

***** Media Welcome*****

Who: Rochester Women's Giving Circle

What: Celebration Breakfast and
Presentation of Grants

Date: 8 a.m. **Wednesday, June 20, 2018**

Place: Monroe Golf Club, Pittsford, NY

For Information:

Melinda Andolina (585) 727-1881

Nancy Bloom (585) 967-8611



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Rochester Women's Giving Circle Awards \$183,000
in Grants to Support Women and Girls**

Rochester, NY – The Rochester Women's Giving Circle will award \$183,000 to 10 local nonprofits at the group's annual grant breakfast.

Since 2007 the Giving Circle has grown from five founders to more than 170 active members and has distributed over \$1.3 million to nonprofit organizations in Monroe County that help women and girls on their journey to economic independence.

This year's grant recipients were chosen from 22 proposals collectively requesting more than \$404,000. The 10 awards range from \$10,000 to \$25,000. Grants were awarded to the following nonprofits:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Rochester: The Little Sisters – Big Futures! program recruits, screens and trains mentors to help at-risk girls stay in school, avoid risky behaviors and develop positive attitudes about their futures through one-on-one mentoring relationships. \$10,000

Cameron Community Ministries: The Respect & Responsibility for Girls after-school support group helps girls ages 10 to 16 by fostering self-esteem, financial literacy, knowledge of career opportunities, and improved academic performance. \$16,000

Center for Employment Opportunities: Employment Reentry Services works with women returning from prison to prepare them for meaningful employment through training, job-coaching, transitional employment and retention services. \$15,000

Center for Teen Empowerment: The Young Women's Leadership and Employment Project prepares and places young women in high-profile and role-model positions as they seek to address social change in the community while gaining career-based skills and meaningful employment. \$25,000

Judicial Process Commission: The Women's Legal Action Project & Support Services helps ex-offender women overcome barriers to employment by offering legal services and support to correct RAP (Record of Arrests and Prosecutions) sheets and achieve Certificates of Relief and by assisting in the job search, application and interview process. \$25,000

Society for the Protection and Care of Children: The Teen Age Parent Support Services program helps reduce repeat teen pregnancies and improve employability of young mothers through home-based case management and counseling, employment preparation activities, subsidized work experiences and job coaching. \$25,000

Spiritus Christi Prison Outreach: The Women's Empowerment Program of Jennifer House provides case management, counseling, mentoring and support services to homeless women discharged from the Monroe County Jail who are stable and focused on pursuing their educational and vocational goals to become self-sustaining and avoid re-incarceration. \$15,500

Unity Hospital of Rochester: Project Independence at Healthy Moms is a job training and placement program customized for each participant that leads directly to employment and increased self-sufficiency by tackling the obstacles that keep employment out of reach for low-income mothers with a child under two years old. \$25,000

Veterans Outreach Center: The Women Veterans Self Sufficiency Project helps female veterans reintegrate into the community by providing outreach, case management, wellness counseling and assistance with housing, training and employment. \$10,500

Volunteers of America: Self Sufficiency and Workforce Readiness Programming provides case management services, job coaching, interviewing skills and professional attire to unemployed/low-income women to help them conduct successful job searches and obtain employment. \$16,000

The Women's Giving Circle is a community of philanthropic women where every member makes an annual donation of at least \$1,050 and has the opportunity to participate in the grantmaking process. The money donated each calendar year is granted out the following year. The Giving Circle is an advised fund at Rochester Area Community Foundation. Agencies interested in applying for a future grant can get more information about criteria and the application process on the Rochester Women's Giving Circle website at therwgc.org.

Women interested in becoming members may contact Melinda Andolina at helpingwomen@therwgc.org.