



## Women's Giving Circle of Harford County October 2023 Newsletter

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### *A Message from the Chair*

Happy Fall! Our harvest of 29 new members so far this year is a testament to all the hard work by Donna Kahoe and the Membership and Outreach Committee. These ladies have put together some great engagement events to showcase our grantees and deserve a shout out.

Our last event of the year is our [Holiday Happy Hour and Giving Tuesday Event](#) on November

28<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 7:30 p.m. I hope to see you all there! Thanks to the [Kelly Group](#) for their sponsorship of the event.

Please take the time to nominate a non-profit for the Members' Choice Award (details below). This is your opportunity to directly advocate for your favorite non-profit meeting the criteria.

Now that our 2023 grants are awarded, we are growing our funds for the 2024 grant cycle through new members joining and existing member renewals. Thanks to many of you who have already renewed. We greatly value your membership. For those with pending renewals, visit our [website](#) for many payment options, including credit card/bank account, check, donor-advised fund, direct transfer/ACH, or a required minimum distribution (RMD) from a retirement account. If you need any assistance, contact us at [wgchco@gmail.com](mailto:wgchco@gmail.com).

Donna Kreis, Chair

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### ***2023 Members' Choice Award***

#### **Nominate a Nonprofit for our 4<sup>th</sup> Members' Choice Award!**

On November 28, 2023, the members of the Women's Giving Circle of Harford County will gather at the Maryland Golf and Country Club for our [Holiday Happy Hour and Giving Tuesday](#) celebration! At this celebration, we will present the fourth Members' Choice Award to a deserving nonprofit, selected by you, the local philanthropists who have helped WGC reach this milestone.

When they established the Women's Giving Circle in 2011, our founding members pledged to set aside 25% of each yearly contribution in an endowment fund. This fund empowers our members' contributions to grow far into the future. They also agreed that, once the fund reached \$100,000, up to 5% could be used to supplement WGC's ongoing annual grant fund or to create a separate award. Now, the endowment fund has grown to more than \$142,000 and allows us to award the fourth Members' Choice Award in the amount of \$5,991.61!

All WGC members (except for WGC Board members and Members' Choice Award Committee members) may make one nomination by completing [the online nomination form](#). Members employed by a nonprofit may not nominate their employer, but may nominate another organization. Consider the organization that you think deserves this award. Answer the questions and follow the instructions to submit a nomination. Note that the nominated nonprofit must be Harford County-based or support the needs of women, families, and children in Harford County. **Submit your nomination on or before October 22, 2023.**

For more details, see the [Members' Choice Award page](#).

If you have questions about the Members' Choice Award or the process, or need assistance to complete a nomination, please email the Members' Choice Award committee at: [wgcmemberschoice@gmail.com](mailto:wgcmemberschoice@gmail.com)

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## **Membership & Outreach Committee Update**

Fabulous Fall welcomes new members, **Kathy Welch** and **Kim Oloffson** to the WGC – woohoo!!

We rounded out our 2023 events with a fantastic lunch and learn event at Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding (CTR)! Members and guests munched on sandwiches while learning about the wonderful work CTR does with children, disabled individuals, veterans, etc. We enjoyed a tour of the facility, met the four-legged stars of the organization and were able to see first-hand the benefits of the WGC grants to CTR.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Holiday – Giving Tuesday Event on November 28, 2023. Registration is easy on our website: [www.harfordwomensgiving.org](http://www.harfordwomensgiving.org).

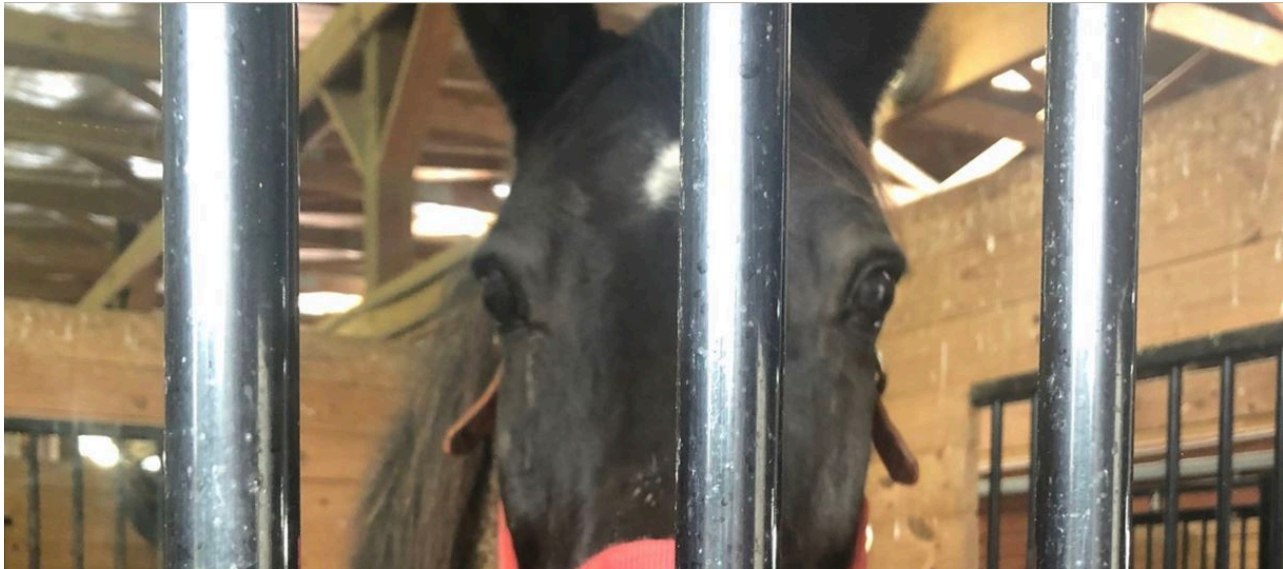
***If you're looking to get started for next year.....***

As members know, we collect annual donations for the next year by December 15<sup>th</sup>. However, some members may not know they have a choice to select a recurring payment option, with the final payment for the year posting no later than December 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have questions regarding our payment process, whether choosing a recurring monthly donation or one annual donation, please contact us at [wgchco@gmail.com](mailto:wgchco@gmail.com) and our treasurer, Kelley Pugh, will assist in guiding you through the process.

We are so thankful for all our members and very excited for our new members to experience the wonderful work we do for women and their families in Harford County! We LOVE introducing women to this wonderful organization, so if you have friends, family, co-workers, etc. who are interested, or who you think may be interested in the WGC, email me at [wgcharfordmembership@gmail.com](mailto:wgcharfordmembership@gmail.com) and I'll happily send them information about the WGC.

Donna Kahoe, Membership and Outreach Committee Chair







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### ***Grant Committee Update***

On Tuesday, November 7th at 10 a.m. the Grant Committee will review the current grant application and procedures in preparation for next year's grant cycle. Details about the meeting location will be finalized soon, so stay tuned! Interested in serving on the grant committee? This would be a great time to join, meet the other committee members and learn the grant process! Questions? Email us at [wgcharfordcogrants@gmail.com](mailto:wgcharfordcogrants@gmail.com)

Hillary Smolenski, Grant Committee Chair

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