

# 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  
National Disability  
Employment Awareness  
Month



Celebrating  
Women's  
Giving in  
Howard County

## 3 Questions With ... Philanthropist Katie Collins-Ihrke

Executive Director at The Arc Howard County

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?

Having spent my life deeply immersed in the disability community, both personally and professionally, I am firmly convinced that there is still significant work to be done to ensure people with disabilities are fully supported and included in their communities. This mission is ingrained in me; it's a fundamental part of who I am.

two

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

In third grade, my teacher adopted a manatee for our class. Inspired, I went home and asked my parents to help me adopt one too, and that's how I ended up adopting Sneakers the Manatee. This is a core memory for me, and it sparked my lifelong commitment to supporting causes that matter.

three

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

There are countless worthy causes to support, and it's important to find one that resonates with you personally so you can contribute your time, talent, and resources to make a difference. Even in Howard County, the need is significant, with nonprofits often facing gaps in resources. This highlights the importance of local support to help these organizations continue their vital work.

#WGCOCOS #OURGIVINGOURSTORIES

The Women's Giving Circle is proud to amplify the voices and stories 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, MD. [www.womensgivingcircle.org](http://www.womensgivingcircle.org)

"We are excited to have built upon our support of National Black Philanthropy Month to develop "Our Giving, Our Stories" says Robin Stimson, WGC OGOS 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."