



# WOMEN'S GIVING NETWORK OF WAKE COUNTY

*a program of*

NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

## Spring 2017

### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy spring! A season to appreciate the past and embrace the new. A perfect time for WGN members to thank our founding members and past leaders. An equally perfect time to introduce and welcome our new members and new leaders!

Our current WGN membership includes eight founding members; Blanche Bacon, Audrey Black, Holly Burton, Claudia Kadis, Jane Mann, Trisha Phoenix, Liza Roberts, and Nancy White. These pioneers have continuously renewed their memberships since the inception of WGN in 2006. Please join me in applauding their commitment and thanking them for their contributions.

In addition to the budding trees, spring brings a new leadership team to WGN. The Leadership Committee is comprised of the following members: Holly Ivel, Communications Chair, Lee Hayden, Education Co-chair, Pam Prather, Education Co-chair, Molly Painter, Grants Chair, Amy Pirozzolo, Membership Chair, Kella Hatcher, Immediate Past President, Virginia Price, At-large Member, Hayden Constance, At-large Member, Jesma Reynolds, At-large Member and Quinn Novels, NCCF Regional Director and Liaison. I am excited to be working with these extraordinary women. There is always room on all WGN committees if you have interest in joining us!

*Continued on page 2*



#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Letter from the President.....1&2	
Meet Nancy Sumner.....2	
Networking Event .....3	
Help Needed—Special Events .3	
Save the Date!.....4	
Welcome New Members .....4	
Our Leadership Team.....4	

#### THIS NEWSLETTER

Brought to you by the  
Communications  
Committee. If you  
have feedback please  
contact Holly Ivel

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT CONTINUED

As many of you already know I am following in the the foot-steps of an amazing leader, our past president, Kella Hatcher. Kella has worked very hard creating new processes and establishing guidelines to ensure the sustainability of WGN's mission. Kella served on the Education and Grants Committees prior to her role as President and will continue to serve on the Leadership Committee as Immediate Past President. Thank you Kella!

Also, I am extremely grateful to the following past committee chairs who have dedicated their time and energy to our cause; Kelly Caldwell, Education Chair, Hayden Constance, Grants Chair, and Pat Wilson, Membership Co-chair. These leaders did a great job coordinating their committees and fostering relationships within our community.

Finally, thanks to each of you for your continued support of WGN. Because of you, WGN is making a huge impact within our community. Because of you, women and children of Wake County have access to programs and resources that are making a difference in their lives. Because of you, the Women's Giving Network of Wake County is alive and well!

*Warmest regards,*  
Laurie Hughes, President



*Laurie Hughes, President*



### Meet Nancy Sumner

Each year we highlight at least one member of the WGN through our newsletter. This year we are highlighting Nancy Sumner. A graduate of Salem College, the oldest continuously operating educational institution for women in the United States, Nancy and her husband have lived in Raleigh since 1970.

Over the years Nancy has held positions in education and the non-profit community – with Urban Ministries and in state government. Inspired by a number of her friends, who founded WGN in 2006, Nancy joined the WGN in 2007 and has been a member ever since. During that time, Nancy has served on the Grants committee for 4 years and also on WGN's leadership council for a term.

In recent years Nancy has been increasingly involved in her alma mater, Salem College, where she currently serves as a Trustee and at White Memorial Presbyterian Church where she participates in multiple music programs. So I asked her – with those other commitments – why she continued her membership commitment with WGN. She said the answer was simple “I know enough about this group to know they will continue to find and help me fund organizations that are strong and doing good work – I trust what they do and their process. I’ve lived here over 40 years and WGN continues to introduce me to new organizations doing amazing and inspirational work in my community – from Note in the Pocket to A Lotta Love, Kidznotes to NC Arts in Action.

“I know enough about this group to know they will continue to find and help me fund organizations that are strong and doing good work – I trust what they do and their process.

I tell those considering joining it's a great way to support your community with confidence!”



# Networking Event

Wow! What a great evening! On February 16<sup>th</sup>, WGN members and their guests gathered at fellow member, Liza Roberts' home to socialize and learn about the mission of A Lotta Love. A Lotta Love Founder and Executive Director, Charlotta Sjoelin, better known as Lotta, spoke to the group and provided photos of the improvements her organization is making to community shelters and foster homes.



The WGN of Wake County was proud to provide A Lotta Love with a \$30,000 grant for its continued devotion to helping women and children's lives in Wake County last fall. Because of this generous donation, A Lotta Love has been able to begin the process of redecorating the Wrenn House in Raleigh, North Carolina, a shelter for children 10-17 years old.



## ***Lotta's energy and spirit was contagious!***

We had many guests leave Liza's home with membership info and the desire to become a member!



## HELP NEEDED—SPECIAL EVENTS CHAIR

We are in need of a member or members (the more the merrier!) to plan and coordinate the annual fall luncheon. Grab a friend and make it fun! Contact [Laurie Hughes](#)



**Frankie  
Lemmon  
School &  
DEVELOPMENTAL  
CENTER**

## Save the Date

Wednesday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5:30—7:00 PM

The Education Committee will be hosting an event  
at The Frankie Lemmon School & Development  
Center. More information to follow!!

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We are so pleased to welcome the following new members to our group. We are thrilled that you have decided to be a part of this awesome group of women who share a passion for helping to improve the lives of women and children in Wake County. We look forward to getting to know each of you!

Participation in WGN is a powerful and rewarding way to positively impact our community. It offers each of us the opportunity to: be more informed about the needs of women and children in Wake County; learn how to make strategic grants to local charities; network with other like-minded women and; enjoy the camaraderie from associating with a purpose-driven group! As a reminder, at the end of 2016, we voted to reduce the membership commitment from five to three years. This offers us the ability to engage even more women in supporting our efforts!

If you know of someone who might be interested in becoming a member, please forward this newsletter to them or invite them to be a guest at one of our upcoming events. If you work at a corporation that has a women's networking group, we would love to make them aware of WGN. Please contact Amy Pirozzolo, Membership Chair, at [amy.pirozzolo@fmr.com](mailto:amy.pirozzolo@fmr.com) or 513-236-6192.

#### ***New Members:***

- Rebecca Anderson
- Linda Berry
- Kathy Burns
- Karen Ferguson
- Lee Hayden
- Betty Hunt
- Pam Prather
- Jesma Reynolds
- Robin Salvaggio

### WGN LEADERSHIP TEAM

**Laurie Hughes, President**

**1-919-803-5368; [lhughes3604@gmail.com](mailto:lhughes3604@gmail.com)**

Holly Ivel, Communications

Lee Hayden, Education

Pam Prather, Education

Molly Painter, Grants

Amy Pirozzolo, Membership

Hayden Constance, At-large Member

Jesma Reynolds, At-large Member

Virginia Price, At-large Member

Kella Hatcher, President Emeritus