



The Outreach

Over \$83,050 raised!

The results of our 2011 fundraising efforts are in, and they are nothing short of spectacular! Through the efforts and incredible generosity of the ladies of CWO, we brought in well over \$80,000 to be donated back into the Highlands-Cashiers community in the form of CWO grants and donor-directed giving. This brings the grand total raised by CWO, since its 2006 inception, to **well over \$472,000**. For more highlights and photos of this year's fundraiser, 18 grant recipients, and our recognition-level donors, read on!

"The generosity of the families supporting CWO this year was nothing short of amazing. Our outreach to the community grows more impactful each year. Thank you, thank you, all."

—President Gail Hughes



MEMBER ART & CRAFTS: A SHOWING EXTRAORDINAIRE!



The artistic talents of our very own were on display October 7, at CWO's annual Art & Crafts cocktail reception, which celebrated our membership and the beauty surrounding us. Original works by Kathy Bowman, Jim Davis, Colleen Flinn, Maxine Gerber, Jodi Graves, Gail Hughes, Kathy Trice and Jill Wolfe-Hill mesmerized the crowd. Works exhibited ranged from captivating painted and multi-media canvases, striking photography, skillfully hand-crafted wood and gorgeous jewelry.

This year, golf pro Pat Queen and staff associates Victoria Holloway and Maxine Gerber, also exhibited their works of poetry, photography and art. Matt and Laura Schroeders of Highlands Gem Shop, once again, offered unique pieces for sale, donating back a portion of proceeds.

Thank you to all who participated—especially to Jim Davis, who donated 100 percent of proceeds from the auction of his beautiful hand-crafted pieces to the support of our outreach organization.

CWO GRANT-MAKING: THOROUGH, THOUGHTFUL AND DISCIPLINED

Sincere thanks go out to each woman serving on the 2011 Grants Committee. (Pictured below from left to right: Emily Adkins, Joy Abney, Co-Chair Stevie Hinel, Cris Hayes, Co-Chair Donna Thoele, ex-officio member Gail Hughes and Kathy Trice.) The Committee's work began in July, with an orientation to the extensive evaluation and measurement process. After that, they hit the ground running and began doing first-round evaluations and site visits and to prepare resulting reports.



In September, the team was ready to collaboratively review requests, analyze reports and conduct evaluations to arrive at the best possible destinations for the funds raised by this year's highly successful Dine Around: "COOL VIEWS, HOT MUSIC!" (See photos on page three.) Their work, once again, proved invaluable in assuring that every dollar raised by the *Cullasaja Women's Outreach* brings greater good to our Highlands-Cashiers community.

What impact will our Grants have on the community?

Eighteen Highlands-Cashiers area not-for-profits received CWO grants. Three projects were fully funded, twelve partially funded. Grant recipients include: *Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic, Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society, Community Care Clinic, Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry, Girls on the Run, Highlands Child Care Development Center, Highlands Emergency Council, Highlands Historical Society, Highlands Land Trust, Highlands Plateau Greenway, Highlands Playhouse, Hudson Library, Highlands Literacy Council, International Friendship Center, Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance, Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center* and *The Bascom*. Highlighted below are some recipients:

BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS HEALTH PROJECT—also known as the Dental Clinic—received funds for general operating expenses that provide high-quality dental services to individuals who otherwise are unable to afford and obtain such services. The Clinic addresses pain, infection and disfigurement caused by untreated dental disease. Its results have been incredible in changing the health and lives of those in need of care.

COMMUNITY CARE CLINIC OF HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS received funds for general operating expenses to serve individuals in our community who do not have health insurance and have family incomes of 150 percent, or less, of the Federal poverty guidelines.

FISHES AND LOAVES FOOD PANTRY received CWO funds for general operating expenses to help fulfill their mission of providing food for families in Jackson County with incomes of 200 percent, or less, of the Federal poverty guidelines.

GIRLS ON THE RUN, a non-profit prevention program encourages pre-teen girls to development self respect and healthy lifestyles, by addressing all aspects of their development—including their physical, emotional, mental, social and spiritual well-being.

