

Women's Giving Circle of Harford County February 2021 Newsletter



A Message from the Chair

It was great to connect with you during our virtual General Membership meeting. Having grown up in Harford County, I am honored to serve as chair of the Women's Giving Circle and I am energized by the enthusiasm and talent of our incoming Board members.

Our grant season is in full swing and it is exciting to anticipate where our dollars will go. Our generous members make this philanthropy possible. Help expand our reach even further by joining the Membership Committee to share the power of collective giving. We will re-convene the Membership Committee via a Zoom meeting on February 18th at 6 p.m. Email wgcharfordmembership@gmail.com if interested. All member are welcome!

This last year has been tough for everyone and the need has never been greater, so I want to thank you for your continued support of the Women's Giving Circle. I look forward to the time when we are able to meet in person again, especially for our belated 10th anniversary celebration. Until then, continue to stay connected via Facebook, Instagram, and our newsletters. As well as share your love of the Women's Giving Circle with friends and family.

Donna Kreis, Chair

Membership and Outreach Committee Update

Can you believe it's already February? That means we are two months into the year, which means the time is NOW to begin installment payments to join or renew your membership in the WGC. Pay the \$50 administrative fee and then set a recurring payment of just \$45.45 for the each of the 11 months of February through December.

You can even select the day the funds will be withdrawn! Membership is only this affordable in the early months of the year, so start your installment now!

Please also plan to join us on February 18th at 6 p.m. when we reconvene the Membership Committee. For more information, check out the event details on Facebook or send an email to:

wgcharfordmembership@gmail.com.

Donna Kahoe
Membership and Outreach Committee Chair

Join or Renew

Growfund Update Regarding Check Payments

If you intend to join or renew your 2021 membership via paper check, please take note of the following policy changes made by Growfund, our fund administrator, effective March 1:

- Members using a paper check must first register for a free Growfund account [here](#). The account enables members to access their account history and tax letters as well as to contribute via wire transfers or transfers from external Donor Advised Funds. There is no fee to register for an account.
- Paper checks under \$5,000 will be assessed a \$20 processing fee (only applicable to grant fund checks) by Growfund.
- Growfund will deposit the member's check into her individual Growfund account, and the member is responsible for transferring the funds to the Women's Giving Circle account.

There are no changes to membership transactions made via electronic means (credit card or e-check). Growfund instituted these changes in order to reduce risks and processing times associated with the manual processing of paper checks.

Should you wish to renew membership via paper check, please consider making your renewal today before the changes take effect on March 1. Click [here](#) for a check invoice and payment instructions. Instead of mailing the checks to our P.O. Box, please email us at wgchco@gmail.com and we will make arrangements for a Board member to pick-up your checks. We will need your checks in hand by February 19 to ensure delivery to Growfund by March 1.

Should you have questions or concerns, please email us at wgchco@gmail.com.

Grant Committee Report

WGC women, start your grant engines!! And there they go - the 2021 grant cycle is off to a good start.

In January, the grant guidelines and application were posted on the WGC website and shared on Facebook and with local Facebook groups for nonprofits, and a pre-application meeting for prospective applicants was conducted. Take a look at the WGC site linked below and share the information with your friends and colleagues in the nonprofit community. Encourage them to apply for a grant – up to \$5,000 could be waiting for their organization at the finish line.

To be considered for funding, applicants must submit an application, required documents, and budget by March 12th at noon – not a minute later!! So, get started now.

If you want to be in the driver's seat as we race toward the finish line, join the Grant Committee be a grant reviewer, participate in the Committee review, and make recommendations for 2021 grant funding.

There is more Committee activity from February through June of 2021. Check the WGC website, Facebook page, and monthly newsletters for updates on events and progress on the 2021 grant cycle. Please stay tuned!!

It's not too late to get involved with the Committee, so send an email to wgcharfordcogrants@gmail.com if you'd care to assist or contact one of the co-chairs directly using the email addresses below.

Sara Burley, srbri8@gmail.com

Sarah Oritz-Brown, mybliss@mac.com

Grant Committee Co-Chairs

[Learn More](#)

10th (11th?) Anniversary Celebration

It was with heavy hearts that the Board made the decision to postpone the WGC's 10th anniversary celebration last year. But, with brighter days potentially on the horizon, we are moving forward with plans to celebrate the WGC's belated 10th anniversary in October 2021.

If you are interested joining the Anniversary Committee to help plan the celebration, please send an email to: wgcanniversary@gmail.com and you will be contacted in advance of the Committee's first meeting.

Sherifa Clarke

Robin Tomechko

Anniversary Committee Co-Chairs

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