



Rainbow Village Better Together Women's Giving Circle



2024 Newsletter

2024 Better Together Quarterly Events:

The Women's Giving Circle hosts quarterly events that provide an opportunity for liked minded women to come together to have fun, learn something new, spread the word about the mission and goals of the giving circle and grow the circle wider! These events include speakers, food & beverage, networking, games, prizes and usually a little something else to add to the fun!

Women's Giving Circle

The Women's Giving Circle was established as a means for women with a passion for philanthropy & volunteerism to connect while increasing awareness about family homelessness and promoting the concept of "giving" of one's time, talent and treasure.

Mission

Through engaged & collective philanthropy, the Rainbow Village Women's Giving Circle seeks to raise funds designated for the Aspire Residential Program and the Thrive Alumni Program and to allocate a portion of those funds toward Microgrants.



Event Dates

- March 21, 2024
- June TBD
- September TBD
- December 10, 2023

Microgrant Award Ceremony

Dates subject to change.
Check website for most up to date
information.

Message from Rainbow Village CEO, Melanie Conner



I said it last year, and I have to say it again...I am amazed by the power that a collective group of women can have when they come together and strive to “be the change they wish to see in the world”! Here are just a few highlights from 2023:

- Hosted a 3-part Better Together Event series entitled “Making Room for Your Best Self” that attracted the attention of 137 women!
- Held the first WGC Volunteer Event. 12 volunteers hosted dinner and a “Coping with Stress” interactive session for our residents.
- 43% increase in circle membership.
- 46% increase in the microgrant award fund.

The Award Ceremony is one of my favorite nights of the year and this year was especially exciting, as I had an “Oprah” moment and was able to gift a car to a very deserving resident! As I looked around the room, I thought to myself ‘THIS is what the holidays are all about – coming together to bestow gifts and bring joy.’ Only these microgrants bring more than joy. They bring meaningful change. A detailed re-cap of the awards is provided in this newsletter.

I would like to give a special shoutout to our lead sponsors for the Microgrant Award Ceremony, Northside Hospital and Premier Financial Alliance. Both organizations have a long history of supporting Rainbow Village and their financial support of this event made it possible for us host the 123 guests that attended the event at Gas South District. The event was such a success that we have already booked it for the 2024 Award Ceremony to be held on December 10, 2024!

Thank you to all who made 2023 an outstanding year for the Women’s Giving Circle by attending events, inviting guests, spreading the word, sponsoring, and joining the circle. If you are not already a member of the Women’s Giving Circle, I encourage you to consider joining and be a part of the journey in 2024 to change the lives of the families we serve! You can learn more about the Circle at <https://rainbowvillage.org/womens-giving-circle/> or by scanning the QR code.

Peace and Blessings,

Melanie



“ Be the change you wish to see in the world. ”
Gandhi

Recap of 2023

Fourth Annual Microgrant Award Ceremony

The standout moment occurred with the bestowing of the Barbara Howard High Achiever Award to Rainbow Village resident Tameka.

Tameka came to Rainbow Village with a \$500+/month car note, making it impossible for her to achieve her financial goals. At the encouragement of her Success Coach, she turned the car in and was able to obtain a vehicle from Rainbow Village partner Heirborn Servants with no car note. This made it much easier for her to begin to see changes in her financial situation until she was in a car accident at no fault of her own. Sadly, the car was totaled, and while she did receive some money from insurance, it was not enough to obtain another vehicle.

A significant Women's Giving Circle pledge arrived five days before the Microgrant Ceremony. The Rainbow Village team got its wheels turning for the best possible use of the donation. The day before the ceremony, Conner called upon its partners at Subaru of Gwinnett to learn if combining the funds from Tameka's reserves and that latest donation could result in a car purchase. By the night of the Award Ceremony, a 2012 Chevy Malibu belonged to Tameka.



The Award Recipients included:

700+ Club Award Recipients: 4 Rainbow Village residents worked diligently to achieve a credit score of 700 or higher

ASPIRE Program Recipients: 15 residents received funds to help pay down debt, two to help pay medical bills, and one received funds for a secured credit card to help build credit

THRIVE Program Recipients: 3 Rainbow Village graduates received funds to help pay down debt and another three to assist with transportation challenges

Neighborhood Cooperative Ministry Program Recipients: As part of Rainbow Village's new outreach program in partnership with the Neighborhood Cooperative Ministry, 2 families in the community received funds to help pay down debt

Thrive Beyond the Village Housing Award Recipients: 7 resident and graduate families received funds to assist with housing beyond Rainbow Village's borders

**\$34,244
Awarded**



JOIN THE CIRCLE

WGC Members commit to donating a minimum of \$1000 annually to provide individualized Success Coaching for each resident of Rainbow Village and to fund the "Be The Change" Microgrant Program.



Thank you!

2023 Better Together Event Sponsors



For more information about the circle, joining or sponsoring,
contact: Michelle Alcorn
malcorn@rainbowvillage.org
Scan the QR Code
<https://rainbowvillage.org/womens-giving-circle/>

