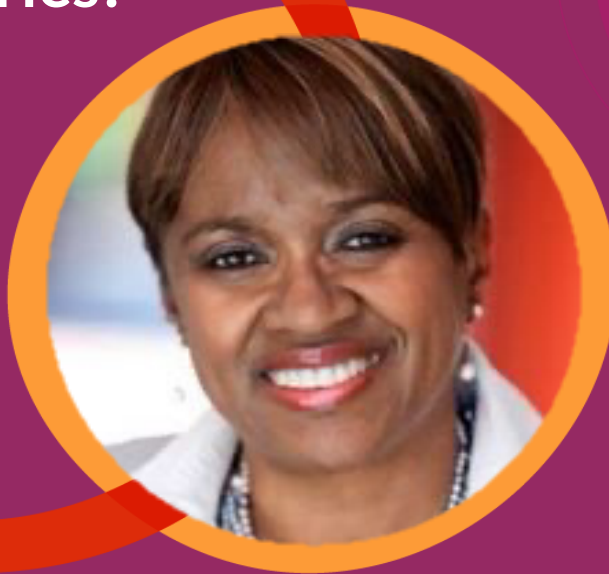


Our Giving, Our Stories!

A series of giving profiles in celebration of Black Philanthropy Month

#WGCBPM2020
#BPM2020



Celebrating Black Philanthropy Month 2020

womensgivingcircle.org

3 Questions With ... Philanthropist, DEBRA CURTIS-PETTIES

Director, Regional Supervisor Officer, Guardian Life Insurance, Park Avenue Securities

The Women's Giving Circle of Howard County, Maryland is proud to elevate the voices and giving of our donors and friends throughout Black Philanthropy Month

one

what moves you to give your time, talent and financial resources?

Although I did not realize it, I grew up in very humble beginnings. My mother couldn't contribute financially to help others, but whenever she could do, she would. I watched her help neighbors, volunteer at the polls and offer our modest home to family members in need. Helping others brought her an abundance of joy and I was inspired to do the same. My successful career in the Financial Services Industry has allowed me to help others financially and I believe what is written in Luke 12:48, "To whom much is given, much will be required."

two

when did you start giving to issues that are important to you?

As a teen and young adult, I volunteered for community events and helped neighbors. When I was financially able, I began supporting several organizations: Eclipse Los Angeles which provides scholarships for graduating seniors; New Beginnings, an organization that helps veterans in danger of losing their homes; and the Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer-Avon Walk. After moving to Maryland in 2008, I joined the Morgan State University Foundation Board because I strongly believe in supporting HBCUs.

three

what advice do you have for those interested in giving back?

If you stop to look around your surroundings, you will probably notice a need. This is a good place to start. It does not have to be a grand gesture. Let your heart lead you. Whether it is reading to a child, mentoring young people just starting out in their careers, volunteering in your community, or financially supporting an organization, you are a philanthropist!

#givingcircles #collectivegiving
#WGCBPM2020 #BPM2020

The Women's Giving Circle is proud to continue our support for National Black Philanthropy Month 2020!

The WGC is building a community of philanthropists and creating a permanent legacy to address the needs of women and girls in Howard County, Maryland.

"We are excited to continue our support of National Black Philanthropy Month" said Hina Naseem and Judy Smith, co-Chairs of WGC's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. "Informing, involving, inspiring and investing in Black philanthropic leadership and giving are among the goals of this annual celebration and we are committed to advancing this important work in philanthropy, both in our community and across the country."

www.womensgivingcircle.org