



Anne Arundel Women Giving Together

AAWGT Newsletter

January 2009

As Anne Arundel Women Giving Together begins its fourth year, we look forward to continuing to make a difference for women and families in Anne Arundel County. The need is great and there is much to be done.

The biggest challenge we face is increasing our grant support to meet the growing needs in our community in the face of an unstable economy. To that end, we will connect with each of you to encourage your renewed support for AAWGT as well as to expand our membership by creating a new Associate Member level for younger members (to be voted on at January meeting), providing member scholarships to increase our diversity, expanding our marketing efforts to raise the visibility of AAWGT, and providing leadership development opportunities for our members.

Our 2009 calendar of events is now on our website (www.givingtogether.org), where you can see all the activities planned for this year, including membership outreach events, volunteer activities, our annual grants showcase and educational programs that give us an opportunity to learn more about the issues affecting women and families.

Vice President Lynne Davidson and I look forward to serving you this year. Please feel free to contact us with your ideas, questions and suggestions for improvement.

Happy New Year to all! We look forward to an exciting year of working together and serving our community.

Sharon Stewart
2009 AAWGT President
stews@mindspring.com

AAWGT General Meeting

In This Issue

AAWGT General Meeting

Date: Wednesday, January 14th
Time: 8:30 to 10:00 am
Location: Pathways Treatment Center, 2620 Riva Rd., Annapolis
Topic: Addiction and Recovery

Where can you go for help if you or a family member has a problem with alcohol or addiction? Learn about the extent of this problem in our community and how two local organizations provide assistance.

Presenters: Helen Reines, Executive Director, Pathways Treatment Center and Leigh Ragan, Founder and Clinical Director, First Step Recovery

We also will vote on the By Laws revisions that were sent out to all members last month.

2009 Upcoming Events

February General Meeting

Date: Wednesday, February 11
Time: 7:00 to 9:00 pm
Location: Sajak Pavilion, 2002 Medical Blvd., Second Floor - Room 250-A&B, Annapolis, MD
Program: Self-Sufficiency Standards for Women and Families

Organizational Updates

Grant Reviewers Needed

The Grants Committee is still looking for a few more grant reviewers for 2009. It is a great way to get involved and learn more about the grantmaking process. No prior experience is needed. First time reviewers must attend one of the orientation sessions on either Friday, January 9, or Saturday, January 24, 2009, 11 am to 12 noon.

Please consider being involved - for additional information, contact Grants Committee Chair Roylene Roberts at mr123@verizon.net.

In addition, the Grants Committee is gearing up for the 2009 grants process.

[2009 Upcoming Events](#)

[Who We Help](#)

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

YWCA of Annapolis & AA County

Life Skills Training at Arden

Quick Links

[More About Us](#)



Grant applications will be due on February 12, 2009 and AAWGT members will vote on funding recommendations at the May 13th General Meeting, and presented to the grantees at the June 10th Grants Showcase.

Details are available on the AAWGT website at www.givingtogether.org.

Giving Circles: Power in Numbers

In *More Giving Together*, a national report on giving circles, the power and strength of giving circles was cited:

- Giving circles are a growing phenomenon, now in 44 out of 50 states.
- Giving circle members contribute more than money: they volunteer, they offer technical assistance and they contribute to other community causes.
- Giving circles are attracting an increasingly diverse and income-varied group.
- Giving circles members are people who want to "make a difference" and increase the impact of their contributions by pooling funds.

AAWGT Lighthouse Lunch Group

Beginning in January, a small group of volunteers, 4 or 5, will meet in a member's kitchen to make 50 bag lunches for the Lighthouse Shelter. We will meet at 8:30 am to share coffee and make the lunches. The hostess will purchase the food and then the cost will be divided equally among the group. One person will deliver the lunches to the shelter on West St. before 10:30 am.

If you are interested in being a part of this group, please email Karen Davis at kluciadavis@hotmail.com to be included on the email list. Here is our list of dates so far:

- Jan. 7 - home of Diane Miller (filled)
- Feb. 6 - home of Karen Davis (filled)
- Mar. 3 - home of Bee Billups (3 volunteers still needed)
- April- Dec dates/locations to be determined

Thank You to 2008 Leadership!

AAWGT's 2008 leadership was recognized at the December 10th meeting. We are so grateful to **Gloria Martin-Pressman** for her leadership this past year as our President.

Thank you, too, to the other 2008 leadership whose terms are ending this year:

- **Mary Ann Gordon** - Vice President
- **Martha Blaxall** - Treasurer
- **Susan Nolte** - Secretary
- **Bronwyn Belling** - Grants Committee Chair
- **Lynne Davidson** - Education & Program Committee Chair
- **Susan Walker** - Policies and Procedures Committee Chair
- **Tara Clifford** - Post Grants Evaluation Committee Chair

Thank you, one and all, for your inspiring leadership and tireless service!

2009 Slate of Officers and Committee Leadership

At the December 10th AAWGT general meeting, the entire slate of officers and committee leadership, as presented to the membership, was elected. The 2009 slate of officers is as follows:

President - Sharon Stewart
Vice President/President Elect - Lynne Davidson
Treasurer - Barb Novak
Assistant Treasurer - Mary Osbourn-Reilly
Secretary - Karen Davis
Assistant Secretary - Bronwyn Belling

Committees

Education and Program Committee

Chair - Prue Clendenning; Assistant Chair - Laurie Sharp

Grants Committee

Chair - Roylene Roberts; Assistant Chair - Kathy Potter

Marketing and Communications Committee

Chair - Julie Crudele; Assistant Chair - Amy Steindler

Membership and Outreach Committee

Chair - Martha Hoyer; Assistant Chair - Diane Miller

Nominating Committee

Chair - Kathleen Brooks; Assistant Chair - Thérèse Gardner

Policies and Procedures Committee

Chair - Susan Nolte

Post-Grants Evaluation Committee

Chair - Barbara Hoffstein; Assistant Chair - Julie Schuelke

2008 Founders Award Presented to Bronwyn Belling



Congratulations to Bronwyn Belling, who was presented with AAWGT's 2008 Founder's Award!

AAWGT is grateful to Bronwyn for her tireless work over the past two years as Chair of Grants Committee and for setting up the Grants Committee procedures, which have been so successful.

Welcome New Members

Welcome to the following new AAWGT members:

- Ardath Cade
- Katherine (Kate) Caldwell
- Katherine Ebner
- Carole Falk
- Margaret Martin
- Barbara Sophios Santos

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

Contact Information

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AAWGT is a Donor Advised Fund of the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County

Website: www.givingtogether.org

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