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25 FOR 25 SERIES

## TERESA YOUNGER

*25 for 25 is an original content series by Gucci and CHIME FOR CHANGE to mark the historic milestone of Beijing +25 in March, as well as Women's History Month. The series will highlight activists, CHIME Advisory Board members, partners and supporters who represent the progress made on gender equality over the past 25 years, and the emerging next generation continuing this critical work.*



CHIME is proud to feature the leader a key nonprofit partner, Teresa Younger, the President and CEO of the [Ms. Foundation for Women](#), who has spent more than 20 years on the frontlines of some of the most critical issues affecting women and girls. Learn about her work to build women's collective power in the U.S. and advance gender equality for all below, and you can find more information about CHIME's partnership with Ms. Foundation for Women [here](#).

### **What are your hopes and expectations for gender equality in the next 25 years?**

In the next 25 years, I hope we are no longer talking about gender. Gender is a closed binary that doesn't fully reflect the breadth, depth, and grace of the humans that make up this world.

### **What does gender equality mean to you?**

True equality spans beyond gender. At the Ms. Foundation for Women, we believe in a just and safe world where power and possibility are not limited by gender, race, class, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability or age. But we aren't there yet. Our democracy was not created with or for women or people of color, so the protections that come with equitable access to safety, health, and economic security remain unrealized for many of us.

### **What keeps you energized and committed as a leader for gender equality?**

I am most energized by being in open conversation and deep relationships with people who rise every day to make the world a better place and who speak their truth to power. They motivate me and reinforce that we can get to a better tomorrow and a more equal and equitable world.

**What advice would you give younger generations on how to advocate / work for gender equality as they get older?**

The work is long and hard, so stay vigilant, pace yourself, and never lose your voice.

**Who do you look to as an example / role model in the fight for gender equality?**

I look to the people I call everyday feminists. They are our grandmothers, our aunts, our cousins; they are the names we don't know that are fighting every day to bring us closer to the social, political, and economic equality for all.

