



*Accelerating  
Philanthropy  
through Women's  
Collective Giving*

For Immediate Release

**Leading women's giving circle network announces its  
2020-21 Board of Directors  
July 22, 2020**

Philanos, the leading women's giving circle network in the U.S., announces its Board of Directors for 2020-2021 comprised of women who are members of Philanos affiliate organizations.

Philanos' mission is to support the creation, development, and expansion of women's collective giving grantmaking nationwide. For a decade, Philanos has led a network of women's collective giving groups, sometimes referred to as giving circles, which help women aggregate their money to make high-impact grants in their local communities. Started in 2010 as WCGN (Women's Collective Giving Grantmakers Network), the organization currently has over 70 affiliates in the US, Australia and England, representing \$140 million in granting by more than 17,500 women since 1995.

Philanos Board of Directors:

**Susan Benford**, Vice Chair, member of The Philanthropy Connection (Boston, MA)

**Jenny Berg**, Immediate Past Chair, member of Impact 100 (Cincinnati, OH)

**Ellan Bernstein**, Secretary, member of Impact100 Philadelphia (Philadelphia, PA)

**Dale Lothrop Clifford**, member of Women's Giving Alliance (Jacksonville, FL)

**Sandy Cook**, member of Impact100 Metro Denver (Denver, CO), Women's Giving Alliance (Jacksonville, FL)

**Avani Desai**, member of 100 Women Strong, (Orlando, FL)

**Margaret (Maggie) Glasgow**, member of Greenville Women Giving, (Greenville, SC)

**Karen Holly**, member of Impact 100 Indianapolis (Indianapolis, IN)

**Virginia (Ginny) Jarrett**, member of Roanoke Women's Foundation (Roanoke, VA)

**Val Kirk**, Treasurer, member of Impact Austin, (Austin, TX)

**Paula Liang**, Chair, member of Women's Giving Alliance (Jacksonville, FL)

**Deborah Majewski**, member of Women's Impact Fund (Charlotte, NC)

**Laura Midgley\***, member of Washington Women's Foundation (Seattle, WA), Wood River Women's Foundation (Ketchum, ID), and Impact 100 Seattle (Seattle, WA)

**Virginia Mills\***, member of Giving WoMN (Minneapolis, MN)

**Vicki Sheehan\***, member of Spirit of St. Louis Women's Fund (St. Louis, MO)

**Jhaymee Tynan**, member of Women's Impact Fund (Charlotte, NC)

**Gwendolyn (Gwen) Wesley**, member of Spirit of St. Louis Women's Fund (St. Louis, MO)

**Colleen Willoughby\***, member of Washington Women's Foundation (Seattle, WA)

\* founding board member

Philanos does not make grants nor direct its affiliates' grantmaking. Its focus is to empower its affiliate organizations to identify nonprofit groups making transformative change in their communities and to support them through grants. Open to all women's collective-giving grantmaking organizations, the Philanos network connects and inspires a fast-growing movement of community-minded women's groups. Additionally, these groups encourage women to become philanthropic leaders in their own communities.

Affiliate members of Philanos can attend conferences, access resources, webinars, organizational tools and forums designed to help them accelerate the power of collective giving. Philanos also shares success stories showcasing the impact that affiliates are having in their communities to increase awareness of the power of high impact grantmaking.

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