

Fact Sheet

OUR MISSION Guided by Jewish values and through a gender lens, we are a giving circle that promotes lasting social change by transforming the lives of self-identified women and girls. As part of our collaborative grantmaking process, we educate and empower our members to be strategic decision makers and philanthropists. We focus our grantmaking in greater Baltimore, Israel and overseas.

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OUR HISTORY While women and girls make up 50% of the world's population, only 1.9% of all charitable dollars are donated to organizations focused on advancing their health, safety and rights. The Associated established the Giving Foundation in 2003 in response to a lack of resources being dedicated to the issues affecting women and girls, both at home and abroad. Today, JWGF stands with approximately 20 other Jewish women's foundations around the country, enabling women to have a powerful voice in championing their philanthropic values through collaborative giving.

OUR WORK Since 2003, JWGF has awarded over \$2 million in grants to more than 60 non-profit organizations that help women and girls of all faiths and backgrounds live safer, healthier and more meaningful lives. The Giving Foundation awards grants through both a gender and a Jewish lens, honoring our cultural traditions of *tzedakah* (philanthropic giving) and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world).

OUR MEMBERS JWGF convenes women who are affiliated with the Baltimore Jewish community. Each member contributes the same amount to our fund and each has an equal voice in directing our grant making. In addition to participating in our annual grantmaking process, Giving Foundation members learn about philanthropy, the non-profit sector and the issues and needs facing our community through our educational programming.

OUR PROCESS The Giving Foundation has a two-stage, annual grant-making cycle that runs from September to May. Our RFP is sent via email to the community in September requesting submissions of brief letters of inquiry. Via a democratic voting process, we select approximately 12 organizations from whom we request a full proposal. After a comprehensive review of the full proposals, including site visits, Giving Foundation members make a final decision in May. Approximately 8 to 10 organizations are funded.

Grants are awarded in amounts between \$5,000 and \$20,000. We endeavor to allocate 50% of our funds in the Jewish community.

OUR SNAPSHOT In the 2022-23 program year, approximately \$135,000 was allocated through our annual grantmaking process to seven organizations. An additional \$20,000 was allocated to our one multi-year grantee through a separate process. We are currently over 125 women strong.

OUR CONTACT For more information, please contact our Director, Jennifer Mendelsohn Millman at jmillman@associated.org or 410-458-9504. Please visit us at associated.org/jwgf or on Facebook @ **Jewish Women's Giving Foundation Baltimore**