

Better Together



Presented by the Rainbow Village Women's Giving Circle

March 2022



The Rainbow Village Women's Giving Circle was established as a means for women with a passion for philanthropy and 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 and collective philanthropy, The Rainbow Village Women's Giving Circle seeks to raise funds designated for the Rainbow Village Aspire Residential Program and the Thrive Alumni Program and to allocate a portion of those funds toward micro grants.

• Event Dates •

- ❖ March 24
- ❖ June 23
- ❖ September 22
- ❖ December 15

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

BE THE CHANGE



Message from Rainbow Village CEO, Melanie Conner

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” is empowering! That is exactly what the Rainbow Village program is all about: empowering the women we serve to change their world.

Change is possible for the women we serve, but they need encouragement, support, and new perspectives. In 2021, a group of passionate women came together to provide just that for 13 residents that call Rainbow Village home.

Last year we held one virtual event and 3 in-person events wherein 129 guests attended, and this powerful group of women helped us to exceed our \$30,000 fundraising goal by donating a total of \$45,973! Thank you to those who took the time to attend an event and/or made a contribution to change lives.

As we move into 2022, the work continues. The primary goals of the Women’s Giving Circle are:

- Educate and increase awareness about family homelessness
- Engage and promote volunteerism and effective philanthropy
- Fund micro-grants to Rainbow Village residents or alumni
- Provide sustainable funding and support for the Aspire Residential Program and the Thrive Alumni Program
- Networking and connecting with likeminded women

You can learn more about the Women’s Giving Circle in this newsletter. You can also learn more about Rainbow Village by visiting our website: www.rainbowvillage.org.

I hope you will consider joining the Women’s Giving Circle and being part of the journey of change in the lives of the women we serve!

Melanie



What is the Women's Giving Circle?

The Women's Giving Circle is a diverse, dynamic and generous group of women engaged in an exciting venture of strategic philanthropy. It leverages the resources of individuals for greater impact by pooling members' dollars and using the money to award microgrants to families of Rainbow Village.

Why should I join?

As a member of the Rainbow Village Women's Giving Circle, you will be a part of something special. In addition to creating a sense of collective philanthropy, you will also create community with like-minded women, have Input into Circle goals, participate in educational and inspirational events and have the chance to directly impact the lives of families by providing micro grants.

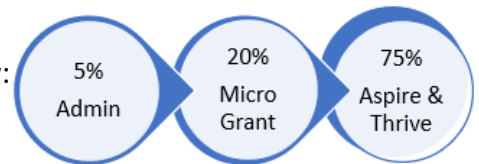
What is involved in 'membership'?

Members of the Women's Giving Circle agree to provide a contribution toward supporting the work of Rainbow Village. Members are asked to donate a minimum of \$1,000. Contributions can be made annually or can be paid through recurring monthly or quarterly payments. Attendance at events is open to all regardless of membership status. Donations of any amount are welcome and go directly to support the Aspire and Thrive programs.

How will my contributions be used?

Membership fees and other donations support the programs at Rainbow Village as well as the micro grant fund. The Aspire & Thrive programs focus on 5 core areas leading to self-sufficiency: Family Stability, Well-being, Financial Management, Education and Training and Employment and Career.

Your Donation In Action



I'm interested! How can I join?

We are delighted that you're interested in joining! You may join the Women's Giving Circle by visiting the Events page on our website (www.rainbowvillage.org) and selecting Women's Giving Circle from the drop-down menu. There you will have the option to select to register for an event, become a sponsor and/or philanthropic supporter or junior supporter. If you are interested in making monthly or quarterly recurring donations, please see the contact information below.



CHANGE IS COMING

We are working to make the Women's Giving Circle even better. Stay tuned for updated information on improvements and changes. Your input is appreciated. If you have suggestions or comments, please let us know.

Connecting, Educating, Recruiting and of course, having *FUN*

More Info

Contact: Michelle Alcorn
malcorn@rainbowvillage.org

2021 Microgrants

On December 15, we gathered at the Red Clay Theater to bestow our highest honor - the CEO Award - to one resident and one alumni. We also awarded 13 Five Pillars Grants - totaling \$7,200, which was further enhanced by a generous donor with an additional \$3,600. Representative of Rainbow Village's five "pillars" or focus areas of Family Stability, Well-being, Financial Management, Education/Training, and Career/Employment, the awarded grants are listed on this page.

Guest speakers at the event included two residents who benefited from 2020 microgrants - Darren Eagle and Gwendra Samuels. Darren used his grant to pay off his debt and reach a 700+ credit score which has allowed him eligibility for a future home loan. Gwendra has authored a book entitled A is for Awesome, the first of her many endeavors to provide advocacy for children with Autism, and to educate their peers in the simplest form.

CEO Award

Two CEO Awards were granted to one resident and one alumni for demonstrating outstanding leadership within the Rainbow Village Community.

Both Jasmine & Chantell have shown a high positive regard for the goals and mission of the organization, made significant contributions to the improvement of resident engagement, as well as developed and employed community improvement activities.

Each CEO Award Recipient was awarded \$500.



5 Pillars Grant



4 residents were awarded financial support to pay down debt



2 residents were awarded financial support to pay off remaining credit card debt



1 resident was awarded financial support for long overdue and much needed dental work



2 residents were awarded financial support for car repairs allowing transportation to/from work



1 resident was awarded financial support to pay down school loan debt



1 resident was awarded financial support to help cover the cost of a divorce