

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, RN, D.Ph., DR. CARLESSIA HUSSEIN

Retiree, 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?

Growing up in a low-income community in DC and spending years in health care working to reduce health disparities, I saw the devastating impact of poverty on children in families of color. In Howard County, recent data tells us that Black children are suspended 5.7 times more than Whites and Black boys 10 times that of Whites. The 'Public Health Nurse' in me said I must do more to make a meaningful difference.

two

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

In retirement after 50+ years of public health work, I searched widely and found our local Community Foundation of Howard County. They helped me launch the Hussein Summer Scholarship program whose purpose is to provide enrichment experiences to minority middle school boys who make low grades and who live in income constrained families. This is an important time when males form a sense of self-worth, identify their standing among peers, and select a path forward.

three

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

Everyone must give back: Today's society has huge needs and face major challenges in supporting families and helping the young to grow up healthy. Children in their early years of development need 'The Village' to help raise them. Today's young will be our leaders and caregivers of tomorrow. Cash donations to reputable causes are always essential. Add to that the smile, kind words and human touch that your in-person volunteerism brings. We all need that.

#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