



WOMEN'S GIVING NETWORK  
OF WAKE COUNTY

SAVE THESE DATES!

**Education Events:**

**New Leaf Behavioral Health: Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> – In person, see the “Good News” section below!**

**The Caring Place: Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**

Dear WGN Members,

I have never been more inspired to be a part of the Women's Giving Network than listening to Michele Old from the [North Carolina Diaper Bank](#). **The \$45,000 we granted helped Michele and her team meet an unthinkable demand since the pandemic:** a 400% surge in demand for diapers, an 800% increase in demand for period products and a 4,000% increase in demand for adult incontinence products. From forging a partnership with [Wake Educational Partnership Tools4Schools](#) to get period products distributed in Wake County Schools despite multiple barriers, to leading [NC Stomp](#), (a statewide coalition of organizations formed to address menstrual equality) to delivering over 3 MILLION diapers across the state, our grant has directly helped thousands of women in Wake County. Because of you, thousands of young women did not miss school due to menstruation and thousands of mothers did not have to make the choice between feeding their families or buying diapers for their children! Thank you! If you were not able to join the NC Diaper Bank event, please take the time to view the [webinar replay](#). So inspiring!

And it is really happening! As we emerge from the pandemic, we **are gearing up to go back to IN PERSON** events including a volunteer event at the diaper bank, a pop-up social and our next educational event featuring [New Leaf Behavioral Health](#) on May 11, IN PERSON!!! We absolutely cannot wait to see you again and hope you will join us and consider bringing “You + 2” to these upcoming events!

We have had **six new women join our giving circle, bringing us to 104 total members. The more members we have, the larger our granting pool we have and the larger impact we can make in helping women, children and families in Wake County.** This is why our “You +Plus Two” remains critical! Thank you for your ongoing commitment to our network and hope we can count on your continued generosity in 2022. Be watching your email for the invitation to the events mentioned above and for your 2022 membership renewal form. Please also let me know if you have civic, religious, social or corporate groups where we could introduce WGN and our mission.

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



Beyond the financial impact we make to support WGN's mission, the opportunity to learn about our community needs and meet other amazing women are great benefits of being a WGN member. As we thought about how to get/stay connected while our in-person interactions are paused, this section was born. Each edition we plan to "**Spotlight**" past grant recipients and/or members to help us remain 'connected'. **We hope you enjoy and encourage you to reach out to connect 1:1 as you wish.**

## Grant Recipient

2022 started *strong* with the [NC Diaper Bank](#), our first of three Education Events. If you were not able to attend or listen to the recording of last month's Education Event with the NC Diaper Bank, you must check it out [here!](#)

Michelle Old, Founder and CEO, not only shared the need for diapers and menstrual products for women, teenagers and families across the state, but also passionately described the tremendous negative impact of not having access to these necessities. Layer on COVID, and the need exploded.

Michelle's presentation mostly **focused on the area of need highlighted in their grant application**. She shared the major and negative impact school-aged girls experience simply because they do not have access to period products. **Because they lack access, many skip school instead of risking an accident.** NC Diaper Bank works to fill school bathrooms with products needed (as well as providing emergency leggings and underwear in case of an accident) so that girls don't have to miss out on their education once a month.

Aside from the period products, Michelle **highlighted the needs of families and our military community** which includes diapers and the ongoing need to **cover our state's tiniest bottoms** (with premie diapers!). **You can help immediately by ordering premie diapers via Amazon [here](#).**

If you are interested in learning more, please listen [here](#) and watch for our "Wrappy Hour" volunteer event with the NC Diaper Bank to be scheduled sometime this summer.

## Members

"**Cultivating plants and people**" is the mantra of **Lisa Grele Barrie**, former CEO of NC Theatre and current Executive Director of Raleigh City Farm. Lisa and her family moved to Raleigh in 2002, when they began to root themselves deeply into the soil and fabric of the city.



Lisa joined WGN in 2017 at the invitation of Laurie Hughes and led the Membership Committee for four years, employing her long-honed skills of connecting people and resources to increase mission impact. She is currently a student in the **NC State Extension Master Gardener Training Program**, whose mission is to connect people to horticulture through science-based education and outreach that empowers North Carolinians to cultivate healthy plants, landscapes, ecosystems, and communities. Under the guidance and direction of Extension agents, individuals complete a 40-hour training program, pass an examination, and complete at least a 40-hour internship to become certified Master Gardener<sup>SM</sup> volunteers.

She is excited to deepen her horticultural knowledge and continue to serve the community with a greater focus on green space. "**Gardening promotes individual, community and ecosystem well-being. The world is calling for us all to be better stewards of this beautiful planet.**" Check out her blog (June 1, 2018) on the connection of gardening and leadership [here](#).

