



Anne Arundel Women Giving Together

June 2011

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Important Upcoming Dates

June 8

Grants Showcase

Please see givingtogether.org
for
Member Activities, Book Group and
other info!

Invite a friend to join!
Go to givingtogether.org
for a renewal/donation form.

Renew Your Membership!

June is a month for celebrations - the beginning of summer, graduations and the AAWGT Grants Showcase on June 8 at St. John's College. We will welcome our 2011 grantees and learn more about the important work they do for women and families. This year marks our fifth round of grantmaking and over \$300,000 invested in strengthening our community. We are planning a wonderful celebration and hope that you will join us. Please register [online](#) - and be sure to bring friends who want to learn more about AAWGT!

We are also celebrating our new AAWGT Endowment Fund! Thanks to the generosity of our members, we have already reached a balance of over \$38,000 in cash and pledges in just two and a half months! We are only \$11,000 away from meeting the \$50,000 goal that will trigger annual disbursements to our grants fund. Whether you are a member or a friend of AAWGT, your [contribution](#) can help us reach this important milestone.

And our growth continues. Our 40 newest members have been invited to attend a welcome reception this Thursday. And our member survey - completed online for the first time -- has the highest response rate ever! The survey findings will help us build a more effective giving circle and shape our vital programming decisions for 2012. It's not too late to share your thoughts over the next few days. Contact us at giving@givingtogether.org if you didn't receive an email invitation to take the survey.

As we do each year, AAWGT is taking a break during July and August to relax and recharge. No member meetings are scheduled during this time, but do mark your calendar to join us on Wednesday, September 14 for another look at critical issues in our community with our educational session on Immigration.

Happy summer adventures to one and all!

Go to givingtogether.org
for a renewal/donation form.

Welcome New Members!

Faith Goldstein Cunitz
Joan Datesman
Ginger From
Vicki Latham
Kathy Lingo
Jacqueline Rogers
Joan Vinson



Bronwyn Belling, President & Laurie Sharp, Vice President

Announcing our new 2011 Grantees!

Anne Arundel
County CASA -
Volunteer Training

The Arc of the Central
Chesapeake Region -
Family Support Services

Arundel House of Hope -
Free Health & Wellness Clinic

Food Link -
Wholesale Distribution Program

Robert A. Pascal Youth
& Family Services -
Stop the Violence! Two

YWCA of Annapolis &
Anne Arundel County -
YWCA Legal Services



→ Upcoming Meeting

Wednesday, June 8, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Grants Showcase
Francis Scott Key Auditorium Lobby, St. John's College
Register [here](#)

→ Meeting Recap

Field Trip to Arundel Lodge & Tour Open Eye Gallery

On April 29, 15 of our members toured the Arundel Lodge facilities. Arundel Lodge, which provides mental health services to adults with mental illness in Anne Arundel County, received an AAWGT grant in 2010 to launch its Latina Outreach program, designed to serve Hispanic women who suffer from post traumatic stress syndrome, domestic violence and anxiety. Although Lodge Executive Director Mike Drummond thought they might serve six to twelve Latinas this year, he said they've actually "had 51 referrals and so far we've treated 36 women with the AAWGT grant." A clear need is being met!

We also got a tour of the Open Eye Gallery, which features vibrant art created by clients in the art therapy programs. See www.openeyegallery.com for information on upcoming gallery shows and art sales.

AAWGT Grants Voting Meeting, YWCA, Severna Park

On May 11, our membership voted to award \$79,173 to six nonprofit organizations listed in the sidebar of our newsletter! We would like to offer our thanks and sincere appreciation to our Grants Committee Chair Lynda Salamon, Assistant Chair Susan Swayze, and the members of the Grants Committee for their work

throughout the year to make our grants process a success. We would also like to extend a special thank you to the 25 AAWGT members who participated on the 2011 Grant Review Teams. These volunteers engaged in a rigorous review to determine the finalists that were voted on by our general membership. Since 2007, we have made a total investment of more than \$300,000 toward making a difference in Anne Arundel County. We are looking forward to meeting our new grantees and hearing more about their programs and the people they help at the June 8 Grants Showcase.



