



WOMEN'S GIVING NETWORK  
OF WAKE COUNTY

**SAVE THESE DATES!**

**Events:**

8/10: Volunteer Event: NC Diaper Bank (*Involvement Opportunities*)

9/13: Education Event: The Caring Place (*Good News*)

9/30: Succession Planning Closes (*Involvement Opportunities*)

11/2: IMPACT Luncheon (*Good News*)

Dear WGN Members,

Having just returned this past weekend from my daughter's graduation from SCAD (Savannah College of Art and Design) I am reflecting on the words from Hannah Harris, class valedictorian and creator of [Black Girl Hands](#): "Class of 2022, we are the change we seek. You do not have to be a celebrity, have a large following or use your voice at all. It is simply about how you choose to exist in this world. Be cognizant enough to see the world as it is but never stop dreaming about what it can be."

Ladies of WGN, WE ARE the change we seek for women children and families in Wake County. Thank you for standing beside me and supporting local organizations who never stop dreaming about what Wake County can be. I hope these words, during this commencement season, resonate and inspire you as well.

As we try to come back to meet in-person again safely, we have a wonderful line up for the late summer and fall from volunteer opportunities with NC Diaper Bank and WGN to one more Educational Event featuring 2021 grantee, The Caring Place. Last but not least, I am excited to announce we are planning for our annual IMPACT luncheon to be in-person again, at the NC State Park Alumni Center! Please save the date for these exciting, informative and fun events and plan to bring You + Plus Two!!!

2022 membership renewal invoices were sent out and we ask that you please submit your payment as soon as possible in order to be able to vote for our next slate of agencies in October of 2022. As you will see in this newsletter, our grant cycle for 2022 is well under way and your prompt payment helps us better plan the total funds we will have for this granting cycle.

Lastly, as we begin to do planning for 2023, an important role of the Leadership Committee is to ensure the organization can perpetuate itself—both in terms of members and in volunteers to serve as committee chairs. Please make note of the section in this newsletter on "Succession Planning" and let us know if you are interested in joining a committee or potentially being the chair/co-chair for a committee.

We continue to do our best to provide you with INSIGHT and INSPIRATION with the hopes that our collective efforts drive a greater IMPACT than we could have done alone!

Yours in service,

Amy Pirozzolo, WGN President





The opportunity to learn about our community needs and meet other amazing women are great benefits of being a WGN member beyond the financial impact we make to support WGN's mission. This section was created to help us stay connected. We hope, as **we safely get together again live**, you still find this section helpful. In each edition, we plan to "**Spotlight**" past grant recipients and/or members to help us remain 'connected'. Enjoy and we encourage you to **reach out to connect 1:1 as you wish**.

## Membership

Greetings from Membership! It is that time of year to renew your membership and **help WGN make another great impact on Wake County**. As you know, the **amount of funds we have to grant organizations supporting women, children, and families in our community each year is directly related to the number of members we have**.

**We have now sent invoices out to all current members via email. If you have not yet received yours, please check your spam folder** and, if it is not there, then please reach out to Meredith Bell ([mbell@nccommunityfoundation.org](mailto:mbell@nccommunityfoundation.org)).

We note in the invoice that WGN has made the **decision to move to an annual membership program rather than requiring a multi-year commitment** for membership as was done in the past. The invoice you have received is for a one-year renewal of your membership for this WGN 2021-2022 year, **making you eligible to vote for grantees on this year's slate in October 2022**. Please help us make this year the most impactful one yet by renewing your membership and remembering to invite friends to join, as well!

## Educational Event



On Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, the Women's Giving Network hosted its **first, post-pandemic 'in-person' Educational Program!** This event featured our second 2021 Grantee: [New Leaf Behavioral Health](#) (NLBH) and was graciously hosted by Alliance Medical Ministry, a 2020 WGN grantee. All WGN members and guests attending truly enjoyed visiting with each other, enjoying refreshments prior to the program and meeting our Grantee leaders personally.

**NLBH is dedicated to improving the mental health & wellness of all in our community.** Its two co-founders Dava Muserallo, Clinical Director and Patrick Malloy, Executive Director, shared compassionate and compelling information. During the conversation, Dava and Patrick played **a heart-breaking and heart-warming clip from a 9-year-old** who didn't like to eat. After working with an NLBH therapist, her world opened up.

Currently, in their 15<sup>th</sup> year of operation, Dava and Patrick reported that there has been an **explosion of need for mental health services** in the aftermath of COVID. **Getting funding from WGN was tremendously helpful**, and they thanked us all for the support.



