



Women's Giving Circle of Harford County May 2023 Newsletter



A Message from the Chair

We had 43 members join us for our General Membership and Grant Vote meeting on May 11th at Harford Community College. This meeting wraps up several months of hard work by our Grant Committee.

I'd like to extend a very special thanks to Hillary Smolenski for chairing the committee and to the following members for their painstaking review and scoring of the grant applications: Courtney Brust, Sara Burley, Debi Buta, Ronnie Davis, Anne Eikenberg, Jean Foulk, Laura Haug, Patricia Horst, Rosemary King Johnston, Alice Welsh Leeds, Debbie Lynch, Sarah Ortiz-Brown, Beth Rebeck, and Terry Troy. The work of these ladies enables the WGC to fulfill our mission of engaging women of all generations in the power of community philanthropy!

With this grant cycle, we will have awarded over \$564,000 in grants in our 13th year of collective giving. Stay tuned for the formal public announcement of our grantees.

Donna Kreis, Chair

Membership & Outreach Committee

BUCKLE UP.....as we start the month of May our new member registrations put us over 50% towards our goal of 140 active members by the end of 2023...**so we are in full gear now!**

Even more exciting is that we are not quite halfway through the year and have wonderful events and grantee engagements yet to come.

Since our last update at the end of March we have welcomed the following phenomenal women to our amazing group of WGC members:

Cheryl Foley, Nicole Barnwell, Tiffany Stephens, Carol Helfrich, Christine Moser

Mimi Murray, Michelle Vogel, Peggy Sullivan Lucas, Sandy Schlehr

If you would like to be on the frontline of the excitement in engaging with and recruiting new members, please come join us on the Membership and Outreach Committee. It is a super fun group of women who enjoy sharing good food/cocktails, loads of fun, but mostly the joy we get in sharing the good work the Committee does in our outreach to friends, family, co-workers, etc. when they join us! Our simple collective giving process – the more members the more grants we can fund – is demonstrated by the growing number of grants we award each year!

Watch the WGC website and Facebook page for information on upcoming events, including another impromptu summer ice cream social that is in the works.

Member contest update: Havre de Grace (1), Bel Air (10)

As always, please encourage friends, family, co-workers, etc. to visit the website or send me an email at: wgcharfordmembership@gmail.com and I'll reach out to them directly. Also remember to check employer's matching programs to see if the WGC membership dues qualify!

Donna Kahoe, Membership and Outreach Committee Chair

Grant Committee Update

The Grant Committee had busy months in March and April with over 30 applications to review! Each member of the Committee carefully reviewed and scored each application, and the scores were compiled and averaged. We met as a group in April to review the grant score sheets and to discuss each application and score further, and the Committee made recommendations on what they would like presented to the Board for approval.

On April 27th, these recommendations were presented to the Board, and the Board members approved all 13 recommendations. On May 11th, the 2023 General Membership and Grant Vote was held at Harford Community College, and we are incredibly proud to say the membership approved of the 13 grantees, totaling \$54,724! To date, the WGC has granted 162 grants, totaling a sum of \$564,924.14!

We are in the process of notifying all of the non-profits that applied for funding, and an announcement of the 2023 grantees will be made soon!

Consider joining the Grants Committee for the 2024 grant cycle to learn about the need for support in Harford County.

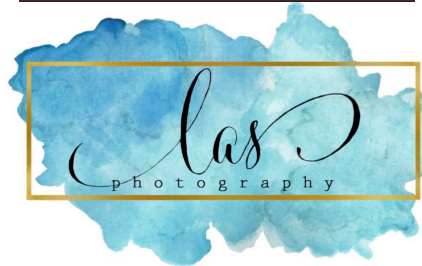
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Page 2 of 3

Hillary Smolenski, Grant Committee Chair

Special Thanks

A special thanks to JPS Electrical Services for sponsoring the delicious lunch that was enjoyed by our members at the 2023 General Membership and Grant Vote meeting that occurred on May 11th at Harford Community College. Thanks also goes out to Alexis Wilson who was our photographer for the event and captured our membership in action!



Women's Giving Circle of Harford County / P.O. Box 94 / Bel Air, MD 21014