Members listening to presentation



From left: Asst. Chair Susan Swayze and Chair Lynda Salamon

→ AAWGT Endowment Fund Reaches 77% of our Initial Goal!

Generosity is contagious! As most of you heard, our new AAWGT Endowment Fund was initially seeded by a generous donation of \$25,000 from an AAWGT member. Since then, our President and Vice President appealed to our Steering Committee to participate and secured a 100% commitment, totaling another \$9,000 and counting. Amazingly, without any further publicity, another \$5,000 has been pledged or paid through May 29, so our Endowment Fund balance is now at \$38,740 in cash and pledges.

We never forget that membership contributions are the foundation of our grantmaking mission, so please renew now if you haven't already done so. If you can do more, please help us reach our \$50,000 goal! If we reach \$50,000 by December 31, 2011, a 5% distribution will be made to our Grant Fund in 2012, and each year this distribution will grow larger as the fund balance grows.

Give today! A renewal and endowment pledge form is available online [here](#).



Hold These Dates!

Book Group

Wednesday, June 29, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration by Isabel Wilkerson.

Please join us for our last book group prior to the summer recess. We will discuss Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Isabel Wilkerson's magnificent, extensively researched study of the "great migration," the exodus of six million black Southerners out of the Jim Crow South to an "uncertain existence" in the North and Midwest.

Please register online [here](#).

Questions? Contact Laurie Sharp (lsharp1000@msn.com)

July/August - Summer Break - no membership meetings!



Business and Committee Highlights

Education & Program Committee: The Education and Program Committee welcomes any members who are interested in planning our programs for the next year. In the next few weeks, we'll be gathering together to discuss the survey results and begin our discussions for the 2011-1012 programs. If you're interested in joining us, please contact either Judy Coughlin (jcough32@comcast.net) or Maureen Cavaiola (mhcavaiola@gmail.com).

Leadership Development & Nominating: A new member reception is planned for Thursday, June 2nd so that our Steering Committee can welcome all new members since our last reception in July, 2010. This annual event is an easy way for us to get to know AAWGT and each other in an informal setting. Thanks to Assistant Chair Kitty Higgins for hosting this reception!

Membership & Outreach: WANTED: Volunteer coordinator for our annual member service project for 2011. The coordinator will organize members to serve as course monitors and other

support personnel for 2010 grantee Girls on the Run 5k race at Anne Arundel Community College to be held on Saturday or Sunday in early December. Position might require 6-8 hours total. For more information, contact Marie Brockhurst at vze2nwkh@verizon.net

Website Enhancements: Keep your eyes open for our new look, feel and functionality at givingtogether.orgcoming soon to a computer near you!

Service/Volunteer Opportunities

At Long Last -- An Evening Lunch-making Opportunity!

Help us prepare 60 bag lunches for kids aged 7-17 who are participating in Creating Communities' Arts Mentorship Academy this summer. Join Host Laurie Sharp and Co-Host Bronwyn Belling at Laurie's home at 7:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, June 21st**. *4 more volunteers needed*, costs will be shared among participants and average \$25 per person. To volunteer, contact Laurie (lsharp1000@msn.com)

Light House Lunch-making

Can you help? Purchase food in advance and welcome like-minded members to your kitchen so AAWGT can make and deliver 70 sandwiches to feed those less fortunate. Provision costs are shared among those present, usually about \$25 per person. It's a great way to get to know some members better - and you are welcome to bring a friend along to learn about AAWGT! Upcoming dates and needs are:

- Tuesday, June 21 (at the home of Andrea Perotti, 758 Pearson Point Rd., Annapolis. *Looking for 3 volunteers.*
- Monday, July 11 (at the home of Gloria Martin-Pressman, 131 Claiborne, Edgewater. *Looking for 4 volunteers.*

The shelter is most grateful for our contribution as the need continues to be great in this economy. Updated shopping instructions are available on the password-protected Member Directory front page at givingtogether.org. All Light House lunch-making sessions begin at 8:30 a.m.

Contact Karen Davis at kluciadavis@hotmail.com if you would like more information or want to host and/or volunteer.