**NLBH's vision is for Access to Care.** "People in need of help should be able to receive effective mental health care that is both affordable and accessible." **Guided by a**

**socially responsible philosophy**, NLBH offers individual, family, and group counseling, working with children, adolescents, and adults, employing over 20 therapists with diverse clinical backgrounds. During the pandemic, they switched almost entirely to teletherapy, which proved to be a valuable game-changer. **2021 was their busiest year yet, providing 14,500 sessions with 55% receiving reduced hourly fees as part of their charitable services programs.**

51.6% of adults in NC with mental illness do not receive treatment

NLBH's services are very much appreciated and needed, as **North Carolina ranks 44th of 50 states in access and quality of behavioral health services for children.**

Of the 452,000 adults in NC who did not receive needed mental health care, 44.8% did not because of cost

WGN thanks Bank of America and [WALTER Magazine](#) for their sponsor support. We look forward to seeing you at our next in-person event! [#WALTERmagazine](#) [#bankofamerica](#)



## Legacy Giving

In 2020, Americans gave a record \$471 billion to charities, a 5% increase over 2019. ([Giving USA 2021: The Annual Report of Philanthropy for the Year 2020](#)). As a WGN member, **you are a part of that incredible number**, demonstrating an annual commitment to improving the lives of women and children in Wake County.

### **You give generously now, but have you planned your future giving?**

If you haven't, you're not alone. Even though individuals gave **\$42 billion through estate bequests** in 2020, only 1 in 9 individuals have included a charitable organization as part of their estate plan. Now is the time to change that!

At our 2021 Annual Meeting, [Kathryn Holding, NCCF's Vice President of Development and Donor Engagement](#), spoke about "**Planning Your Charitable Legacy**" (see attached for her presentation). The topic may sound daunting, but it doesn't have to be. Consider these questions:

#### **1. What organizations or causes would you like to support?**

You likely have wonderful organizations you'd like to support through an estate gift; we hope you'll add the Women's Giving Network of Wake County to your list! You may support either the WGN gift fund (the fund that issues annual grants) or the WGN endowment (our permanent fund that is invested by the North Carolina Community Foundation and supplements WGN annual grantmaking).

#### **2. How might charitable giving be incorporated into your current estate plan?**

A common path for donors wishing to leave a charitable legacy is by making a gift through their will or trust. After you have made gifts to heirs, you may make a gift to charity of a set dollar amount or the residuary of your estate. This can be accomplished through a codicil to your existing will or a new will, simply by naming WGN or another nonprofit as beneficiary. Similar steps can be taken if you have a revocable trust. As with any gift planning, contact your attorney to make sure your estate plans are updated appropriately.

### 3. What assets will you give?

We are all unique in the assets that we hold. Talk with your advisors to determine if you have assets that are more beneficial to gift than others. For example, if you have retirement account assets, you can gift all or part to charity, potentially saving on future taxes. If you have other appreciated assets (e.g., stock, security, real estate, closely-held business interest), you may consider establishing a charitable remainder trust to take advantage of certain tax benefits, continue to enjoy the use of those assets, and ensure that the remainder goes to charity.

4. **Interested in learning more?** Contact Kathryn Holding for a **free consultation to discuss any questions you have about charitable giving**, even if your plans do not include WGN. Take advantage of this amazing resource by contacting her at [kholding@ncccommunityfoundation.org](mailto:kholding@ncccommunityfoundation.org) or 919-256-6932.

An estate gift to WGN or other nonprofits will create a beautiful legacy and testament to your lifetime of generosity. We hope you will consider WGN and the women and children of Wake County in your plans! Another consideration is a memorial gift. A lovely **donation to WGN** was made by Elsa Rachel Wolper **in memory of Noel McLaughlin** who passed away in April this year due to complications from a stroke. Noel was not only a WGN member for years (2007-2012) but also the Director of Communications at NCCF before retiring in 2019.

### In the News

Did you know **The North Carolina Center for Nonprofits** is a resource that educates, connects and advocates for North Carolina's non-profits? Jeanne Tedrow, President & CEO, recently wrote an article titled [Better Together](#). In her article, Ms. Tedrow **highlights the tumultuous last two years including COVID, race issues, and the increased demand** for services across all nonprofits.

