

# Women's Giving Circle of NCWV 2023 Year in Review



## Exciting New Year

We jump started our new year with Princess Sarah Culberson as our featured speaker at the Women's Giving Circle's annual Spring Bash. A Morgantown native, Culberson is an internationally known thought leader, an honored recipient of the prestigious Trumpet Impact Award, and real-life princess. Princess Sarah shared her inspiring story "A Princess Found" and spoke about the importance of philanthropy and how women can impact their society on a grassroots level.

Nearly one hundred women, both members and guests, joined together to hear her inspiring story and learn about how the WGC is making an impact in our community.

## Building an effective community of women philanthropists, one woman at a time



## New Member Spotlight

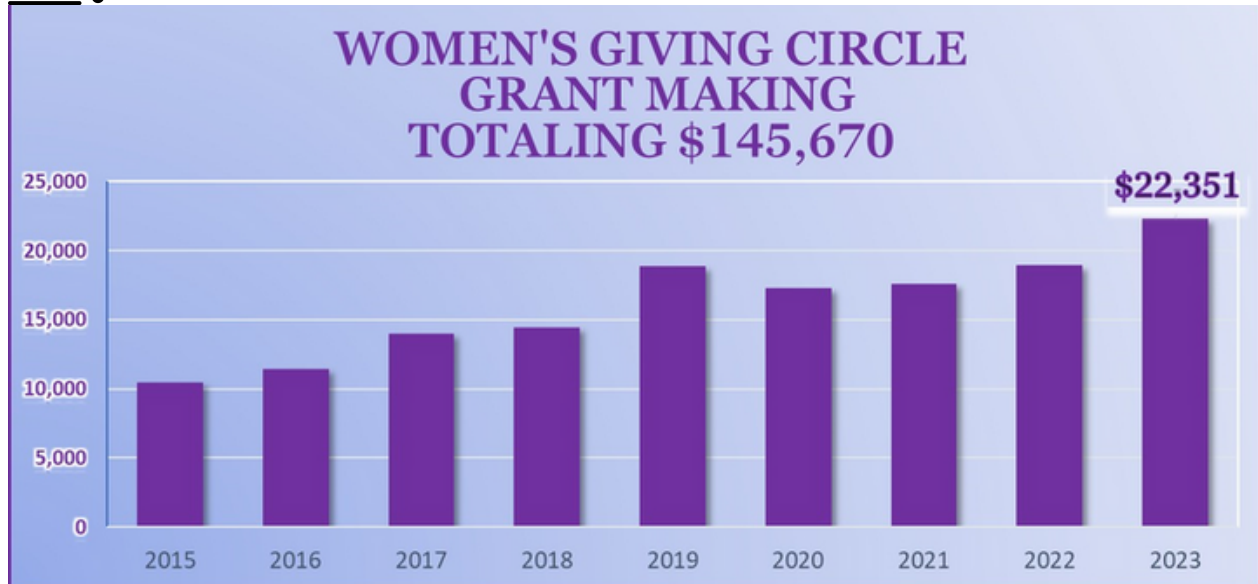
Jessie Baker • Savannah Bryner  
Beth Cichoski • Abby Esguerra  
Dana Friend • Linda Yoder  
Rae Jean Sielen • Merle Stolzenberg  
Catherine Tall • Lindsay Weglinski  
Samantha Knight Hansen



The WGC ended the lovely evening by presenting Princess Sarah with a \$4,000 gift to the Kposowa Foundation to help women and girls around the globe.



# GIVING IN ACTION



## 2023 WGC Grantees

### Monongalia County Child Advocacy Center

The project will help better serve clients with diverse backgrounds by providing relevant and up-to-date education to staff. LGBTQ female youth are at higher risk for depression and attempting suicide. To better serve girls who identify as LGBTQ, the grant will support staff training for those who work directly with clients every day.

### Pantry Plus More

This organization will help support the girls' hygiene section of PPM's Hygiene Room. This includes body wash, soap, hair care products, body lotion, skincare products such as facial cleanser in feminine scents, as well as menstrual products and feminine wipes.

### Community Kitchen Inc.

Grant funding will help remove barriers to acquiring adequate supplies for menstrual health to distribute discreetly and at no cost to female patrons.



Women's Giving Circle members and grant recipients at YCF's 2023 Grant Award Celebration



YCF provides our 501(c)3 under which WGC operates so that annual gifts are tax deductible.

They also provide the record-keeping, reporting and structure to make the giving circle a sustainable credible, organization.

## More 2023 Grantees

### The Change Initiative

The Phoenix Recovery House was designed to incorporate evidence-based practices and provide a recovery-focused living environment for women that is supportive and treatment-focused. Their goal is to focus on increasing life skills through education, economic empowerment and physical and mental health.

### St. Ursula Food Pantry and Outreach

This organization will provide funding for tampons, pads, adult depends, and incontinence products to give dignity to their clients to help them live a normal life.



## Coming in 2024

New Website

Facebook Member Group  
Sip & Share with our Chair

Tea Time

Friendship Bridge



## Save the Dates in 2024

February - Sip & Share with our Chair TBA

April - 28th Annual Bash

July - Tea Time TBA

Sept 19th - 10th Year Anniversary Celebration

October 30th - Grant Voting

December 1st - Holiday Soirée

Stay tuned for more on WGC's  
10 Year Anniversary Celebration in 2024!

# Through the years...



# Message from our President



Greetings Women's Giving Circle Members,

It is a privilege and a honor to chair Women's Giving Circle. Words cannot express my gratitude for your generous hearts and dedication to Women's Giving Circle's mission and goals. We have welcomed over ten new members this year and several new Friends of WGC. Your commitment to the growth of our circle has led to an increase in funding to our nonprofit organizations. Since 2014, we have given over \$145,000 with an endowment fund of \$140,000. The mission and goal of women in philanthropy and sustainability continues to move us in the right direction as we approach a new year.

The Annual membership bash was one of success as Morgantown's own Princess Sarah spoke of her work in Sierra Leone and the importance of philanthropy. Nearly 100 people were in attendance. We are grateful to the Sisters of St. Joseph for their grant to assist us with marketing materials and our annual membership bash this year. Our Annual Bash will be an afternoon tea to be held in April 2024. Stay tuned for more information.

Next year we will be celebrating our 10th anniversary. Through your suggestions, we will be revising and reviewing our commitment to excellence. New activities are on the horizon, such as Sip and Share with the Chair, Friendship Bridge and a 2024 Membership Campaign. All of these are ways to expand our circle while giving opportunities for those interested in more involvement. We are exploring the idea of a lunch meeting and a Christmas soiree.

Again thank you for choosing to be a part of women supporting the personal authority and empowerment of women and girls in North Central West Virginia.

All the best for a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season.

Warmest Regards,

Bessie R. Fooks, Chair

*Join us in the new year to make your impact  
on women and girls in our community!*  
[www.womensgivingcircleofncwv.org](http://www.womensgivingcircleofncwv.org)