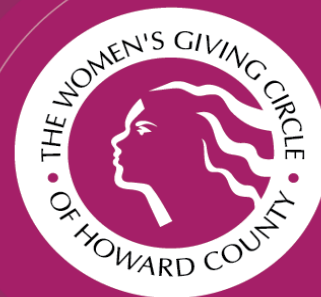


Our Giving, Our Stories!

A series of
giving profiles in
celebration of
Black Philanthropy
Month

#WGCBPM2020
#BPM2020



Celebrating Black Philanthropy Month 2020

womensgivingcircle.org

3 Questions With ... Philanthropist, JEAN WEST LEWIS

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?

I was raised in a family, church and community that lifted and supported me all my life. I watched my parents share our food and clothes with the less fortunate. At an early age I was cleaning my dolls to give to other kids in need. When I began my freshman year in college, there was no money for new clothes. My mother's lifelong friends bought my first year's wardrobe. I have never forgotten that love.

two

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

I began giving on my 10th anniversary from college when I established an annual scholarship in my name. This was followed by a scholarship for my church and my sorority. During my employment with the Howard County Public School System I interacted everyday with Howard County families in need of support which energized and focused my active community giving. Paying it forward has become a lifelong commitment and an everyday occurrence for me.

three

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

Collective giving as a member of the Women's Giving Circle is an excellent way to begin. But give whatever and whenever in any amount that you can where you have passion. It is not just what you do for people, it's how you make them feel. Currently I am an avid supporter of the HCPSS's Black Student Achievement Program Community Based Learning Centers, Columbia Cares and other food banks and any student struggling to get an education.

#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