Our Approach
We strive to be creative and innovative in our work and flexible in the approach we take to solving problems. To date, we have invested in over 150 organizations, including nonprofits, private sector companies, venture funds, and advocacy groups that are on the frontlines of the issues we work on.

We support our partners through a diverse set of tools, including:
• Philanthropic grantmaking to help nonprofits maximize their impact.
• Fund and direct investments to demonstrate that historically under-resourced founders and investors can deliver market returns.
• Advocacy to advance an ambitious policy agenda that helps break down barriers to progress.
• Strategic partnerships to bring together diverse leaders and organizations to achieve common goals.

Our Work
Advancing women’s power and influence
We are focused on positioning more women, especially women of color, to make decisions, control resources, and shape policies and perspectives. This also includes investing in the health and well-being of women and families, in line with Melinda’s belief that health is a critical lever in enabling women to have their full power in society.

Expanding access to mental health support for young people.
We are working to help address the urgent needs of young people, especially LGBTQ+ youth and young people of color, who are currently being failed by outdated systems designed for adults.

Visit pivotalventures.org to learn more about our work, sign up for email updates, and follow us on social.
Our Commitment to Women’s Power and Influence

In August 2019, our founder, Melinda French Gates, outlined a visionary strategy to position more women in the U.S. to make decisions, control resources, and shape policies and perspectives. Through Pivotal, Melinda committed $1 billion over 10 years to expand women’s power and influence in the United States. To make that happen, we are:

• Supporting leaders and organizations working to remove the biggest barriers facing women and girls of color today: violence and economic inequity.

• Working to close gender gaps in technology by helping increase the number of women graduating with degrees in relevant fields, investing in start-ups in the sector, and leading cutting-edge tech companies.

• Supporting more women to run for public office, win elections, and succeed as leaders in public office.

• Working alongside our partners in both the public and private sectors to unlock solutions that make caregiving more affordable for families.

• Securing a comprehensive federal paid family and medical leave policy that benefits all working families.

In May 2024, Melinda announced that as the first step in the next chapter of her philanthropy she will be committing an additional $1 billion through 2026 to people and organizations working on behalf of women and families in the United States and around the world.

We measure women’s power and influence against key indicators:

• the wage and wealth gap for women
• the division of unpaid caregiving duties by women
• the number of women in senior roles across the public, private, and social sectors
• the percentage of intellectual and cultural content created by women
• public perception of women’s power and influence

FEATURED PARTNERS DRIVING IMPACT

The nation’s largest and most diverse training program for women to run for office and win.

A venture capital firm investing in companies that reflect changing demographics.

Intermediary feminist fund mobilizing toward a future free from violence.

Strengthening and expanding pathways into tech.