

WGC's Our Giving, Our Stories!

An ongoing series of giving profiles designed to amplify the voices of women and girls in our community.



In Honor of Earth Day

Celebrating Women's Giving in Howard County

3 Questions With ... Philanthropist Jeannette Kendall

Executive Director/Founder, Success in Style

The Women's Giving Circle of Howard County, Maryland is proud to elevate the voices and philanthropy of our members and friends throughout the year.

one

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

What moves me to give, is only possible if there's passion, and mine is three-dimensional: fashion, reusing, and lifting up humans in-need. From the time I was four, fashion inspired me. When I would visit my grandmother in New York, we would visit thrift shops to search for long drapes to cut up, reuse and sew into slipcovers, clothing, aprons, and finally rags. Utilizing almost every scrap gave me an appreciation for what we now call "upcycling". As a young adult, studying, working and living in NYC was fun and exciting, yet seeing the disparity every day created a yearning to use my talents to a higher cause.

two

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

After 15 years of fashion consulting, Success In Style was founded in 2002. Our mission was, and is, to provide necessary and appropriate clothing to boost the esteem to people in need. Our clients come from various backgrounds: re-entry, homelessness, trafficking, domestic violence and more. We have 6 Success In Style studios from Baltimore County to Washington, DC, in which we coach and provide business attire for our clients to be successful on their job interviews. My passion is to help individuals who have endured great burdens, to help them on the path to find meaningful employment in order to move on from poverty and despair.

three

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

Giving back to the universe is essential for change. Be realistic and find something that gives personal joy, something to relate to. The more joy you have in this "giving-back" work, the more effective you will be and the more people you will influence to do the same.

#WGCOCOS #OURGIVINGOURSTORIES

The Women's Giving Circle is proud to amplify the voices of women and girls in our community.

The WGC is building a community of philanthropists to address the needs of women and girls in Howard County, Maryland. www.womensgivingcircle.org

"We are excited to have built upon our support of National Black Philanthropy Month to develop "Our Giving, Our Stories" into a year-long philanthropic leadership recognition effort" said Malynda Madzel, WGC OGOS Committee Chair. "Inspiring philanthropic leadership and increasing giving by amplifying the voices of women and girls are among the goals of this effort and we are committed to advancing this important work in our community."