## Grants Committee

The **2022 WGN Grants Cycle officially kicked off** on April 8th with an invitation to over 200 area nonprofits offering the opportunity to submit letters of inquiry (LOIs) outlining how WGN funding would be used. For the past two years, in response to the demands of the pandemic, we have offered only general operating support grants; however, for 2022, **we return to making grants of \$10,000 or more for both project proposals as well as general operating support.** The focus will continue to be on efforts that address serious issues affecting women, children and families in Wake County.

LOIs must be submitted no later than May 10th, will be vetted by the NC Community Foundation and then reviewed by the Grants Committee. Advancing organizations will be invited to submit a full grant application this summer. Following review of these grant applications, the Grants Committee will conduct site visits with semi-finalists in September and then will **select finalists to present to the membership for voting in October.** Grantees will be announced at our annual Impact Celebration in early November.



**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).

## Education Event (IN PERSON)

We are thrilled to announce we **can mingle and meet in person** for the New Leaf Behavioral Health Education Event! Thank you **Anya Gordon** for all your effort to make this happen! Below are the details:

- **Date:** Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>
- **Mingle Time:** 5:30pm – 6:00pm 'in person'
- **Panel Presentation:** 6:00pm – 7:00pm
- **Address:** Alliance Medical Ministry, 101 Donald Ross Drive, Raleigh next to Wake Med Hospital on New Bern Avenue

## Member

As noted in our last newsletter, **Hannah McGrath** (Education Committee Co-Chair) was expecting a baby girl, and on March 30<sup>th</sup> Hannah and her husband Jonathan McFrederich welcomed daughter **Charlie Wren McFrederich!** I am sure we are all excited to see the adorable pictures in our next newsletter!

## Board Member Opportunity

**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. Details are at the end of the [newsletter](#) and if you are interested to learn more, please reach out to the Executive Director, Patrick Malloy (pmalloy@nlbh.org or 919-781-8370).

## Volunteering

The **Education Committee** is leading the way to identify WGN member volunteer opportunities that support our amazing grant recipients beyond their grant and Education Event. It is a great way to give back, make an impact and connect with other members! COVID has created some challenges but they are persevering. Currently, they are working on a **“WGN 'Wrappy' Hour” event with the NC Diaper Bank.** **Stay tuned for details.** If you are not sure what a “Wrappy Hour” is, be sure to listen to the Education Event recording [here](#).

## In the News

A theme we hear through our education events is around housing needs, and the lack of affordable housing. Wake County launched a Lease 2 Home program that seems to create a win-win situation by offering financial incentives to those owners in order to expand the number of affordable houses. “The program plans to bring on more than 50 property owners and hopes to create around 300 additional affordable home options within the first year.” Read more [here](#).

In early March, The Wake County Board of Commissioners approved the use of American Rescue Plan Act funds from the federal government to invest \$20 Million for “[Elevate Wake](#)” community projects that align with their stated goals and help those most vulnerable. Chair Sig Hutchinson of the Wake County Board of Commissioners stated, “From helping struggling families to improving access to healthcare, these projects will offer the support our residents need, especially as we transition out of the pandemic.” **Included in 71 projects chosen is the NC Diaper Bank.**

### 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!** Simply reach out to any committee member!

### 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 beverage of choice or order on our own from the place
2. **Future Education Events:** Would need the ability to present slides and 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 suggestion,** please let Amy Pirozzolo ([apirozzolo@me.com](mailto:apirozzolo@me.com)) or Anya Gordon ([anya@wellfedgarden.org](mailto:anya@wellfedgarden.org)) know. We can’t wait to see you!



**Growing our membership means we can make more of an impact!** We encourage you 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).

### Social Media

1. Imagine you're 14 yrs. old and miss school because you can't AFFORD feminine hygiene products. It is a reality for too many.

Imagine thinking your tampon is a 'luxury' item. It is a reality for all of us since NC charges a 'luxury tax' on these items.

Imagine you serve in the Army and yet can't afford diapers. It is reality for too many.



Michelle Old, Founder and CEO, of [NC Diaper Bank](#) shed light on these basic needs and how her team is - making an impact during our [Women's Giving Network Education Event](#), where I am a member. WGN provided an important grant to NC Diaper Bank to address their growing needs. You can listen to the passionate and engaging event [here](#). NC Diaper Bank starts at minute 5:40.

Our Education Events are kindly sponsored by [WALTER Magazine](#) and [Bank of America](#). These events help us learn more about the pressing needs of women and children in our county. Please let me know if you want to learn more or attend our next event in May featuring the. [#ncdiaperbank](#) [#WALTERmagazine](#) [#bankofamerica](#) [#womensgivingnetwork](#) [#Midtownmagazine](#) [#NLBH](#)

2. 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 on their amazing work by listening to the [Women's Giving Network](#) (WGN) education event [HERE](#).

