



Supporting the creation, development, and expansion of women's collective giving nationwide

September 2014

Dear Laura,

I can't wait to join you all for our very first educational webinar on September 16 at 9-10 a.m. PST for a topic that touches us all on a very personal level - Women in Philanthropy: Transforming Communities and Each Other. Our esteemed presenter is Dr. Debra Mesch, director of the nationally known Women's Philanthropy Institute. She'll share her wisdom about work we've been doing together in the pioneering field of women's collective giving.

Please help us also give a very warm welcome to the latest member of our WCGN family: [Impact 100 Greater Indianapolis](#). Read more about "Impact Indy" below!

Wishing you all a happy fall and back-to-school season!

Warmly,
Laura Midgley
WCGN Board Chair

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News

With Impact Indy, WCGN is now in 19 states!

Many of you met "Impact Indy's" President Karen Holly and Vice President Beth Thomas at our St. Louis conference in April. We're delighted Impact 100 Greater Indianapolis has joined in time to tune into the exciting kick-off of our 2014-15 educational program year. Using the Impact 100 model that first began in Cincinnati, Impact Indy, founded in 2007, has granted more than \$1.3 million dollars to non-profits in the greater Indianapolis area. WCGN is delighted to have Indianapolis join our WCGN family.



Upcoming Monthly Program

Don't miss the season's first

WCGN is proud to announce the

Women's Impact Fund of Charlotte, NC

will host the fifth

2015 Leadership Forum



More details coming this fall!

educational program

**September 16 at 9-10 a.m. PST via
webinar!**

Women in Philanthropy: Transforming
Communities and Each Other



Featuring: Dr. Debra Mesch, Director of the [Women's Philanthropy Institute \(WPI\)](#), Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy

If you haven't already, **please register now** for the program on September 16. You must register for all webinars to receive the logon instructions! **Guests are welcome!** Anyone who is a member of your organization can participate. You may register guests for webinars at this link <http://www.wcgn-network.org/webinarregistration>

network.org/webinarregistration.

We'd hate to risk crashing our new webinar system by encouraging every one of our 7,500 members to join us live for our first few webinars. So please don't publicize live webinars to members beyond your board, staff, or those who lead committees. Do encourage every one of your members to listen to webinar recordings, always available on our website shortly after the live event.

GET READY FOR WEBINARS!

Many of you have taken advantage of our special webinar trainings and we thank you. You've seen for yourself how this format outperforms our previous conference call technology. Webinar participation is truly **easy using your computer**:

1. Register.
2. Click on the link provided in the confirmation email.
3. Log on using the guest tab with full name and city.

You can also participate by smartphone or tablet, but note that **mobile access takes one extra step. Download** the free OnStream Webinar App from your app store. If you plan to participate via mobile, we encourage you to view the steps well in advance of the program. Here is a step-by-step [description of downloading for mobile device access](#).

YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE: CALLING ALL TECHNOPHOBES!

Are you a technophobe? Please view this [10-minute tutorial on webinar participation](#). It will take the mystery out of signing up, logging on, and asking questions. If you won't have access to WiFi on the program date, dial-in as if it were a conference call. (Note: You won't be able to see the visual presentation or ask questions.) Dial-in instructions are included in the email confirmation you'll receive after you sign up for an event. [Registration for all webinars](#) is required no matter how you choose to join us – via computer, smartphone, tablet, or dial-in. And lastly, if you are not available to be on the live program, all webinars are recorded for viewing later. We don't want you to miss out on a single one of our fabulous speakers!

An additional live group training will take place on **September 11, 9- 9:30 a.m. PST**. Sign up at the registration link above.

Member Requests and Resources

WE'RE OBSESSED WITH YOUR PROFILE!

Member Organizational Profile annual

updates have begun. We love hearing about how our member organizations are growing and maturing. Here's a reminder that one person per member organization (usually the "bundle administrator" for your WCGN membership) must update your organization's profile by the **October 1 deadline**. Instructions can be found [here](#). If you're not sure how to do this [contact us](#). Annual profiles are among WCGN's most important tools for identifying programming ideas for future conferences and webinars. And, your updated profile tells the story of your accomplishments and that's an inspiration to us all. Many thanks to those who already have already completed their profiles!

WE WANT TO KNOW YOU BETTER:

WCGN Board Members want to know what's on your mind. If you serve as board chair, president, or executive director of any of our member organizations, we'll be getting in touch to schedule a 30-minute conversation with one of you. **One of our board members will be calling soon to hear your thoughts or answer questions about WCGN.** Your feedback is especially important as the board gathers for its strategic planning retreat in October hosted by the San Diego Women's Foundation (SDWF) and the San Diego Community Foundation. Our two-and-a-half-day retreat will be facilitated by

the talented Cindy Olmstead, former president of SDWF. You can read more about Cindy's work in team building [here](#).

HAVE YOU SUBSCRIBED TO MEMBER-TO-MEMBER DISCUSSIONS?

Member-to-member forums offer yet another way for you to connect with your peers in philanthropy. **Subscribe to these informative conversations** so you can share your expertise, stories, and questions and in turn gain new perspectives on collective giving from WCGN members throughout the nation. Have no fear -- you can unsubscribe at any time!

Here's a list of recent topics. [Click here](#) to join the conversation!

- Capacity Building Grants
- Advisory Committees/Boards
- Guidelines for Multi-Year Grants
- Member Database Software
- Looking for Email Service Providers with Minimal Deliveries to Spam/Promotions Folders
- Grants Software undefined What Do You Use?
- Scoring Grant Proposals

Leadership Spotlight:



Read about how grants from Anne Arundel Women Giving Together put them on the front lines of suicide prevention.

By the time actor Robin Williams' recent death ignited yet another national debate about mental health, Anne Arundel Women Giving Together (AAWGT, Annapolis, Maryland) had authorized two back-to-back grants for a local group on the front lines of suicide prevention.

A \$13,000 grant was awarded to [Anne](#)

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With county officials estimating a suicide rate as high as 4 percent, nearly double the 2.3 percent national rate, AAWGT members voted in 2013 to award a grant focused on building awareness and resources related to youth suicide. This spring they voted to award a second grant of \$14,000 to the Youth Suicide Awareness Action Team to expand its work.

AAWGT members have been particularly impressed with the team's collaborative approach. "The term collective philanthropy is what giving circles are all about," says AAWGT President Karen Smith. "We were

Arundel County Youth
Suicide Awareness

Action Team to help fund an extensive community education and awareness campaign, an educational website www.achoiceolive.org, and a cutting edge mobile phone app called "Just in Case." Still in beta testing but soon to be released, the app will deliver timely information on suicide prevention as well as an array of local resources available with just a touch of a fingertip. The app offers users a list of statements to select from, such as "I can't cope," or "I'm worried about a friend," or "I might hurt myself" and appropriate information pops up on the screen.

Mental health surfaced as a high

priority. We were especially impressed with this Grantee's ability to leverage other community networks to multiply the impact of their efforts. They themselves reflect the power of collaboration and how you can broaden your impact by joining with others in the community."



We'd like to shine a spotlight on WCGN members or grantees with inspiring stories that illustrate the power of giving together. Please send WCGN Board Member and Communications

priority issue for
AAWGT 18 months
ago based on the
results of a member
survey AAWGT
conducts annually.

Committee
Chair [Alison
Wilson](#) an email with
your ideas for our
next Leadership
Spotlight.

continued...

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