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## Working Together, For Tomorrow

### St. Luke's University Health Network and WM Prepare Students for the Workforce

By Adrienne Fors / WM Community & Municipal Relations Manager Greater Mid-Atlantic Region

LEHIGH VALLEY - Last week, the Adolescent Career Development and Mentoring Program at St. Luke's University Health Network received a \$10,000 donation from WM through partnership in the Pennsylvania Education Improvement Tax Credit Program.

"On behalf of the St. Luke's staff, we extend our sincerest appreciation to WM for its generous \$10,000 contribution supporting St. Luke's University Hospital's Adolescent Career Development and Mentoring Programs. This meaningful investment is helping to expand educational and career-readiness opportunities for adolescents across our community. WM's commitment directly supports programs that empower young people with mentorship, exposure to career pathways, and the skills needed for long-term success. We are truly grateful for WM's continued partnership and leadership in strengthening educational opportunities for Pennsylvania's youth." Commented Susan Lopez, Director of Corporate Giving and Special Events.

As a long-time supporter of the Pennsylvania Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program, WM has contributed more than \$25 million to deserving scholarship and education improvement organizations across the Commonwealth since. In 2025, the company contributed more than \$3 million through the EITC program across Pennsylvania.

"WM is proud to be a good neighbor and community partner with operations in every corner of the Commonwealth. We have a long history of donating to education. These projects and programs help ensure the future of our communities by providing children with the opportunity to reach their full potential. Students of today are our leaders of tomorrow." Said Adrienne Fors, Community and Municipal Relations Manager for WM.



L-R Susan Lopez, Director of Corporate Giving and Special Events St. Luke's University Health Network, Adrienne Fors / WM Community & Municipal Relations Manager

## Celebrating Women Farmers in 2026

By Rep. Ann Flood

SLATE BELT - I'm pleased to share that 2026 has been designated the International Year of the Woman Farmer. In Pennsylvania, we honor the women who grow our food, lead our farms, strengthen our communities and drive our economy every day.

### In Pennsylvania:

- 35% of all agricultural producers are women. That's 31,135 women leading on our farms.
- 24,906, or 80%, are involved in day-to-day management decisions.
- 4,227 are under 35, and Pennsylvania ranks No. 1 in the nation for young agricultural producers.
- Two-thirds of students at the Pennsylvania State University College of Agricultural Sciences are women shaping the future of agriculture.

Women farmers are more than producers. They are entrepreneurs, land stewards and community leaders. From multigenerational farm owners to first-generation growers, from students to seasoned operators, they are shaping the future of agriculture in Pennsylvania and beyond.

As a member of the Governor's Advisory Commission on Women, I am proud to recognize women farmers' contributions to our Commonwealth!

## PA WOMEN IN AG ARE GROWING A NATION

HERE'S HOW:

**35%** of all PA agriculture producers are **women**.

**2/3** of the PSU College of Agricultural Sciences students are **women**.

Of those **31,135** women:

- ★ **1,282** are hired managers
- ★ **26,156** are operators who live on the farm
- ★ **4,227** are under 35 and we're #1 in the U.S. in young ag producers
- ★ **24,906** are involved in day-to-day management decisions (80%)

Women more often farm **SMALLER PARCELS**, **PUBLIC LAND**, or land held by conservation organizations or protected by ag easements.

Across the **United States**, counties with more women-owned or operated farms have **LONGER LIFE EXPECTANCIES**, **LOWER POVERTY RATES**, and **MORE ENTREPRENEURS**.

More PA and U.S. women are in Ag now **THAN EVER!**

According to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization, **women produce MORE THAN 50%** of food grown in the world. In some parts of the world it's 80%.



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