



WOMEN'S GIVING NETWORK OF WAKE COUNTY

Winter 2019

From the WGN President

Making a Difference, One Family at a Time

Almost seven years ago, my husband and I arrived in Raleigh.

We moved here from DC to be closer to our family, and hopefully future grandchildren, who have indeed arrived!



Hayden Constance

I had heard of women's giving circles before, but never had the time to join. Some new friends from our church — Virginia Price and Marilyn Stevens — were talking one evening about WGN. I asked them to tell me more about it, and the rest is history. I joined the Grants Committee and learned about the needs in Wake County, and the tremendous impact that WGN has made in addressing these needs. The great side benefit has been to meet incredible women who care so deeply about the women and children in our community.

In early January, I attended a meeting with the social worker in charge of the Family Support

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WGN Awards \$89,000 in Grants in 2018

More than 100 Women's Giving Network of Wake County members and community leaders gathered for the 12th annual Impact Luncheon at the NC State Park Alumni Center on Nov. 8, 2018. During the luncheon, WGN grants chair Molly Painter announced the local grant awards. This year the board granted:

- \$34,000 to the Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh for the Support Circle Program
- \$10,000 to Kiran, Inc. for the Kiran Empowerment Project
- \$45,000 to The Hope Center at Pullen for strengthening the safety net for young people aging out of foster care in Wake County.

The Impact Luncheon was sponsored by Bank of America and Walter Magazine. WRAL's Debra Morgan served as emcee, and First Lady of North Carolina Kristin Cooper was a special guest.

"We were so pleased to be joined by more than 100 WGN members and community leaders for our 12th annual Impact Luncheon," said Laurie Hughes, outgoing president. "It was a wonderful time celebrating our nonprofit grantees and coming together to support collective giving."

The three organizations provide exceptional, critical services in Wake County to women and children.

"Catholic Charities is addressing an incredible need in our community by helping homeless families living in shelters or in hotels find permanent housing through their Support Circle Program," Painter said in her remarks. "This innovative program uses teams of 6-10 people from faith organizations that provide the family support for a year. This includes, mentoring, moving help, goal setting, establishing a budget, providing transportation and access to health and dental care. We applaud the work you're doing."

Kiran, which means 'ray of light' in Hindi, is a non-profit organization that serves and empowers South Asian victims of domestic violence originating from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Myanmar (Burma), Nepal, Pakistan, & Sri Lanka.

See GRANTS, page 3



Making an IMPACT

More than 100 people attended WGN's Impact Luncheon in November, when the group awarded \$89,000 in grants to three local organizations. Clockwise from top left, members and guests gather beforehand; Sheila Cratch, Briana Beanland and Quinn Novels of the NC Community Foundation; WGN members; tablescape design featuring former grantee Kidznotes; and Speaker Kari Stoltz of Bank of America and WGN member tells her story.



FAMILY, *from page 1*

Circles at Catholic Charities – one of the organizations receiving a grant WGN awarded in 2018. At the end of the meeting, she hugged me and thanked me profusely for our grant. She told me she came in from vacation the week before Christmas to find housing for two families, and she could only do that because of our grant! How do you feel knowing that your money gave these family the gift of a home at Christmas? Pretty amazing feeling isn't it?

This is just one of the many stories of help and hope that happen because of your generosity and membership in WGN. At our annual luncheon, we heard stories of how our grants will also impact the lives of foster children and South Asian victims of domestic violence. And we celebrated how last year's grant to JusticeMatters is helping to protect young children in our community from the ravages of human trafficking.

And there is so much more we can do! The math is easy: More Members x Annual Commitment = Additional Grants.

Over the next two years, our goal is to double our membership in order to provide \$100k in additional grant money to help women and children in Wake County. How can you help? We know that when we invite our friends to educational and social sessions where they can learn about WGN's impact, our friends join!

So, I'm asking you to think YOU & TWO this year. Please come to our events and invite two friends to join you. I promise you will enjoy the evenings, and your friends will be inspired. You will give them the gift of knowing what it feels like to help families find a home at Christmas, and what a gift that will be!

— Hayden Constance, WGN President



GRANTS, *from page 1*

It is the only nonprofit of its kind addressing domestic abuse within the South Asian community in Wake County.

"Kiran provides culturally-appropriate support services to these South Asian women," Painter said. "Their staff offers a bilingual 24/7 crisis hotline, legal referrals, assistance securing immigration status, and help in obtaining drivers licenses," she said, in addition to other services.

"The Hope Center at Pullen is committed to transforming the lives of young people (ages 18-27) aging out of foster care with wraparound services as they transition into adulthood," Painter said. "Some of these services include help with job readiness, obtaining stable jobs and permanent housing, tutoring and transportation.

