

Giving Circles and  
Other  
Philanthropic  
Networks

## AGENDA

- Giving Circle Landscape
- Giving Circles at Texas Women's Foundation
- Orchid Giving Circle Overview
- The Village Giving Circle Overview
- Discussion

## Giving Circles

Wikipedia defines giving circles as “a form of participatory philanthropy where groups of individuals donate their own money or time to a pooled fund, decide together where to give these away to charity or community projects and, in doing so, seek to increase their awareness of and engagement in the issues covered by the charity or community project. Many circles, in addition to donating their money, also contribute their time and skills to support local causes.”

## Landscape

(data as of 2017 from Collective Giving Research Group)

IN THE PAST 10 YEARS THE  
NUMBER OF GIVING CIRCLES  
**HAS TRIPLED.**



**60%**  
OF GIVING CIRCLES ARE  
FORMED AROUND IDENTITY.



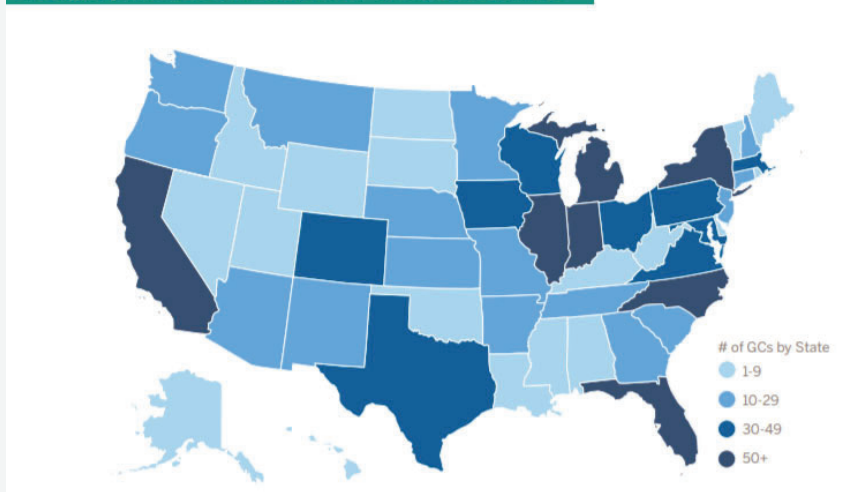
ABOUT **70%**  
OF GIVING CIRCLES ARE  
MAJORITY-WOMEN.



## Landscape

(data as of 2017 from Collective Giving Research Group)

### Geographic Distribution of GCs, Database



Source: Collective Giving Research Group, Giving Circle Membership: How Collective Giving Impacts Donors <https://scholarworks.iupui.edu/bitstream/handle/1805/17743/giving-circle-membership18.pdf>

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## Landscape

(data as of 2017 from Collective Giving Research Group)

- An estimated 150,000+ donors have given up to \$1.29 billion through giving circles.
- 84% of giving circles make grants in their local geographic area
- Giving Circle host organizations do so to contribute to their community's culture of philanthropy, reach new and /or diverse set of donors, and increase community visibility.
- Hosts offer services to giving circles such as serving as the fiscal sponsor and providing administrative support for everything from member communication to educational opportunities to grant management.



Source: Collective Giving Research Group, Giving Circle Membership: How Collective Giving Impacts Donors <https://scholarworks.iupui.edu/bitstream/handle/1805/17743/giving-circle-membership18.pdf>

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37<sup>th</sup> Annual Nonprofit Organizations Institute session  
"Giving Circles and Other Philanthropic Networks"