of WILDR participants:

- We began the year with two new interns, funded by the UCSC, and continued to sustain them with paid, part-time employment
- WILDR hosted bilingual virtual [forums](#) that brought together women from across the county
- We participated in Women's Empowerment Night at a Warriors basketball game
- WILDR designed t-shirts! [Request your purple shirt - no donation is too big or too small!](#)
- WILDR published [an op-ed in Lookout Santa Cruz](#) about our mission and vision
- WILDR women showed up in support of Measure V at the Watsonville City Council and supported a woman for an appointment to the Santa Cruz Port Commission

Ending the year with courage, we co-hosted the Courage to Run Brunch with the Democratic Women's Club. We celebrated all of the passionate, hardworking, and courageous women who ran for public office. WILDR is committed to creating space for women to be engaged and supported beyond election results. Win or lose, WILDR is building a network of empowered women leaders!



Our ask to you, as this year comes to a close, is for your continued support as we begin 2025 with passion, energy, and hope. [Click here to help sustain WILDR.](#)

With your donations, we can build upon what we've started this year: supporting women entering into and continuing their positions in public service; hosting and participating in community building events; building upon our witness and advocacy potential, and so much more!

Thank you for your continued support,

Stephanie Barron Lu

Stephanie Barron Lu, Co-Chair

Erica Padilla Chavez

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www.wildrsantacruz.com



Women in Leadership for
Diverse Representation



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