



Partnering in Our Community

Philanthropic advisor Katherine Fox makes a big impact as part of Ninety-nine girlfriends

Giving circles are a powerful way for people to give back to their communities by bringing together groups of philanthropists to pool their funds toward a collective impact.

In 2016, the Portland community got its own giving circle, when 117 women banded together to form Ninety-nine girlfriends, a nonprofit dedicated to creating real impact in the community. By 2019, Ninety-nine girlfriends has grown to 480 members strong and will have awarded a total of \$1,250,000 in grants in less than four years.

Arnerich Massena philanthropic advisor Katherine Fox joined Ninety-nine girlfriends this year and explains the amazing opportunities this inclusive women’s collective giving circle offers: “Ninety-nine girlfriends provides opportunities for learning and grant-making to engage local women. The organization strives for impact by making significant grants and helping members become more informed and engaged philanthropists.” Annually, members each make a \$1,100 donation, with \$1000 going toward annual grants. The organization then reaches out to over 600 non-profits in the Portland area and invites them to submit initial “Letters of Interest” that will help Ninety-nine girlfriends understand community needs and review potential grant opportunities. They will fund one or more \$100,000 grant(s) annually (depending on assets available) to organization(s) in these five categories: (1) Arts & Culture, (2) Education & Lifelong Learning, (3) Environment & Sustainability, (4) Family & Human Services, and (5) Health & Wellness. Letters of submission are reviewed by teams of member volunteers in each category; they then invite finalists to submit full grant proposals and host on-site visits.

”We take pride in being an organization run by, and for, our members and community,” Katherine notes. “From hundreds of submissions, two finalists are selected in each category. All Ninety-nine girlfriends’ members then vote on their favorite, with



the most transformational proposal receiving a \$100,000 grant.” Any additional dollars available will be awarded to other finalists.

Katherine is thrilled by the organization’s structure and mission. “As a woman from a long line of strong matriarchs and dedicated philanthropists, I love that Ninety-nine girlfriends celebrates the power of women’s collective impact, and I have the opportunity to learn from women of various ages, cultural backgrounds, personal experiences, and passions. I am consistently awed by the passion and knowledge of the women I meet through Ninety-nine girlfriends and am proud to be contributing my money and time to better our community through strategic grant-making.”

M e m b e r s h i p in Ninety-nine girlfriends for the 2019-2020 grant cycle has closed, but anyone interested is encouraged to reach out to Katherine at kfox@am-a.com to learn more about the organization and how you can become involved.

Ninety-nine girlfriends key organizational values

- Collective
- Impact
- Parity
- Transparency
- Interaction
- Empowerment
- Inclusivity
- Decentralized leadership
- Diversity of perspective
- Volunteer
- Choose your level of involvement



PHILANTHROPY
FOCUS

Upcoming events

Clark College Foundation
Penguin Golf Event
August 12, 2019

Cole Parker Randall Foundation
Smiles for SMA 2019
September 21, 2019

Northwest Planned Giving Roundtable Annual Conference
September 24, 2019

Cascade Pacific Council/Boy Scouts of America
Scouting Heritage Society Cruise
October 10, 2019

Randall Children’s Hospital
#MyRCH An Evening to Celebrate Kids
October 17, 2019

PeaceHealth SW Medical Center Foundation
A Starry Starry Night Gala
October 19, 2019