Hughes also thanked the community for its support of the Women's Giving Network of Wake County. "Thanks to the generosity of our mem-

bers and sponsors, we were able to launch a Junior Member program this year," she said. "We're proud that this special program encourages women under the age of 40 to join WGN at a reduced rate." Incoming president Hayden Constance thanked WGN's grantees for their critical community work. "We are grateful to every one of our grant applicants and recognize that it was a difficult selection process since we had many well deserving applications," she said.

"WGN is committed to making a positive impact on the lives of women and children of Wake County through these essential and enhancing programs."



Representatives from Catholic Charities, Kiran and The Hope Center at Pullen



We Welcome New Members To Our Leadership Team

In the new year, we've welcome several new members of our leadership team. Meet them here.

Sandy Pearce, Education Co-Chair

Sandy was introduced to the Women's Giving Network by her friend and long-time member Virginia Price. After attending several events, she loved the idea of collective giving to make a positive impact on women, children, and families in Wake



County. Sandy retired from the NC Administrative office of the Courts as Manager of Court Programs, after a 34-year career in human and justice services. Sandy is familiar with many of the organizations which seek WGN's support. She served for three years on the Grants Committee which she found very meaningful

and interesting. Sandy and her husband Tom have an extended Vietnamese family with six god-children and 10 god-grand-children.

Kim Barber Education Co-Chair

A member for two years, Kim was most interested in WGN's impact on non-profits and gaining a deeper understanding of the work of these organizations in our community.



She has held many volunteer leadership positions in the Wake County Schools, Diaper Train and church. Now that her three kids are in their teens, Kim is in the process of relaunching her career.

Donna Anderson Chair, Grants

A member for about seven years, Donna was introduced to WGN at an impact luncheon by founding member Beth Briggs. Two years ago, she joined the Grants Committee.



"The WGN grants committee is a group of hard working, fun and interesting women," she says. "Our different backgrounds contribute a rounded perspective for review of our grantees applications."

A scientist and educator, she currently supports area non-profits as a consultant. She and her husband, Wayne have extended family in New York, Boston and Houston. They enjoy hiking, biking, yoga, reading and learning through travel.

2019 WGN Membership

Willa Allen
Jessica Allen Maynard
Donna Anderson
Rebecca Anderson
Blanche Bacon
Nancy Baird
Kim Barber
Patti Beckett
Linda Berry
Audrey Black
Julia Brown
Kathy Burns
Perrin Burton
Kelly Caldwell
MaryBeth Carpenter
Beverley Clark
Katherine Connell
Hayden Constance
Bennett Cotten
Brenda Coules
Sandy Crane
Meg Croxson

Mary Currin
Julie Davenport
Marcia Davis
Vivian Doelling
Pam Dowdy
Tristina Eaton
Jenny Eury
Lisa Feierstein
Carolyn Fendelman
Karen Ferguson
Gail Ferri
Bonnie Fischer
Mary-Owens Fitzgerald
Rivka From
Catherin George
Anya Gordon
Beth Grace
Lisa Grele Barrie
Kella Hatcher
Lee Hayden
Laurie Hughes
Betty Hunt

Andrea Irby
Alice Irby
Holly Ivel
Sue Jinks Robertson
Mary June Jones
Claudia Kadis
Stephanie Klinck
Avery Knight
Britt Macnabb
Molly Mahoney
Jane Mann
Clair Marshall
Neill McLeod
Anna Menzies
Mary Moss
Molly Painter
Fara Palumbo
Virginia Parker
Linda Parks
Sandy Pearce
Ann Pflugrath
Tricia Phoenix

Amy Pirozzolo
Edythe Poyner
Pam Prather
Virginia Price
Debra Ratliff
Jesma Reynolds
Susan Riordan
Deborah Rodman
Susan Rountree
Sheila Saeed
Robin Salvaggio
Lisa Sandman
Beverly Smith
Elizabeth Stephenson
Marilyn Stevens
Kari Stoltz
Joyce Stroud
Nancy Sumner
Eve Vitaglione
Debbie Watkins
Nancy White
Beth Williamson

Bonnie Woodruff
Ann Wooten
Mary Brent Wright

2019 Junior Members
Wendy Artis
Jennifer Badham
Briana Beanland
Brittany Constance
Molly DeCola
Susan Edwards
India Prather

Meet the New Junior Members

Last year WGN created a Junior Member program for women under 40. Junior members pay a reduced rate of \$600 and are sponsored by current and former WGN members. Here's a look at who they are.

Wendy Artis

Wendy joined WGN as a chance to give back and learn more about the issues that affect our local community. "The (Impact) luncheon was eye opening as to all the ways we can help right here at home," she says. Wendy has been with Bank of America for 10 years currently as a small business banker. She works with small businesses on their priorities one-on-one to ensure they are optimizing all the solutions the bank has to offer. Wendy has lived in Raleigh for 10 years with her husband of 16 years and three children. "When I'm not working I love to crochet, watch movies, and lately have found a passion for cooking healthy yet tasty meals."



