

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 CELEBRATION OF
LGBTQIA+ PRIDE
MONTH



Celebrating
Women's
Giving in
Howard County

3 Questions With ... Philanthropist, YING MATTIES

Ying Matties, Social Justice Activist

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?

As a first-generation immigrant, I like to observe the similarities and differences in various cultures. I love the robust participation in grass-roots activism by the people in this country, something I did not really experience growing up in China. Anyone with a passion for an issue can give their time, talent, and resources that they can afford to share and make a difference in the world. I find that deeply inspiring.

two

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

I began volunteering in the schools when we moved to Howard County 20 years ago. Over the years I have learned the joys of giving as well as my own strength and weaknesses. During the past four years, I have focused my energy on two issues deeply personal to me: LGBTQ+ rights and immigrant justice. My work in Community Allies of Rainbow Youth (CARY) and Howard County Coalition for Immigrant Justice has been tremendously fulfilling.

three

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

I believe everyone has something unique and valuable to offer. How much a person can give back is not always correlated with their material wealth. There are so many important causes to give to and even more pressing issues that require community members' collaboration and our support for each other. No amount of financial contribution is too small, no level of effort is too trivial to make a difference in this world.

#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 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 Hina Naseem and Judy Smith, co-Chairs of WGC's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. "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."