

Our Giving, Our Stories!

A series of giving profiles in celebration of Black Philanthropy Month

#WGCBPM2021
#BPM2021



Celebrating Black Philanthropy Month 2021

womensgivingcircle.org

3 Questions With ... Philanthropist, Jocelyn Whitfield

CEO/Director, Center for Creative Life and Learning, Inc. - Girls on Fire Mentoring, Enrichment and Leadership Programs

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?

Early in life I was taught to be compassionate and to help those in need. It was customary for my parents to feed, cloth and shelter folks until they were able to sustain themselves. The legacy continues through me today, one of giving back to the most unfortunate. It is my faith and civic responsibility that drives me to want to help change the trajectory of poor families and children.

two

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

I started sponsoring summer camps for inner city African American youth in the early 2000s, but it was not until I retired from the Federal Government that I fully engaged in addressing the needs of underserved women and children, primarily African Americans. In 2015, I withdrew \$150,000 out of my IRA, purchased a house and funded a transitional home for homeless women and founded the Center for Creative Life and Learning, Inc's Girls on Fire Mentoring, Enrichment, and Leadership Programs serving girls 8-17 years of age. We have served over 40 families and approximately 100 girls in Columbia and surrounding areas.

three

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

Find out what you are most passionate about and then not counting the cost; remembering this one thing that "you are impacting someone's life for the greater good" and at the same enabling them to give back as well. You are not really living until you have given to better the lives of others.

#givingcircles #collectivegiving
#WGCBPM2021 #BPM2021

The Women's Giving Circle is proud to continue our support for National Black Philanthropy Month 2021!

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