

## PLEASE JOIN US!

All Circle Team members will be recognized as Amethyst level donors to the WGC's fund at the Columbia Foundation.

### REGISTER

Register online at [www.active.com/donate/circleteam](http://www.active.com/donate/circleteam). You can create a personalized donation page by clicking on "Become a Fundraiser."

### QUESTIONS?

Contact Maura Dunnigan: [Dunnigan5@comcast.net](mailto:Dunnigan5@comcast.net) For more information, visit [www.womensgivingcircle.org/circleteam](http://www.womensgivingcircle.org/circleteam)



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FACEBOOK [www.tinyurl.com/WGCFacebook](http://www.tinyurl.com/WGCFacebook)

TWITTER [www.twitter.com/WGCHowardCounty](http://www.twitter.com/WGCHowardCounty)

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## THE CIRCLE TEAM

SWIMMING • BIKING • RUNNING • INSPIRING • GIVING

*SUPPORTING THE WOMEN'S GIVING CIRCLE OF HOWARD COUNTY*

## WHAT IS A GIVING CIRCLE?

The Women's Giving Circle (WGC) is part of a new trend in philanthropy in which people pool their resources and leverage them to impact a specific cause or interest area. The Women's Giving Circle was started in 2002 by 16 women and now has over 600 donors.

The WGC is governed by an Advisory Board selected from its donors. The Advisory Board is responsible for WGC's management and operations. The officers and committee chairpersons are selected from within the Advisory Board.

## WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF THE WOMEN'S GIVING CIRCLE?

- To increase the life skills of women
- To encourage the healthy development and personal authority of young girls
- To raise the awareness of gender disparities in our community
- To create a permanent endowment fund
- To expand philanthropy and increase giving by local women

## WGC'S FOCUS ON ADOLESCENT GIRLS

In addition to its grants to improve the lives of women in the community, the Women's Giving Circle has focused keen attention on adolescent girls. Among its initiatives are:

**JOURNEY CAMP FOR GIRLS** WGC founded a week-long residential camp for middle school girls, Journey, which focuses on interpersonal and leadership skills through the lens of what it means to be a woman. Journey, operated by Maryland Leadership Workshops, hosts 40 girls each summer at Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland.

**MOTHER-DAUGHTER WORKSHOPS** In partnerships with the Horizon Councils, WGC presents an ongoing series of workshops for mothers and daughters on such topics as body image and self esteem and "mean girls."

**STEM CAREER EXPO** WGC in partnership with the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory, created "Girl Power," a science, technology, engineering and math career expo for middle- and high-school girls and their parents. The event included opportunities for the girls to talk with professional women in their fields.



## WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

The Women's Giving Circle is an endowed fund at The Columbia Foundation, Howard County's community foundation. Currently, 70% of donations to the WGC go to the endowment to ensure that there will be money in perpetuity to fund programs that benefit women and girls. The WGC uses 10% of donations for administration and 20% for grantmaking.

The Women's Giving Circle is strategic in its grantmaking and program support. It proactively identifies issues it wants to address and invests grant dollars in projects and programs for maximum impact. WGC also frequently works in partnerships with other institutions and organizations to advance its mission and address the needs of women and girls through co-sponsored events, activities and services.

## JOIN THE CIRCLE TEAM

The Circle Team was created to support the Women's Giving Circle's efforts to expand programs for adolescent girls and to inspire them to maintain an active, healthy lifestyle.

Join the Circle Team and raise at least \$100 (\$50 if you're 18/under) for the Women's Giving Circle. Simply register for the race of your choice through the official channels and pay that particular race's registration fee. Then register online, [www.active.com/donate/circle team](http://www.active.com/donate/circle-team), to join The Circle Team.

You will receive a Circle Team cap to train in and wear on race day. You will also receive "tent support" at select women's races to help hydrate, nourish, and relax.