



Anne Arundel Women Giving Together

AAWGT Newsletter

April 2009

Happy Spring! We hope to see you at our upcoming Spring Reception on Wednesday, April 15, 6:00 to 8:00 PM (see details below). The reception provides a great opportunity to network with AAWGT members, and we also encourage you to invite any interested women to join us.

AAWGT members had the opportunity to participate in several site visits to our grantees in March (described below), including the Light House Shelter. On the same day as our visit to the shelter, the National Center on Family Homelessness released a report on the state of child homelessness. The findings are shocking -- more than 1.5 million children across the U.S. (one out of every fifty)-- experience homelessness at least once a year. The report for Maryland (http://www.homelesschildrenamerica.org/state_detail.php?state=MD) indicates that 1 out of 28 children in Maryland do not know where they will get their next meal.

This is a reminder of how important our grant dollars are to the nonprofits that we fund each year. Please note that we have links to all of our grantees in the side column of this newsletter, where you can get additional information about these organizations and how to get involved. Another great source of volunteer opportunities in our county is the Volunteer Center of Anne Arundel County. If you are interested in receiving their weekly press release of volunteer opportunities, please send an email to Executive Director Fay Mauro at fay@volunteerannearundel.org.

Thank you for your continued support and for helping to make a positive difference for so many in our community. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming Spring Reception!

Sharon L. Stewart, President

stews@mindspring.com

Lynne Davidson, Vice President

lynnedav@aol.com



Help [Anne Arundel Women Giving Together](#) grow and share our good work: please feel free to share this newsletter with your friends.

April 15: AAWGT Spring Reception

Fishing Creek Farm Clubhouse
1222 Cherry Tree Lane, Annapolis
6:00-8:00 PM.

Please bring a guest! We are also asking attendees to bring gently used business attire to be distributed to grantees.

If you can help with setting up before or cleaning up after the event, please contact Martha Hoyer at sycamore34@aol.com. Your help will be appreciated!

Reminder: Please renew your membership!

Upcoming AAWGT Events and Meetings - Save the Date!

May 2: Kidwalk - Six local charities (including three AAWGT grantees) are sponsoring a 5K walk at the Naval Academy Stadium to raise money for at-risk children in Anne Arundel County. The Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County (CFAAC), one of the sponsors for the event, is forming a team of walkers and has asked AAWGT members to join them. If you are interested in being a part of the team, please contact Lea Loflin at CFAAC at lea@cfaac.org or (410) 280-1102 (410) 280-1102. For additional details, visit the Friends of the Light House Shelter at www.FriendsLHS.org. Come join us for this fun event, which will benefit many

In This Issue

[Share Newsletter](#)
[AAWGT Spring Reception](#)
[Membership Renewal](#)
[Upcoming Meetings](#)

[Who We Help](#)

Quick Links

[More About Us](#)

Who We Help

[Women Entrepreneurs of Baltimore](#)

Micro-enterprise for Women

[Annapolis Area Ministries, Inc.](#)

Building Futures: A Self-Sufficiency Program

[Anne Arundel Co. CASA, Inc.](#)

Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children

[Rob's Barbershop Community Foundation](#)

Gifts for Grooming Program

children in our community!

May 13: AAWGT General Meeting - 8:30-10:00 AM.
Edgewater Police Station Community Room, 35 Stepney Lane, Edgewater. Members will vote on grant recipients. Ballots will be sent to all members in advance of the meeting and members may vote in advance if they are unable to come on May 13.

June 10: Grants Showcase - 7:00-9:00 PM. St. John's College Boathouse on the College Campus.

August 2: First Annual AAWGT All-Member and Family Potluck Picnic at the Blaxall farm, Davidsonville. Save the Date! Details will follow.

YWCA of Annapolis & AA County

Life Skills Training at Arden

Please visit our Grantee websites to see updates on their activities!

TIME TO RENEW YOUR AAWGT MEMBERSHIP!

So far, we have 72 paid members, more than we had at this time last year. If you have not yet renewed your membership, please send your check as soon as possible.

Please note that to increase membership, we have created a new "Associate Member" category, which invites women 35 and younger to participate for one-half the cost of a regular membership.

If you have questions about your membership contribution, please feel free to call Treasurer Barb Novak at (410) 224-2528 (410) 224-2528 or Assistant Treasurer Mary Osbourne-Reilly at (410) 266-8299 (410) 266-8299 .

Membership forms can be found on our website, www.givingtogether.org.

Remember: By pooling our resources, your annual AAWGT contribution is multiplied 100 times or more!

March Site Visits: Program Recap

March 15th Site Visits

Two site visits were planned for AAWGT members in March for members to see first hand the value of our contributions. Two groups of members participated in the March site visit at the Light House, a homeless prevention support center and AAWGT grant recipient. We toured the facility with Howard Dunkley, Programs Manager, and met with three women residents who are working hard to reconstruct their lives. It was a unique opportunity to learn more about how women and children in our community slip into homelessness and to see how our funding is being used to help them make their way back to self-sufficiency.

The Light House Shelter is in need of items for their Food Pantry -- follow this link for details: http://docs.google.com/Doc?docid=dr6gqrb_4h4j762gk&hl=en



The second site visit was at the County Court House, at the swearing in of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) volunteers on March 24th. A number of AAWGT members attended the swearing in of 16 new volunteers. CASA advocates for and supports abused and neglected children to ensure their right to safe, stable, and permanent homes.



AAWGT in the News

AAWGT Members Receive Leadership Anne Arundel Community Trustee Awards

On March 17, 2009, nine individuals who have made significant contributions to the community and improved life for residents of Anne Arundel County were honored, including AAWGT members Tara Potter and Sharon Stewart.



Article on AAWGT published in Outlook by the Bay

The early spring issue of Outlook by the Bay magazine includes an excellent article entitled "Making A Difference for Women and Families in Anne Arundel County," written by Julie Crudele, chair of AAWGT's Marketing and Communications Committee. You can find the article by going to the following link: <http://www.Outlookbythebay.com/media/EarlySpring09.pdf>.

Do any members have suggestions about other publications that might be interested in articles about AAWGT? Please contact Julie at julie.crudele@comcast.net.

Welcome New Members

Welcome to the following new AAWGT member:

- Rachel Hoffman
- Ellen Lucas

Please make a special effort to welcome our new members if you meet them at one of our meetings.

Contact Information

Anne Arundel Women Giving Together
914 Bay Ridge Avenue, Suite 220
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(410) 280-1102 (410) 280-1102

AAWGT is a non-denominational, non-partisan group that welcomes all interested women.

Website: www.givingtogether.org

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