

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, DOROTHY V. HARRIS

Retired, Community Activist

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?

My encounters with extreme need and tragedy ignited my passion for service. While volunteering at an after-school program during college years, I was deeply moved by the conditions of vulnerable children. I changed majors from Business to Social Work to better understand the issues, and have since devoted my professional and personal life to improving the well-being of children. Years later, the murder of my step-daughter drew me into advocacy for victims of domestic violence.

two

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

Early in my career I leveraged my influence for the welfare of children. As the first Black woman elected President of the National Association of Social Workers, I championed increasing the number of scholarships given by the U.S. Children's Bureau to social work students interested in child welfare. Leadership roles with the National Conferences On Child Abuse and Neglect and Prevent Child Abuse America helped to bring Healthy Families America*, a national initiative, to scale. My late husband and I established scholarships at Temple University and U of MD for students interested in the prevention of intimate partner violence. Feeling a distinct responsibility to contribute to my community, I became a founding member of the Women's Giving Circle.

three

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

Philanthropy is the thoughtful contribution of one's resources to the welfare of others and should reflect your values, beliefs and commitments. Each person will have their own unique path to philanthropy and there are many different ways to give. Start by finding a need that has meaning to you and apply your time, talent and resources to meet that need. Be creative and joyful in your giving and make the habit of consistent, generous and focused giving an important life goal.

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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