Jennifer Badham



Jennifer joined WGN as an opportunity to learn about the nonprofit work in our area. "I am enjoying meeting WGN members and gaining a better understanding of the powerful impact collective giving has on our community," she says. She is a Senior Relationship Manager in Commercial Banking at Bank of America. "I enjoy spending time with my husband (Paxton) and children, Elizabeth (4) and Paxton (2). She is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill and on the Board at Marbles Kids Museum."

Briana Beanland

Briana was born and raised in Cary and drawn to the Women's Giving Network for the way it's making real, actionable change right here in our community. "In my few short months," she says, "I've loved learning how our community of inspiring women is making BIG change. She works as a financial advisor at Merrill Lynch, where she is part of a family team helping to take care of other families. In her free time, you can find her curled up with a good book, sweating it out at Orange Theory or (nervously) cheering on the Tar Heels."



Brittany Constance

Brittany was first drawn to WGN's mission. "I was impressed by its focus on bringing women together that care about making a real impact on our local community by supporting women, children, and families in need. I thought



this would be a great way to give back while learning about local organizations where I could get more involved. I have really enjoyed being part of WGN. I have met some incredible women and learned about the amazing work being done by various organizations in our community." Brittany is an attorney working at a law firm in Raleigh. She moved here in August from the Washington, D.C. area, and has enjoyed being closer to her family and exploring the area. (Her mother is WGN president Hayden Constance.) In her free time, she enjoys spending time with family and friends, running, yoga and golf.

Molly DeCola

Molly joined WGN as a way to get to know other women in Raleigh who were interested in making a bigger impact in our community. "I have enjoyed getting to know more about the organization and seeing the impact we can make when we pull our resources together," she says. Molly has worked at Bank of America for 13 years and currently serves as the Triangle Community Relations Manager. She is responsible for building and maintaining local external community partnerships and internal employee engagement. With WGN, she recently joined the Communications Committee. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her husband Rob and their children Caroline (3) and Emily (1). She is a native of Winston-Salem and a graduate of Furman University.



India Prather

India was invited to WGN as a great opportunity to work with strong wonderful women in our community and most of all to help others. "I truly lucked out with a great mentor, Lisa Grele Barrie, the connection with her has been amazing." India is now part of the Education Committee and looks forward to see where this role takes her. She has worked with Bank of America for nine years. "I started out as a Relationship Manager and moved into the Mortgage Loan Officers role, she says, where she has been for seven years. "I married my high school sweetheart and we have three amazing children."



Consider Joining a Committee in the Women's Giving Network

If you'd like to become more involved in our program, considering joining one of our committees. Here's a description of each:

GRANTS COMMITTEE. The Grants Committee is responsible for researching, identifying and nominating projects/programs for funding and ensuring that the grant-making process is interactive and inclusive. The committee meets many times throughout the grants cycle between May and October.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE. The Education Committee is responsible for providing members with skill-building and informational programs that enhance their effectiveness in giving.

SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE. The Special Events Committee is responsible for assisting the Leadership Committee with events throughout the year, including planning for the annual grants luncheon and securing the speaker.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE. The Communications Committee is responsible for regular internal and external communications including a newsletter,

website updates, press releases, invitation design, and special publications. This committee works closely with the staff of the North Carolina Community Foundation.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE. The Membership Committee is responsible for the recruitment and retention of members and serves to promote the mission, accomplishments and values through social gatherings and networking opportunities.



2019 WGN Leadership Team

Hayden Constance – President

Laurie Hughes – Immediate Past President

Jenny Eury – Corresponding Secretary

Susan Rountree – Communications Chair

Donna Anderson – Grants Chair

Kim Barber – Education Co-Chair

Sandy Pearce – Education Co-Chair

Lisa Grele Barrie – Membership Chair

Susan Edwards – Junior Membership Chair

Molly Painter – At-Large Member

Amy Pirozzolo – At-Large Member

Pam Prather – At-Large Member



WOMEN'S GIVING NETWORK
OF WAKE COUNTY

a program of

NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

**The Leadership Team of the
Women's Giving Network of Wake County
Cordially invite you to the**

Annual Membership Meeting & Social
Wednesday, January 30,
5:30 – 7pm

Networking: 5:30 – 6pm
Meeting: 6 – 7pm

North Carolina Community Foundation
3737 Glenwood Ave., Suite 460
Raleigh, NC 27612

It's the year of YOU + TWO!
**We encourage each member to bring two friends
to learn about the impact WGN is having on our community!**

Please RSVP here by Friday, January 25

Contact Quinn Novels or 919.256.6914