

2023 Member Newsletter - A Million Reasons to Celebrate



Greetings Women's Giving Circle member! 2023 marks the 17th year of giving and granting for the Northeast Michigan Women's Giving Circle (WGC). In this annual update to our members, we are happy to share the exciting news of an incredible gift from a WGC member, a granting snapshot, and a few other tidbits. So please read on for news on your Women's Giving Circle. We hope you will feel proud to be a WGC member and consider continuing your support of this fund. If you are so inspired, please share this newsletter with others who might want to become a WGC member, too. Together we can do so much more than we could ever do alone. Thank you for being a treasured WGC member.

Assets Reach the \$1 Million Mark Thanks to the Legacy of a WGC Member



In May 2023, the Northeast Michigan Women's Giving Circle hit a huge milestone, reaching more than \$1,000,000 in assets supporting the WGC's grantmaking! This milestone was met due to an incredibly generous bequest made by one of our members, Marion Lamy (pictured left). Marion became a WGC member in 2013 and was an avid supporter until her passing in late 2022. In her will, Marion left a bequest of \$458,000 to support the WGC Fund. To honor her legacy, the Marion E. Lamy Fund was created at the Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan (CFNEM). Each year, the 5% generated from this Fund will be added to the grantmaking dollars of the WGC Fund. The full benefit of this gift will be seen with the 2024 grant cycle. Marion's gift is an incredible legacy, left by an incredible woman who cared deeply for her communities and believed in the WGC. It is a remarkable act of kindness and generosity toward a community she loved, and for generations of people she will never meet. We are truly humbled by gifts like these, and we are so happy that part of Marion's legacy will live on this way, making a difference in northeast Michigan forever.

2022 Grants Put \$37,000 into the Hands of Local Nonprofits

The WGC Grant cycles are completed in August each year, and formally approved by the CFNEM Board of Trustees in September. In 2022, our WGC Grants Committee, comprised of ten WGC members, awarded \$37,228 through 15 grants.

- **Alcona County Commission on Aging's** "Get Fit Alcona" project (\$3,000)
- **Alpena Childcare & Development Center** for playground toys (\$1,500)
- **Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library** for a teen hygiene cabinet and bathroom baskets (\$1,607)
- **Alpena Gymnastics, Inc.** for a balance beam with safety mat (\$2,640)
- **Boys and Girls Club of Alpena** for S.M.A.R.T. Girls for the World project (\$3,000)
- **Cheboygan-Otsego-Presque Isle Counties Great Start Collaborative** for Project Connect in Presque Isle County (\$2,600)
- **District Health Department No. 4** for the "Mommy and Me" project (\$2,000)
- **Friends of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary** for the "Ride with Friends of TBNMS" golf cart project (\$2,638)
- **Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore** for Camp Woodlands improvements (\$1,753)
- **Hope Shores Alliance** volunteer onboarding/recognition (\$2,500)
- **Hubbard Lake Bible Church** for "Feeding the Hungry" (\$3,000)
- **PoWER! Book Bags for a Montmorency County** reading program (\$2,350) - *pictured bottom right*
- **Rayola Inc.** for comfort care items for foster children (\$3,000) - *pictured top right*
- **The Sunset Project** for the Focus 45 photography contest (\$3,000)
- **Thunder Bay Arts Council, Inc.** for Autumn Bildson's *Water in Limestone* sculpture (\$2,640)



The Northeast Michigan Women's Giving Circle is a component fund of the Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan.



The 2023 Women's Giving Circle Grants Committee

These women are all WGC members who are serving on the 2023 Grant Screening Committee. This year they will award over \$37,000 to local nonprofits for issues important to women. As members of this committee, these women represent all of our members as they strive to award grants for maximum impact and in good stewardship of the funding available. *These committee members will complete their two-year term after the 2023 WGC grant review.

2023 WGC Committee

Kathy Brown
Kelly Bruning*
Shelly Cornish
Dawn Diamond-Gentry*
Doreen Hall
Debra Kruttlin*
Liz McNichols
Donna Reinke*
Margaret Ricker
Barbara Rigg*

Interested in Reviewing WGC Grants? We need you! Serving on the WGC Grant Committee is a rewarding and simple way to make a difference in your community and be actively involved in the WGC's work. The time commitment is minimal with just one grant cycle each year held late-July to early-August. Responsibilities include reviewing the grant applications online, then attending an annual grant review meeting with your fellow committee members. All WGC members are eligible to serve on this committee for a two-year term. If you are interested in serving on the WGC Grant Screening Committee, please contact Christine Hitch at chitch@cfnem.org or 989-354-6881. If you are making a donation using the enclosed pledge form or envelope, you can also check the box there about committee service.

Thank You to Our Sustaining WGC Members!

We thank everyone for being a member, and give a very special "thank you" to those who supported the WGC Endowment Fund in the past year. The following WGC members donated from June 1, 2022 - June 1, 2023.

Diamond Members

(These members have given a cumulative total of \$10,000 or more.)

Timothy and Susan Fitzpatrick
Beach and Marianne* Hall
Estate of Marion Lamy
Julie Wiesen

Platinum Members

(These members have given a cumulative total of \$5,000 - \$9,999.)

Julie Dietz
Debra Kruttlin
Vernie Nethercut

**Deceased*

Sterling Members *(These members have given a cumulative total of \$10 - \$4,999.)*

Bonnie Abend
Mary Bastow
Christine Baumgardner
Carol Beatty
Valerie Beatty
Kristin Benghauser
Janice K. Boboltz
Marjorie Brandenburg
Barbara Bruske
Christine Bruske-Hitch
Pauline Buchner
Ann Kelly Burton
Martha Cantleberry
Bill and Linda Clegg
Midge Connon
Michelle Cornish
Rebecca Counsellor

Julie Curtis
Paula Curtis
Dawn Diamond-Gentry
Jennifer Dingman
Marslette Dubie
Teresa Duncan
Susan Edwards
Pam Krebs
Jim and Ann Florip
Barbara Frantz
Bonita Frantz
Marjory French
Rachel Goodstein
Tracie Granata
Anne Heraghty
Margie Hunt
Cindy L. Johnson

Brenda Kamyszek
Sue Moody Keller
Carl and Myrna Kelly
Diana Kelly
Brenda M. Kinnunen
Edward Klimczak
John and Julie Kowalski
Michelle Labar
Nancy Lamp
Mary Lappan
Mary Lewandowski
Vicky Lindsay
Marian Maasshoff
Chuck and Jean Manning
Kerry Mase
Joyce McCoy
Laura M. Myers-Meske

Amy Nadolsky
Laurie Nugent
Kate Phillips
Marian K. Prieur-Bastow
Margaret Ricker
Denise Rousseau
Mary Pat Sabourin
Kimberly Schultz
Diane Sims
Thomas Sobeck
Jane Speer
Nancy Szejbach
Mary Thomson
Jacquelyn Timm
Annette Trelfa
Julie Wiesen
Sara Winter

Honorary Gifts

Kristin Berles
Mary Davison

Memorial Gifts

Beverly Attwell
Bonnie Benghauser
Bob Hunt
Sharon Ann Pursley

We aim to give our members the best recognition possible. If we have omitted or misspelled your name, or if there are any changes or corrections needed, please accept our sincerest apologies, and contact Christine Hitch at chitch@cfnem.org or 1-877-354-6881, so we can make it right.