



# Women's Giving Circle

A Fund of the **Eau Claire Community Foundation**

Sustainable  Community  Impact

## Member Guide

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The mission of the Women's Giving Circle, a fund of the Eau Claire Community Foundation, is to improve the quality of life for women and children in the greater Eau Claire area through **collective philanthropy.**

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## WHAT IS WGC?

In 2007, 100 women came together to form the Women's Giving Circle (WGC) for the Eau Claire community. These women wanted to create a **collaborative effort** to contribute social, intellectual, and financial resources to **support effective community programs** for women and children.

## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Non-profits that serve women and children in our area **apply for grants**. Each year, the amount available to grant is determined by the Eau Claire Community Foundation (ECCF) Board of Trustees. The Grant Reviewers (volunteers from the Circle membership) then score the grants and bring their funding recommendations to the membership for voting in November. At the Gift of Giving breakfast in December, the **checks are awarded to the non-profits**.

## HOW CAN I BE INVOLVED?

Join! It's easy; fill out the form and donate \$250 or more. That's it! Attend our events! If you want an update on the non-profits awarded grants, we have several major events throughout the year. In May, the previous year's winners are invited to share an update on their grant funded programs. In November, that year's group of non-profit grant recipients are shared and are voted on. The grant checks are awarded at the December breakfast. The Circle also plans several informal social activities throughout the year.

## WHAT IF I WANT TO DO MORE?

Be a Grant Reviewer or **join one of the Circle's other teams!**

# ***TEAMS***

**Meet other members,  
share your talents,  
and help make a  
difference!**

## **EDUCATION & PROGRAM TEAM**

This Team plans and hosts the spring Educational Event for the community. They also provide resources and create educational opportunities for Circle members to learn about various issues affecting women and children in the greater Eau Claire area.

## **GRANTS TEAM**

This team manages the procedures for the annual grant process. Members of this team train members of the WGC to become grant reviewers to help evaluate proposals and recommend funding for the next year.

## **MEMBERSHIP & SOCIAL TEAM**

This Team provides information to prospective members, welcomes new members, and facilitates their participation in activities and teams.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA TEAM**

This Team prepares and maintains all written and promotional materials on the WGC website and on other social media.

## **CIRCLE ADVISORY TEAM (CAT)**

The CAT is comprised of the appointed WGC Chair, Co-Chair, and Secretary along with Chair and Co-Chair of the each of the teams. This team represents the main leadership of the WGC.

## WGC FUNDS

**A minimum annual contribution of \$250 is requested** to become a member. Of the donation that is collected, 50% is added to the WGC Endowment Fund to build for future granting, 45% goes to the WGC Grant Fund to finance each year's grants, and 5% supports ECCF's costs of administering WGC Funds.



### ENDOWMENT FUND

The WGC Endowment Fund is a fully endowed Field of Interest Fund. The WGC Endowment Fund follows ECCF's Distribution Policy each year.



### GRANTS FUND

The WGC Grants Fund is a Pass-Through Fund. Its purpose is to support the grant process of the WGC and distribute the grants after approval by ECCF's Board of Trustees.



### OPERATIONS FUND

The WGC membership, under the guidance of the CAT, is responsible for any costs to maintain its events and operations. The WGC members may cover such expenses through sponsorships, event fees, or other means as determined by the CAT (subject to ECCF's Policies).

Women aged 55 and over may choose a lifetime membership by making a one-time pledge of \$6,000 to the WGC. This pledge may be paid in an initial lump sum or paid over three years with a \$2,000 payment made each year.



## EVENTS

**Join us and invite a friend** for one or all of our annual events! In addition to the major events listed below, we have many social events such as Wine, Women, and Chocolate; book club; and volunteer opportunities.

### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Community members are invited to listen to local experts regarding topics or issues that are affecting our community. A different topic is chosen each year.

### SPRING GATHERING

Members are encouraged to invite friends to share a meal and learn how the previous year's WGC grant dollars are making a positive impact in our community.

### GIFT OF GIVING BREAKFAST

The newest WGC grant recipients receive their grant checks and connect with WGC members at this event.

### ANNUAL MEETING

At this meeting, the WGC membership votes on the grant funding recommendations, elects officers for the upcoming year, discusses business, and votes on updates to the WGC Operating Guidelines.

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## Past WGC Nonprofit Grant Recipients

Apple Pregnancy Care Center

Bolton Refuge House, Inc.

Boys & Girls Club Greater Chippewa Valley – Lee & Mary  
Markquart Center

Catholic Charities

Children's Service Society of Wisconsin

Chippewa Valley Free Clinic

Chippewa Valley Museum

CVTC Foundation, Inc.

Eau Claire Area Hmong Mutual Assistance Association, Inc.

Eau Claire City County Health Department

Eau Claire Chamber Orchestra

Eau Claire Children's Theatre

Eau Claire County AIM Court

Family Resource Center

Feed My People Food Bank

Fierce Freedom

Flying Eagles Ski Club, Inc.

Friends of the L.E Phillips Memorial Public Library

Girls on the Run of the Chippewa Valley

Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes

Hope Gospel Mission

## Past WGC Nonprofit Grant Recipients

HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital Foundation

Joshua's Camp

Junior Achievement of Wisconsin North and West Central Region

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library

Literacy Chippewa Valley

Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Inc.

Marshfield Clinic Health System – Foundation

Pablo Center at the Confluence

Red Letter Grant, Inc.

Safe Sleep Task Force

School District of Altoona

Stand in the Light Memory Choir Inc.

The Community Table

Trinity Equestrian Center

Trinity Lutheran Church

University of Wisconsin – Stout

Western Dairyland Economic Opportunity Council Incorporated

Wisconsin Family Ties

YMCA of the Chippewa Valley



# Thank you

for becoming a member of  
the Women's Giving Circle!

Through collective philanthropy,  
your membership will help improve  
the quality of life for women and  
children in the Eau Claire area.

We are glad to have you here!

Follow Us



Contact Us

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Eau Claire  
Community  
Foundation  
For Good. For Ever.