As a WGN member, you likely are aware that many non-profits in Wake County have been scrambling for the last few years to raise funds, serve their existing constituencies, and increase their outreach. Ms. Tedrow **encourages all non-profits to use this time of change to expand their diversity and inclusion goals** on numerous levels to be better at what they do. She recommends, "To have an impact, we need to infuse equity, diversity, and inclusion at the individual, interpersonal, institutional, and systems levels. While we may feel limited in what we can do across the globe, **we can influence and lead change that improves the lives of many in our own communities.**"

Wake County non-profits continue to integrate equity, diversity and inclusion into their core values. **Your continued support as a WGN member helps us continue to provide high-impact grants to support the needs of women and children in our own community.**

**May was National Mental Health Month.** Mental Health Month raises awareness about the impact of trauma, the importance of mental health and wellness in America, the treatment of mental illness, and the treatment of substance abuse just to name a few.

Organizations working on other key community needs, such as homelessness, hunger, physical and sexual abuse, child education gaps, drug addiction, etc. **have had to shift funds to social workers that can manage mental health concerns in tandem with the key services** they provide.

Through the WGN Grants Committee process, committee members are exposed to the numerous Wake County non-profits that provide mental health support to those they serve. These include Alliance Behavioral Health, NAMI and [New Leaf Behavioral Health](#) which was May's Educational Event. **Your WGN membership makes an impact to support mental health services all year long.**

Our nation has a growing mental health crisis post COVID. Many Wake County non-profits are actively offering help to those in need, and so is WGN because of members like you.



**GOOD NEWS** exists so let's celebrate! If you have updates, good news, milestones, accomplishments, etc. to share, we want to hear about it! Send them to [KristenTKiernan@gmail.com](mailto:KristenTKiernan@gmail.com).

## Member

On May 11<sup>th</sup>, **Allison Costanzo**, Education Committee member, and her husband **welcomed baby girl** Lily Parker Costanzo into their family! Mom is reported to be doing great, tired but great!

## Grants Committee

The Grants Committee held its first meeting in May and **welcomed Willa Allen and Jenny Harrell as new members serving for 2022-2024.** We are excited to have them join the committee.

### ***Welcome, Willa and Jenny!***

The **2022 grants cycle kicked off** in April. Working closely with the NCCF, **205 invitations** were sent to area non-profits this year. **THANK YOU to Meredith Bell and the NCCF team** for coordinating this effort! All these organizations serve women, children and families in Wake County and are invited to submit grant requests of at least \$10,000 for either **General Operating Expense or Special Projects.** Submitted proposals, once vetted by the NCCF, will be reviewed by the Grants Committee in June, and advancing organizations will be invited to submit a full grant application in July.

You won't want to miss this year's voting and IMPACT luncheon announcing the 2022 Grant Recipients so mark your calendars for **November 2<sup>nd</sup>** and stay tuned for details.

## Partnerships

We continue to build our important and valued relationships with Bank of America and WALTER Magazine. If don't know, WGN members can subscribe to **WALTER Magazine at a [discount](#)**. In addition, WGN events are now posted on **WALTER's website**. We will continue to build upon this and the relationship with Bank of America.

### INVOLVEMENT & OPPORTUNITIES



Curious about what goes on in between our WGN events or how you can connect, **even just a little?** Maybe you are thinking you have a skillset, a few moments or contacts to help on a special project? No matter how long you have been a member, **it's never been easier to find out!**

## Volunteering

Join us for 'Wrappy Hour' on August 10<sup>th</sup>!

After hearing the impact WGN makes through our grants, many asked how we **can help beyond the grant**. The Education Committee worked with the **NC Diaper Bank**, April's featured grantee, to create our first, in a long-time, volunteer event! **Sign up at [Women's Giving Network \(goldenvolunteer.com\)](http://goldenvolunteer.com)**.

This is our opportunity to **make a local impact and mingle** with our fabulously interesting members, who you likely have not seen in a year or more.

- Place: NC Diaper Bank Warehouse at 1311 East Club Boulevard, Durham, NC 27704
- Time: Join us **for any part of the time**, 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
- Event: Help count and wrap diapers/pull-ups and prepare them for distribution to families in need across NC, including our military families.
- Refreshments: Wine, beverages, and snacks will be provided
- Attire: Casual; **closed shoes are required**; warehouse is not air-conditioned so dress accordingly; and **masks are optional**.

**We'd love to see you anytime** during our volunteer window time.

As you may have learned during our April Education Event, the **[NC Diaper Bank](#)** services the needs of our community with diapers for children, period products for teen girls, and incontinence products for older adults. Missed that event? No problem. Listen **[here](#)**.

### Families experiencing diaper need

frequently miss work or school because they don't have diapers to bring to day care



DIAPER BANK

## Succession Planning



**Congratulations to Sarah Décarpentrie!** Sarah was nominated and selected as the Chair-Elect of the Grants Committee for 2022 and will serve as Chair for 2023-2024. She joined WGN in 2021 and served on the Grants Committee last year.