HIGHLANDS EMERGENCY COUNCIL received funds targeted for fuel assistance to low-income Highlands-area residents, including senior citizens, young families and single-parent families, who have lost or are unable to find a job.

HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER received funds for renovations of their facility. These include: painting of the classrooms; new play surface carpeting; mobile equipment; and, rocking chairs for the infant/toddler area. The Center provides affordable, high-quality preschool child care, as well as early childhood educational and social development opportunities in a safe and caring environment to families, regardless of race, religion, creed, national origin or financial ability.

LITERACY COUNCIL OF HIGHLANDS received funds for Women's ESL Classes to address the need for Spanish-speaking women in Highlands to learn to read, write and speak the English language. This effort is a collaboration with the International Friendship Center.

CASHIERS-HIGHLANDS HUMANE SOCIETY funds are directed to their Spay & Neuter Program, helping to control the population of unwanted pets.



SPECIAL THANKS to our 2011 Executive Committee!

President: Gail Hughes

Grants Chairs: Stevie Hinel & Donna Thoele

New Member Development: Kathy Bowman

Treasurer: Frazer McCrorey

Art Show Co-chairs: Kathy Bowman & Gail Hughes

Historian: Peggy Gissendanner

Secretary: Ginny May

Corresponding Secretary: Judi Davis

PR/Communications: Margaret Eichman

COOL VIEWS, HOT MUSIC!

An Overwhelming Success — 167 Attendees!

The evening was perfect. The homes were gorgeous. The views breath-taking. The music swinging and the hosts incredible!

CWO 's 2011 annual fund-raiser—known as the *Dine Around*—was another outstanding success, thanks to the incredible generosity of host homes: Ann and John Adams, Lindy Colson, Caroline and

Frank Ellerbe, Sissy and Buddy McClinton, Judy and Kent Mergler, Peggy and Scott Turner, Cherry and Steve Tyde, and Jeannie and Joe Williamson.

Thanks, too, to the many volunteers, who helped check-in ticket holders, pour wine, greet guests in each home. You were all incredible! Without the generous support of your time and hospitality, the evening could not have been pulled off flawlessly.

2011 RECOGNITION-LEVEL DONORS:

• Mt. Pisgah

\$250 and above

Melba & Larry Ainsworth
Jean & Hans Baumgarten
Nancy & John Bell
Lindy Colson
Lyn & John Darden
Judith and Rick Davis
Berty & Victor Fransen
Jodene & Joe Geigel
Anna & Thomas Guffy
Jill Wolfe-Hill and Kent Hill
Lana Jordan
Barbara & Jerry Knight
Judy & Kent Mergler
Mary Ann & Larry Ray
Diane & Jim Riddle
Faye & Irwin Siegel
Betsy & Wright Turner
Cherry & Steve Tyde

Veronica & Gary Vogt
Diane & Frank Warren

•• Pikes Peak

\$500 and above

Joy & Mike Abney
Margaret & Rick Eichman
Bonnie & Ed Evans
Colleen Flinn
Nancy & Charles Harrison
Margaret & John Lauletta
Betty Ann & Jim Rodgers

••• Mt. McKinley

\$1,000 and above

Emily Adkins & Ben Smith
Anne Julian
Sue & Dick Pearce
Donna & Larry Thoele
Kathy & David Trice

•••• Matterhorn

\$2,500 and above

Gail & Tim Hughes
Karen & Phil Leabo

••••• K2

\$5,000 and above

Berdina & Tommy Morgan
Pat & Billy Williamson
William A. Williamson Family Foundation

••••• Mt Everest

\$10,000 and above

Leslie & Ron Ezerski
Louree & Bill Greehey
Cris & Jerry Hayes

Cullasaja Women's Outreach

is a collective of wonderful women members of the Cullasaja Club, who believe in reaching out to each other and to local organizations through philanthropy, volunteerism and friendship.