

# WGC's Our Giving, Our Stories!

A year-long series of giving profiles designed to amplify the voices of women and girls in our community.

In Honor of  
Veterans Day



Celebrating  
Women's  
Giving in  
Howard County

## 3 Questions With ... Philanthropist, WANDA RIDDLE

Retired US Navy Captain and HQE in the Office of the Secretary of the Navy

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.

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

one

I was raised in a family where duty to country and service to others were fundamental in our mindset. My parents were part of the Greatest Generation having lived through the depression and having served in the U.S. Army during World War II. Growing up, we were taught to always be thankful for what we had, share what we could, and to be respectful, courteous and helpful to others. My mother in particular was a shining example of generosity and selflessness. Those early lessons continue to guide me today.

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

two

Throughout my thirty years of military service, I volunteered in some form or fashion with various civilian community groups and organizations. Each duty station provided new opportunities to be involved and to contribute. It ranged from tutoring inner city children to assisting with therapeutic equine riding programs. When I retired from active duty and moved to Maryland, I gravitated towards those organizations that support and advocate for military veterans and their families. One such nonprofit is The Howard County Veterans Foundation. The Foundation is currently working towards making a veterans and military families monument a reality for our community. I am also a member of the local American Legion Post where I enjoy the camaraderie of fellow members and advancing programs that assist other veterans. It was an honor to have served my country in uniform, and it is now my privilege to serve my community as a civilian.

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

three

Everyone has something to offer. Find your passion or at least identify your interests and get involved. There is a special satisfaction in knowing you are contributing to making life better for someone else and helping to improve your community. Just go for it!

#WGCOGOS #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 and creating a permanent legacy to address the needs of women and girls in Howard County, Maryland.  
[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" 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."