

Circle News

October/November 2021

Welcome to the WGC Circle News!

We have a lot to share with you!



The flyer is titled "Women's Giving Circle" and "Annual Meeting". It states that the meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 2nd, at The Florian Gardens. The event includes a social, business meeting, and dinner. It also lists sponsors: Northwest Bank (Gold Sponsor), Royal Credit Union, and Eau Claire Community Foundation (Silver Sponsor). The flyer includes a "Thank You" message and a request for RSVPs by Monday, October 25th.

Women's Giving Circle
A Fund of the Eau Claire Community Foundation

Annual Meeting

We will vote on the 2021 WGC funded grants, operating guidelines and next year's officers. Donations will be gladly accepted to cover the cost of the event.

~~Tuesday~~ Join Us ...
Monday, November 2nd

The Florian Gardens
2340 Lorch Ave, Eau Claire

Social | 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Business Meeting | 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Free Event - Dinner will be provided
Please RSVP by: Monday, October 25th
Please send in the RSVP card or register online at www.eccfwi.org

Thank You

Gold Sponsor: **NB** NORTHWESTERN BANK

Silver Sponsor: **RCU** ROYAL CREDIT UNION

25 Eau Claire Community Foundation
The heart of the community

Oooooops! Our mistake!

So sorry that your recent invite to the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, November 2nd, incorrectly stated the meeting would be held on a Monday! Apologies for any confusion!

We look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting which will help further our mission of supporting Women and Children.

In our last Newsletter, a call for Action was requested of our Women's Giving Circle Members about the fact that our circle has been growing smaller. Just prior to the COVID19 closures, we were

proud to have broken the three-hundred-member mark! Currently, our membership total is near two hundred, a full third less than at the end of 2019. Because the amount of granting help that we provide to non-profit organizations is based on a percentage of our members' annual contributions, this year we are not able to provide

the level of support to deserving Women and Children that we have in the past. We would be most grateful if you could help by:

1. Making your annual contribution. You can pay online at eccfwi.org.
Reminder - all annual Contributions must be received at or before the Annual Meeting to be eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting.
2. Spreading the word about the Women's Giving Circle and inviting your friends, your family, and your colleagues to join!
3. Sharing our organization by bringing a guest to a Giving Circle event. We have started sponsoring in person gatherings again!

This year the CAT is inviting members to invite guests to the Annual Meeting, they would experience how the Women's Giving Circle "works!" And it is a free event! In the past this has been strictly a business meeting, but this year we are "piloting" opening it up to guests as well. So please do bring "someone to share!"

Let's try to build those numbers and our community support!

Recent Women's Giving Circle Events -

Women's Giving Circle Survey Thank you to those who participated in our recent survey, learning more about you will help us to better serve our organization, as well as our community. In this time of decreasing membership, we hope to gather some insight to provide us direction into the future. We are currently tabulating the data and will share that with you in an upcoming Newsletter.

Upcoming Women's Giving Circle Events -

Women's Giving Circle Annual Meeting - This is a free event that includes dinner! It will take place on Tuesday, November 2nd at 4:30 pm at the Florian Gardens. You will have the opportunity to vote for our 2021 Non-profit Grant recipients as well as our incoming 2022 Women's Giving Circle Officers and Team Leaders. Sponsored by Northwestern Bank, Royal Credit Union, and Crivello Carlson S.C.

Gift of Giving Breakfast will take place on Wednesday, December 1st at 7:30 am at the Florian Gardens. You will be introduced to our 2021 Non-profit Grant recipients and learn what they plan to do with the funds awarded them.

Our Annual Merry Mingle, a social event, is happening on Monday, December 13th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. This is a free social event! Carol Gabler, one of our founding members will host this gathering at her home. And graciously Sue McIntyre, a past chair and our circle wine expert, has offered to make a variety of wine for this event! Our Circle Advisory Team members will provide delicious snacks! Sue will be bringing extra wine and special holiday bags. For a donation of \$10, your donation will go directly to our Women's Giving Circle Endowment and Grants Fund held at ECCF, per the Operating Guidelines, and you may receive a very special seasonal gift.

