



## Welcome to 2019!

### Welcome New Members!

Theresa Hillis  
Karen Hanson

### Dates for your Calendar:

#### Book Club

Monday, January 28  
*Educated: A Memoir* by Tara Westover  
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
The Goat Coffee House

Monday, February 25  
*Every Wild Heart* by Meg Donohue  
4:00 - 5:00 PM  
The Goat Coffee House

Women's Giving Circle

A Fund of the Eau Claire Community Foundation

Follow us on Facebook:  
@WGCEauClaire

[www.wgcea Claire.org](http://www.wgcea Claire.org)

It is hard to believe we are already through most of January. Wishing you all health and happiness in this first month of 2019. I am honored and excited to serve as the chair of this wonderful group. This year, I invite all of you to join me in focusing on growth, impact and friendship.

- Growth – We accomplished a major milestone this past year by hitting 300 members. Let's achieve a membership of 350 by year end.
- Impact – Let's continue to focus on and highlight the great work our dollars are doing for the agencies in our community.
- Friendship – Please join me in setting a goal of meeting and connecting with at least three new WGC members this year.

Membership donations are key to the success of the WGC. Any amount is appreciated, but the Circle requests a donation of \$250 or more to be a voting member. Donations are distributed 50% to the WGC Endowment Fund, 45% to the WGC Grants Fund and 5% to the ECCF Operations Fund. We greatly appreciate your membership every year! The difference you make in the quality of life for women and children will continue forever.

Feel free to reach out to our CAT members with any ideas or thoughts you would like to discuss this year.

## Did you know?

Of the 70,237 drug overdoses in the United States during 2017, 18,110 of the victims were women between the ages of 30-64. This is just one of the many reasons why the Education and Programs Team is busy preparing for our Education event in September. The program will address the growing issues of drugs in our community. More details on the program to come later this year.

## Dates for your Calendar

(continued):

### May 6, 2019

Spring Gathering  
Holiday Inn (Johnny's)

Enjoy hearing from and learning about the programs where grant funds have been awarded.

### September 17, 2019

(Tentative)

Fall Education Event  
Boys & Girls Club – Mary  
Markquart Center

A panel will share expert advice and perspective on the increasing issues with drug usage in our community.

### November 4, 2019

Annual Meeting  
Eau Claire Golf & Country Club

We will review highlights of the year from each of our committees, vote on our grant recipients and discuss any other business that needs attention.

### December 4, 2019

Gift of Giving Breakfast  
Florian Gardens

Our grant recipients will receive their funding checks and share information about their organizations.

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## Women's Giving Circle Fun Facts

**303** Current Members

**\$37,260** in grants distributed in 2018

**\$265,203** in grants distributed since inception

## Are you interested in getting more involved?

Please consider joining one of our teams to get more involved in the Women's Giving Circle. If you are interested, please email Tracey Smiskey at

[tsmiskey@northwesternbank.com](mailto:tsmiskey@northwesternbank.com)

- Grants Team – Manages the process for selecting grantee organizations each year by developing timelines, overseeing the request for proposals process, and reviewing and evaluating the grant proposals.
- Education and Programs Team - Plans programs, creates educational opportunities and provides speakers to be resources for members to learn about issues affecting women and children in the Eau Claire area.
- Membership Team – Works to increase membership, provides information to prospective members, welcomes new members, and encourages member retention.
- Social Media Team – Takes photos, creates written content, and schedules posts for social media websites.

Many thanks for your support, and I look forward to a wonderful year!

Tracey Smiskey, Chair  
Women's Giving Circle

