



## Anne Arundel Women Giving Together

AAWGT Newsletter

October 2008

Giving to others makes us happier!

I hope your fall has begun with enjoyable activities among friends and family.



A recent article in the journal, *Science*, concludes that those who give to others are happier than those who don't. Researchers at the University of British Columbia and Harvard University were "struck by how big the effect on happiness was and that how people spent money was more important to one's happiness than how much money they had." As one scientist put it, "higher pro-social spending was associated with significantly greater happiness." Three different studies conducted by the team all produced the same pronounced results.

AAWGT members should be very happy, given that our \$550 contribution has been turned into \$100,000 in grant money to support women and families in AAC! Remember, our theme for this year is "be a member, bring a member" and our goal was to retain our 100 members and add 100. If you have not yet paid your 2008 dues, please send them so you can participate in the election in December. If you have paid, be sure to bring a new member to the October 15th meeting to hear how our grants have helped women in our community.

At our November 12th meeting, the nominating committee will be presenting the slate of officers for 2009. You should have received a form that you can use to nominate yourself or someone you feel would be a good leader for this organization. Each of our committees has many one time tasks that could be done by someone with very little time but who want to help. AAWGT is only as successful as our member participation efforts and we need all of your talents to ensure we continue to make a difference. Let us know if you have some time to volunteer your expertise.

Mark your calendars now for our December 10th holiday celebration. You will be hearing more about that in the next e-letter.

See you on October 15th!

Sincerely,  
Gloria Martin-Pressman  
President, Anne Arundel Women Giving Together



## Membership Open House

October 15  
6:00pm - 8:00pm  
Chartwell Country Club, Severna Park

Come hear our 2007 Grantees, who will share with us the ways our money made a difference in their lives. Bring a potential member and help us meet our goal of 200 members by December. (Currently, we have 130, so we need all of you to help us achieve this goal and reach \$100,000 in available grant funds for 2009.)

## Upcoming Events

### Business Meeting and Women's Philanthropy Program

November 12: 8:30am - 10:00am  
Boy's and Girls Club, Annapolis

### End-of-Year Business Meeting and Holiday Reception

December 10  
Time and Location TBD

## From the Post Grant Evaluation Committee (PGECE)

Through a collaboration with the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County, AAWGT grantees were invited to participate in a complimentary three hour Grants Management workshop. Board members and staff from seven of AAWGT's 10 grantees attended. The training was held August 20th at the Glen Burnie Town Center campus of Anne Arundel Community College.

The goal was to help strengthen the program management capacity of non-profits in the county. Eric Brenner, Director, Maryland Governor's Grants Office and Katherine "Kitty" Wojcik, Corporate and Foundation Relations Officer, Anne Arundel Medical Foundation conducted the training. In

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## 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

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addition to the interactive exercises that focused on performance measurement, program results and accountability, the session provided time to share experiences and practical tips on things such as how to report "soft" outcomes to donors/funders and names of workable financial management software packages.

All participants agreed on the value of the informal networking where new partnerships were forged. They thanked the Foundation and the AAWGT for facilitating the training and networking opportunity and indicated their interest in attending future sessions.

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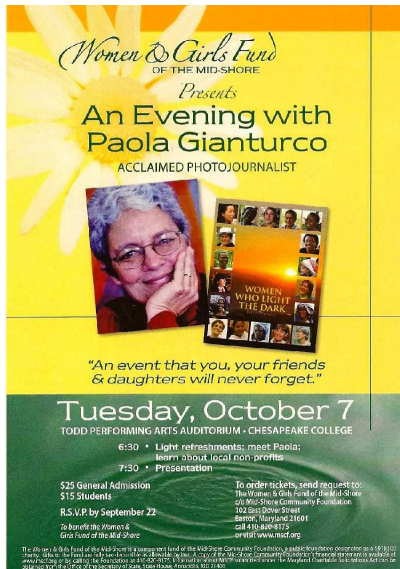
## Organizational Updates

Since our last meeting in June for the showcase, your Steering Committee has been busy doing the work of AAWGT. Here are some updates to keep you informed:

- **June Giving Circle Conference** -seven members of the steering committee attended a conference in Baltimore with area giving circles and came away with many new ideas to make our giving circle better
- **July Retreat** -the Steering Committee spent a whole day discussing our successes and challenges and planning for 2009
- **August Volunteer Day** -14 members worked with Partners In Care to put together 50 emergency boxes and deliver them to seniors
- **Membership Survey Analyzed** -the results of the membership survey sent out in May were used at the July retreat to plan for the future. 53 members responded; 92% said that their reason for joining AAWGT was to participate in philanthropy; 87% said they were very satisfied with our work; request for more outreach activities for members to participate in (like our volunteer day)
- **AAWGT in What's Up Magazine** -September issue on page 172
- **AAWGT T-Shirt** -we have T-Shirts with our logo on it for sale and the money will be used for membership

For more detailed information on these and other topics, see your September 10th minutes or contact any of the Steering Committee members. Your ideas, talents, professional expertise and suggestions are always welcome and needed.

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## An Evening with Paola Gianturco

On October 7, 2008 at 7:30pm, the Women & Girls Fund of the Mid-Shore will present acclaimed photojournalist Paola Gianturco at Chesapeake College's Todd Auditorium.

Listen as she shares stories of how courageous women in some of the most desperate parts of the world have surmounted daunting social and economic problems through their own creativity and hard work, tackling domestic violence, sex trafficking, war, poverty, illiteracy, inequality, malnutrition, and disease.

[Click here for more information.](#)

## AAWGT '08 Grantee Seeks Input

Rob's Barbershop Community Foundation (RBCF), [www.rbcf.com](http://www.rbcf.com), a recipient during AAWGT's 2008 grant making cycle, will support an estimated 8 projects beginning January 2009.

The Executive Director, Robert W. Cradle seeks a few donor representatives to the RBCF to help review up to 15 final project summaries and recommend 8 for RBCF's support of \$5 to \$7,000 each. The review will be done electronically, on line, in December.

If interested in learning more, please contact directly Mr. Robert Cradle, [rcr365@aol.com](mailto:rcr365@aol.com) or 410-519-2622 410-519-2622 .

## Interesting Facts about AAWGT

Anne Arundel Women Giving Together was created in 2006 by a group of Founding Members, consisting of thirty-seven women philanthropists and leaders.

The group launched its grantmaking program in 2007 by providing \$40,000 in grants. In 2008, AAWGT provided \$57,000 to local nonprofit programs.

The group is governed by a Steering Committee consisting of officers and committee chairs. AAWGT's 2008 officers are:

President - Gloria Martin-Pressman  
Vice President - Mary Ann Gordon  
Treasurer - Martha Blaxall  
Assistant Treasurer - Barb Novak  
Secretary - Susan Nolte  
Assistant Secretary - Karen Davis

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