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Improving the Quality  
of Life for Women and  
Children in the greater  
Eau Claire area  
through collective  
philanthropy.

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# The Circle "SCOOP"

A communiqué of the Women's Giving Circle

Wishing you all a Happy New Year and sharing  
Women's Giving Circle tidings for 2021!

*We're ready for what's ahead!*

The outlook for the upcoming year is both exciting and promising! Although we miss so many of the "normalcies" of past years, our resilience, perseverance, and positivity will enable us to accomplish and celebrate our mission even more in the months to come.

Even with all of the "surprises" our world brought us last year, the Women's Giving Circle successfully carried on. Our Spring Gathering turned "Summer Series" showcased our 2019 Grant Recipients; our Education Program enlightened us on diversity in the Chippewa valley; over **\$45,000** was granted to nine nonprofit organizations in our area at our Annual Meeting and lastly, our Gift of Giving Event presented those nine nonprofits and their Missions to you!

*Welcome to our newest Members of the  
Women's Giving Circle!*

Jackie Bachmeier  
And  
Marky Kuba

We are soooooo glad to have you join with us!

It was quite a year, a wonderful year for the Women's Giving Circle! Thank you to all of you! Your giving spirit and generosity are what keeps our circle going 'round!

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We will accomplish this through: Grant making programs that support Women and Children;

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Our Women's Giving Circle Newsletter will be published in late February, but to get the "Circle Rolling" for 2021, following are some of the upcoming activities and events:

We look forward to "gathering" with everyone at our customary events: the Spring Gathering; our Annual Meeting; the Gift of Giving Breakfast; and our Education Program. We are also looking forward to informal activities throughout the year to keep us all connected.

We are starting the year in Virtual Mode and plan to move to In-Person as time goes on.

Please join us in starting off the year at our  
**Decadent Delights Membership Event**

On February 16 (Fat Tuesday), the membership team will host a Zoom event featuring Sweet Driver Chocolates. Each registrant will receive a customized event box containing 4 chocolates and suggested pairing notes for a special beverage. Registrants may pick up their chocolates at the Eau Claire Community Foundation the morning of the event. If you cannot pick up your chocolates, please contact the Foundation office and someone from the membership committee will deliver the chocolates to you. The Zoom event will be at 6:30 p.m. on February 16. Rebecca Flynn, the owner of Sweet Driver Chocolates, will join us and explain the chocolates and why she chose the special beverage to go with your chocolates. This is a great opportunity to socialize with members

and try some delicious chocolates. *We welcome you to invite potential new members through the registration process.*

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Forging new relationships and building a community of thoughtful, effective women philanthropists, who are diverse in age, interests and back grounds;

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*The membership committee is sponsoring this first event of 2021, so there is no cost to you for the chocolates.* Special beverages are not included with the registration. If you would like to attend, [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)

For our second event, *we will be presenting our Educational Program* early this year. It will be airing virtually on *March 8th* at 6:00 p.m. Our topic promises to be a good one, both interesting and timely, entitled "Navigating Mental Health Challenges during COVID-19"! [Learn more and Register Here](#). You won't want to miss it!

A schedule of more Women's Giving Circle events for the year will be published in the February Newsletter, so please watch for that.

*Sponsorships are available* at \$250 and \$500 levels for our 2021 events. And we are introducing a new "mini" sponsorship of \$100! Members interested in helping to sponsor an event, or to hold an informal gathering for a circle group, are asked to contact Erin Dayton, [office@eccfwi.org](mailto:office@eccfwi.org) at the Eau Claire Community Foundation.

*Our Book Club meets Monthly and is welcoming new members.* The first meeting of the Women's Giving Circle Book Club is January 25th from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. on Zoom. We normally meet the last Monday of the month. This month's choice for reading and discussion is "Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine", by Gail Honeyman

To receive a Zoom invite to join in the Book discussions, contact Rebecca White Body, [grants@eccfwi.org](mailto:grants@eccfwi.org) at the Eau Claire Community Foundation.

Future meeting dates and selections include:

February 22 - "The High Tide Club", by Mary Kay Andrews  
March 29 - "A Woman of No Importance", by Sonia Purnell  
April 26 - "Dare to Lead", by Brene Brown  
May 24 - "A Week in Winter", by Maeve Binchy  
June 28 - "Mother Road", by Dorothy Garlock

Be on the lookout for our "Get to know your Circle Sisters" Interest Survey! More on that to come in the months ahead!

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Engaging and educating women about issues affecting women and children in the community, philanthropy, and grant making; and

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Building the power of collective philanthropy throughout the greater Eau Claire area.

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And, speaking of interests, if you are looking to become more involved in your community as part of the Women's Giving Circle, **our Teams are looking for you!** Would you like to enjoy and get to know more about your Circle Sisters, **share your talents and expertise**, learn more about and support your hometown and help the Women's Giving Circle further our Mission? Consider joining one of our Teams, **you will be glad you did!** We could especially use some help on our Social Media and our Membership Outreach Teams currently. For more information, contact: Jennifer McDonough, [jamcd4@yahoo.com](mailto:jamcd4@yahoo.com) or Ann Kaiser, [akaiser@cvclubs.org](mailto:akaiser@cvclubs.org)

**Is your annual contribution current for 2020? 2021??** Do you know that 95% of the dollars you contribute each year go to improving the quality of life for Women and Children right here in the Eau Claire area? In keeping fully transparent, 5% does go toward operating expenses and events. Do know that we are conscientious stewards of your money and keeping it working for the greater good.

**If you have not made your 2020 or 2021 contributions, please consider doing that soon at: [ecofwi.org](http://ecofwi.org) Thank you!**

Also, if you have a **family member, friend or colleague** who may be interested in helping to give back to the greater Eau Claire area by joining our circle, please share our mission and let them know **we welcome them!**

**Always believe that something wonderful is about to happen!** Author unknown

# Godspeed 2021!

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