We are currently taking **nominations for these two important roles**. Please reach out to Amy **by July 30<sup>th</sup>** if you have an interest!

1. President (2023 - 2024)
2. Education Committee Co-Chair (2023 - 2024)

**President.** Amy Pirozzolo's two year term expires at the end of this year. The **requirement?** You have been part of the Leadership Team, a Committee Chairwoman and/or served on the Grants Committee.

What is WGN's **Leadership Committee**? The Leadership Committee serves two-year terms and includes the President, Committee Chairs (Education, Grants, Marketing & Communication and Membership) as well as Members At Large. The committee also includes Immediate Past President, Recording Secretary and NCCF Liaison. They meet once a month for ninety minutes in the evenings (currently virtual).

**Education Committee Co-Chair.** Anya Gordon's will be stepping down after her two year term co-chairing with Sandy Pierce and currently with Hannah McGrath. Luckily, Hannah is staying on as co-chair. The **requirement?** You have been part of any WGN committee and can be part of the Leadership Committee. We hope you strongly **consider joining Hannah** (co-chair) **and Allison Costanzo** (committee member) as the co-chair or even as a committee member as they continue delivering amazing education programs.

Committee descriptions and the chairperson's contact information are located on our website, under [Membership](#), and the teams are always happy to provide more information. The Education, Marketing & Communications and Membership committees are always **looking for members to join. It is a great way to build relationships.** The Grants Committee has a more formal approach given the diligent process we follow over the course of the year. Meg maintains a list of potential members interested in serving on the grants committee so please reach out to her to be added if you are interested in future openings.

## Board Member



## Opportunity

As noted in our last newsletter, **New Leaf Behavioral Health**, a 2021 WGN grant recipient, is looking to **expand their Board of Directors and reached out to WGN**. As you may recall, they are a non-profit community mental health organization founded to ensure that people in our community have access to affordable and effective mental health services. They are currently **looking for board** members with experience in: **Clinical Operations, Law (healthcare, policy or clinical), Marketing and Social Media and Social Services**. For more information about NLBH, please be in touch Patrick Malloy, Email: [PMalloy@nlbh.org](mailto:PMalloy@nlbh.org), Tel: 919-781-8370 and Website: [www.nlbh.org](http://www.nlbh.org).

## Seeking Your Help and/or Connections to Connect!

As various businesses work through their event space policies, we are trying to figure out how we can **safely connect in-person**, for those who are comfortable, for **two separate events**. Perhaps your neighborhood has a clubhouse, your company has a large meeting space, or you have a friend who owns a place that could work to help WGN. See below for the parameters and who to contact.



### Events:

1. **Social Pop-Up Event:** Either we bring our own beverages or order on our own from the place.
2. **Future Education Events:** Need the ability to present slides & have speakers to project the presenters.

**Both Events:** Ideally a place that has indoor and outdoor options for weather and comfort and can hold approximately 30-50 people. **If you have a place in mind, a contact or a suggestion**, please let Amy Pirozzolo ([amy.pirozzolo@outlook.com](mailto:amy.pirozzolo@outlook.com)) or Anya Gordon ([anya@wellfedgarden.org](mailto:anya@wellfedgarden.org)) know.



## You + 2 in 2022

**We can make more of an impact by growing our membership.** We encourage you to spread awareness about WGN, our events, and our grant recipients by posting news and events **on your social media platforms** (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.). Below are some suggestions for you to copy/paste into your preferred communication method. Share any suggestions you have too with [KristenTkiernan@gmail.com](mailto:KristenTkiernan@gmail.com).

1. Is it “Wrappy Hour” yet? It can be and I will join you any time!

[NC Diaper Bank](#) provides over 3 MILLION diapers to help families, including our military, across NC who can't afford diapers. Hear firsthand about their amazing work by listening to the [Women's Giving Network](#) (WGN) education event [HERE](#).

Click this [AMAZON link](#) to help. Premie diapers are desperately needed!

The education event was hosted by WGN who provided a grant to NC Diaper Bank. All of these types of events are kindly sponsored by [WALTER Magazine](#) and [Bank of America](#).

WGN provides high-impact grants to support the needs of women and children in Wake County, implementing a diligent grants process. Let me know if you want to learn more, meet fascinating caring women and/or attend WGN's next event featuring the [New Leaf Behavioral Health](#), another 2021 grantee.

[#ncdiaperbank](#) [#WALTERmagazine](#)

[#bankofamerica](#) [#womensgivingnetwork](#)  
[#Midtownmagazine](#) [#NLB](#)

