

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
LGBTQIA+ Pride Month



Celebrating
Women's
Giving in
Howard County

3 Questions With ... Philanthropist Susan Gerb

Teacher

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?

LGBTQ+ young people have it hard. They face mistreatment from their schools, their communities, even their families and their government. There is much deliberate misinformation being spread about what it means to be LGBTQ+. In reality, these are precious young souls with energetic spirits who want the most from an authentic life. Others wish them ill and they deserve someone to stand by them and take on those in their way.

two

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

I have been volunteering all my adult life, though with my own children grown and flown, I have more time to devote championing the cause of LGBTQ+ young people and helping elevate their voices against their oppression. Now that legislatures across our country are trying to pass laws to prevent these children from living their lives as their genuine selves, this work has become increasingly important.

three

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

I don't think I'm really qualified to give anyone else advice. For me, my experience as a queer person and my position as a teacher gave me a special perspective on how our culture's somewhat rigid gender norms affect LGBTQ+ children. It became obvious that they need someone in their corner and my unique experience and set of skills meant that I needed to step up.

#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

"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."