Click this [AMAZON link](#) to help. Preemie 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 provide 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](#) [#NLBH](#)



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3. “No one should miss school because you have your period. And, period supplies are school supplies”. Click [here](#) (timestamp 12:27) to hear more from the compelling and passionate founder and CEO of the [NC Diaper Bank](#), which received a grant from the [Women’s Giving Network](#) (WGN) .

Our education events are kindly sponsored by [WALTER Magazine](#) and [Bank of America](#). Feel free to let me know if you want to attend our next education event and learn about the [New Leaf Behavioral Health](#) and meet interesting women

[#ncdiaperbank](#) [#WALTERmagazine](#) [#bankofamerica](#) [#womensgivingnetwork](#) [#Midtownmagazine](#) [#NLBH](#)

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4. Feeling a bit helpless or that you’d like to make a positive contribution in this crazy world? Want to help women/families, including 800 military families every month, in Wake County who struggle to afford diapers? Click this Amazon hyperlink to help the [NC Diaper Bank](#). Premie diapers are desperately needed!

The [Women’s Giving Network](#) (WGN), where I am a member, provided an important grant to NC Diaper Bank and hosted an education event to learn more. You can listen [here](#). The education events are kindly sponsored by [WALTER Magazine](#) and [Bank of America](#). Let me know if you want to learn more about how you can learn about the needs of women and children in Wake County, or attend our next event featuring the [New Leaf Behavioral Health](#).

[#ncdiaperbank](#) [#WALTERmagazine](#) [#bankofamerica](#) [#womensgivingnetwork](#) [#Midtownmagazine](#) [#NLBH](#)

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5. You likely know non-profits continue to struggle to provide services. Like me, you may also prefer to donate for a project vs. operating expenses (overhead, utilities, salaries, etc.). I ask you to consider shifting your view and read this [article](#). Non-profits continue to experience unprecedented waves of departures and rising vacancy rates as their salaries fall further behind their for-profit counterparts. Result: it is more difficult to deliver need services.



If your 2022 plans include learning how to support vetted charitable organizations that serve women & children to make a positive impact in Wake County, let me know or google “[women’s giving network of wake county](#)”. I’d be happy to share more about our impact! [#womensgivingnetwork](#)

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## Email

Your Greeting,

I am a part of the Women’s Giving Network (WGN) of Wake County, which is a giving circle of the North Carolina Community Foundation. **Our mission is to support charitable organizations serving women, children and families in Wake County.** We seek to provide members with insight and inspiration and hopefully drive greater impact for our community through the power of collective giving.

It is a fabulous group of women I think you would really enjoy. I would love to have you attend our upcoming TO BE FILLED IN with me on DATE to learn more! I will share the invite for our EVENT NAME as soon as it is available. In the meantime, you can listen to our recent grant recipient [NC Diaper Bank](#) share the positive impact they are making to help young teenage girls have access to basic sanitary care products [here](#), and/or read about us in this WALTER magazine article [WALTER Magazine, featuring WGN’s 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary](#).

Your signature



# New Leaf Behavioral Health

New Leaf Behavioral Health is looking to expand our Board of Directors! This is an amazing opportunity for those with an interest in ensuring access to mental health in our community.

## **Who Are We**

New Leaf Behavioral Health is a 501(c)3 non-profit community mental health organization founded to ensure that people in our community have access to affordable and effective mental health services. By providing an affordable sliding scale and access to services for the uninsured, we have been able to reach hundreds of individuals and families in the Triangle area.

## **About Our Board**

Our Board of Directors partners with New Leaf's Executive Director and team to devise and execute strategic initiatives and governance for NLBH. Members of our Board come from all walks of life - clinical, insurance, law, finance, HR and more - and although our backgrounds may be different, we are all united in helping NLBH achieve our goal of providing effective and affordable access to mental health services in the Triangle.

## **Expectations of the Board Members**

Our Board meets once a month in the evenings for no more than two hours. Due to the dynamic nature of the health mandates, we are currently meeting via video conference. In addition to the monthly meetings, we also ask Board Members to align to a committee. There may be periodic meetings associated with those committee's activities, but typically not more than 1-2 additional hours per month. More can be found on our website here: <https://nlbh.org/about-us/board-of-directors/board-commitment>.

We are currently looking for board members with experience in Clinical Operations, Law (healthcare, policy or clinical), Marketing/Social Media, and Social Services.

If you are interested in learning more, please reach out to the Executive Director, Patrick Malloy, at [pmalloy@nlbh.org](mailto:pmalloy@nlbh.org) or 919-781-8370.