Carol's address is: 131 Canterbury Road, Eau Claire. Please e-mail Carol at cgabler@charter.net to let her know you will be attending and if you will be bringing a guest. Do bring a friend and mingle!!

Book Club meets Monthly on Mondays from 4:00-5:00 p.m. and is being offered via Zoom and in person, at the Eau Claire Senior Center. It is open to any Women's Giving Circle member who is interested. Please join us! Contact Rebecca White Body, of the Eau Claire Community Foundation, at grants@eccfwi.org to obtain a Zoom link or additional information. Upcoming reads:

- o October 25 - *The Liar's Bench*, by Kim Michele Richardson
- o November 29 - *Unsheltered*, by Barbara Kingsolver

Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity? Feed My People Food Bank is accepting volunteers again! Grab a friend or two and sign-up for a day and time that works in your schedule. The activities vary from working in the clean room to the project area. Go to www.fmpfoodbank.org and click on "Get involved" to volunteer. Choose "volunteer" and you will be directed to their volunteer sign-up page. Choose an event, sign-up and have a great time!

Reminders –

- If you have not made your annual contribution to the Women's Giving Circle, please make that today at eccfwi.org. The Women's Giving Circle thanks you and our local non-profits thank you, too! Remember, the more members in our

circle, the more we can give back to our community! As always, we welcome you to invite your family, friends, and colleagues to be members of our circle, too! Thank you!

- Consider becoming a "Lifetime Member!" Convenience, favorable tax advantage, whatever your reason! If you have reached age fifty-five, you may choose a Lifetime Membership with the Giving Circle by making a one-time pledge of \$6000. This contribution may be paid in a lump sum or over three years.
- We would love to have you join a WGC Team: Education and Programs, Membership and Outreach, Nominating, Social Media or help as a Grant reviewer. Contact Jennifer McDonough, Women's Giving Circle Chair, at jamcd4@yahoo.com for more information.

Grant News -

- Thank you to our Grants Team and our 2021 Reviewers! They have been very busy processing the grant applications and putting together recommendations to come before the Membership at our Annual Meeting in November. We are all looking forward to and excited for the "Big Reveal" which will take place that evening!

Sponsorship Updates -

Thank you to our generous sponsors:

Annual Meeting - Gold Sponsor, Northwestern Bank and Silver Sponsors, Royal Credit Union, and Crivello Carlson S.C.

Gift of Giving Breakfast - Gold Sponsor, Associated Bank and Silver Sponsor, Charter Bank

We are currently looking for an additional Silver Sponsor for the December Gift of Giving Breakfast. If you would like to help sponsor that event, please contact Erin Dayton, of the Eau Claire Community Foundation at development@eccfwi.org.

Mark Your Calendars -

Tuesday, November 2nd 4:30-6:30 p.m. - Our Women's Giving Circle Annual Meeting will be held in person at Florian Gardens. This is a free event which includes dinner! Invites have been mailed so please RSVP by Monday, October 25th by returning your card or online at www.eccfwi.org.

Wednesday, December 1st 7:30-9:00 a.m. - Our Gift of Giving Breakfast will be held in person, also at Florian Gardens.

In 2022 the Women's Giving Circle is celebrating our 15th Anniversary!
Let's make it a banner year for growing our Membership!

Dates to look forward to so far, for 2022:

Annual Education Event - Thursday, March 3rd

Spring Gathering - Thursday, May 5th

We are planning to meet at the Eau Claire Golf and Country Club for both events.

A very special welcome to our newest "Circle" Members-

Sunem Beaton-Garcia

Elizabeth Wolf Green

And a very special thank you to our newest "Lifetime" Members-

Nicolette Hanna

Emily Moore

Thank you all for being a part of our circle!

Thank you for being a part of our circle and helping to accomplish our mission of "Building the power of collective philanthropy throughout the greater Eau Claire area!"

Jennifer McDonough, WGC-Chair