



Anacortes Women Giving Together

I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver. – Maya Angelou

Who We Are

We are a dynamic, passionate group of women who care deeply about our community and are committed to making it a wonderful place to live. By pooling our money, we fund efforts that improve life for residents of Anacortes, address local concerns and enhance community resources. 2020 is the first year of the Anacortes Women's Giving Circle and the theme of our inaugural giving year is "Women Helping Women and Children."

Learn more about AWGC: www.awcircle.org

How We Do It

Giving circles are a simple and powerful concept: individuals combine their dollars in a shared fund (managed by the *Skagit Community Foundation*). Together we decide where to give money, and in doing so, learn about our community and about philanthropy in general. Members of the Anacortes Giving Circle meet twice a year. Once in the Fall to discuss the annual theme and join the circle by making a gift. Members donate \$100, \$365 (suggested), \$1000 (or any amount that is meaningful to them). We also encourage young women to join, and ask for a membership donation of \$25 for those members under 25 years of age. In November, grant applications are made available to Anacortes non-profit groups, then submitted. A revolving committee of 5 members review applications and selects finalists to present to the whole membership at our Spring Meeting. Following the presentations, each member votes, in person or via email in order to determine which organizations will receive funding.

Why We Do It

- More bang for your buck! Many of us can't give a large gift of our own
 - It's fun with a purpose, kindness in action, life-affirming generosity
- De-mystify Philanthropy – the giving circle is a creative, fun and accessible gateway to giving
- Learn about the pressing issues in our community and about groups out there doing good work

2020 Giving Cycle

October 30, 2019 – Fall General Meeting

Member Donations Accepted Oct. 30 to Nov. 15, 2019

November 1, 2019 – Grant Application OPEN

January 30, 2020 Grant Application CLOSED

February/ March 2020 – Grant Committee Review and Selection of Finalists

April 29, 2020 - Spring General Meeting – Grant Finalists Present – Members Vote

(Members are invited to vote in person on April 29, or via email open April 30 - May 6, 2020)

May 2020 - Notification of Awards